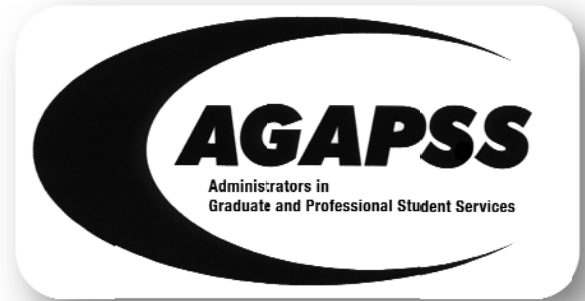


Hello Members of Administrators in Graduate and Professional Student Services (AGAPSS)!

As professionals working with graduate and professional students, you serve an amazing population of students whether that is through co-curricular programming, career counseling, teaching in the classroom, or advocating for students' needs. Our Knowledge Community has been established to help assist you in your daily work by providing you with research, best practices and human resources.



From this newsletter on, you will be receiving bi-weekly informative newsletters to help you do your job effectively and provide the best services and resources to the students you work with every day. This newsletter's information will be driven by what you want and need to succeed, so please do not hesitate to contact your Regional Representative, or the Chair, Jessica Edonick.

We hope that you enjoy the newsletter and join us in educating and supporting on another. Please check out the information below.

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2. [Searching for the Next National Co-Chairs for AGAPSS – This could be you!](#)
3. [New CAS Standards for Graduate and Professional Students – Featured Article](#)
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1. Message from the Chair

Hello AGAPSS!

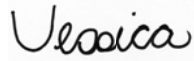
I hope that you all have made it through the first part of your term/semester and are finding some downtime to catch-up. I am really excited to serve as your Chair this year for the AGAPSS Knowledge Community (KC). Currently, I have the privilege of working with the commuter, transfer and graduate student populations at Drexel University in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Philadelphia is very exciting place to be right now since the Phillies went on win the World Series.

For the past 6 years, I have been involved with the AGAPSS KC and I have learned so much from the Pre-Conference the KC holds annually as well as being able to network and develop friendships that have helped me to navigate this sometimes lonely road. So, I have been working with the leadership team to develop goals for our KC and think about ways we can better include you in our work. This year is all about creating foundations and YOU are very key in the process.

Your Regional Representative for the KC and I are in the process of creating a new committee structure that involves more professionals in the leadership of the KC, as well as, establishing effective communication tools to reach out to you and share knowledge nation- wide concerning research and best practices. Plus, we want to hear from you on what information you would like to learn about and what you would like to be active in throughout your region and NASPA.

I am really looking forward to getting to know you and hear about the great work you are doing with you students and how I can help you achieve your goals in working with graduate and/or professional students. I hope that you will take an active part in the KC and not only learn from your colleagues, but share information as well.

Take care,



Jessica Edonick
National Chair
Director of Commuter,
Graduate and Transfer
Student Programs and
Services
Drexel University



*My Pride and Joy
The Commuter and Transfer Assistants at Drexel*

2. Searching for the Next National Co-Chairs for AGAPSS – This could be You!



*You too can become one of the
"Big" Chairs*

We are all in this profession for a variety of reasons, but from meeting so many professionals, I have found that each and every one has a passion for the students they work with and giving back to the campus community. Another way to fulfill this passion and give back to a larger community is through leading the AGAPSS Knowledge Community.

We are looking for two dedicated, passionate and talented professionals who would like to coordinate the leadership and facilitate opportunities for learning for our KC and NASPA membership. Being Co-Chair is a very unique and interesting experience, as you get to meet professionals across the nation and gain a very in-depth understanding of how NASPA works for You.

Yes, it does require a larger time commitment, but you have a whole leadership team to support you, as well as, your fellow elected Co-Chair.

The AGAPSS Elections Committee is looking for nominations and interested members to run for the Co-Chair Elect positions. Here are the qualifications and what you need to do to nominate or apply:

Qualifications:

- Ability to outreach to NASPA Regional and KC membership and encourage professional interaction
- Hold a unique understanding and experience working with graduate and professional students and how this would compare or contrast from the undergraduate experience
- Multitask the different facets of the Co-Chair position
- Lead the AGAPSS Pre-Conference Committee
- Collaborate with stakeholders to influence policy development and interpretation of it
- Possess knowledge of the AGAPSS Knowledge Community and what the KC works toward
- Creative in sparking membership involvement

Nominations:

1. By **Monday, December 1st**, please send the name, email, position, institution of the person you think would do a great job at the Co-Chair position as well as a brief statement about why you think this person would be an excellent candidate for this position
2. Please email this information to Anita Mastroieni, Director of the Graduate Student Center at the University of Pennsylvania, at mastroie@exchange.upenn.edu

Applications:

1. If you are interested in the position, and would like more information such as a job description and an inside view from the current Chair, please do not hesitate to contact the AGAPSS Election Committee:

Jessica Edonick
Drexel University
Current Chair
jl66@drexel.edu
215-895-2516

Marguerite Sharkey
New York University
AGAPSS Election Committee
marguerite.sharkey@nyu.edu
212-998-4686

Sue Haldeman
Medical College of Wisconsin
AGAPSS Election Committee
shaldema@mcw.edu
414-456-8734

Anita Mastroieni
University of Pennsylvania
AGAPSS Election Committee
mastroie@upenn.edu
215-746-6868

Mary Hall
University of Virginia
AGAPSS Election Committee
mthall@virginia.edu
434-924-2835

2. Once you feel sure in your choice, please email Anita Mastroieni at mastroie@exchange.upenn.edu noting your interest by **Friday, December 12th**. Also, please include the following:
 - a. Your bio
 - b. A brief description of your experience working with graduate and professional students and knowledge base.
3. Once Anita receives your information, and the Elections Committee reviews each candidates' qualifications, she will forward the selected applications onto NASPA, where a wonderful gentleman by the name of Joey DeSanto will guide you in the next steps for the elections process. We of course will be with you every step of the way.

3. New CAS Standards for Graduate and Professional Students – Featured Article



In a professional world that tends to be focused on undergraduate students, it is hard at times to find the support needed to advocate for resources and services that will empower and enhance your graduate and/or professional students' experiences on campus and the local community. In recognizing this need, the Council for the Advancement of Standards (CAS), worked in a collaborative effort with a variety of vested associations to create standards of practice for professionals working with graduate and professional students. These new standards were accepted at the October Board meeting for CAS. But how, you may be wondering, did these standards come to be?

Patricia (Pat) Carretta, Assistant Vice President for University Life at George Mason University, led the team that developed the new standards. I had the opportunity to talk with Pat recently and she took the time to answer a few of my questions:

How did this process begin?

In her work as a professional, Pat wanted to better engage and serve the graduate students at George Mason, but there was not much out there. Over time, she has been listening to practitioners concerning this area and recognized that there was a growing need for these standards. At a board meeting about two years ago (the CAS Board meets twice a year, in April and October), Pat put her thoughts into action and created a proposal to develop new CAS standards for professionals working with graduate and professional students?

How were the standards developed?

The CAS Board is made up of 37 professional associations, and each association has a representative. Once the CAS Board finds in favor of creating new standards, they charge a Committee (usually 3-5 Board members) to develop the standards. Of these 3-5 professionals, one person usually represents the functional area. In this case the functional area representative was Andrea Reeves, who has many years of experience working with underrepresented students to get into graduate school, and, is therefore, very familiar with different types of graduate and professional programs. Two other members rounded out the team, CAS's Public Director, Carmen Neuberger, at Dr. Dennis Gregory, a faculty member in the higher education program from Old Dominion.

Once the team was assembled, Pat began to outreach to professionals working with graduate and professional students in a variety of different areas. She specifically reached out to the American Society for Public Health (ASPH), ACPA's Commission for Graduate and Professional School Educators and NASPA's Knowledge Community for Administrators working with Graduate and Professional Students (AGAPSS) – that's us! With a team of experts, Pat began to lead conference calls with representatives from the above organizations, and attend conferences to lead focus groups. She also did lot of background research on Medical, Law, MBA, and Engineering programs, as well as, a literature review to produce the first draft of the standards.

What are the benefits to having these new standards?

Pat's goal was to create standards that would guide professionals in their practice, assessment, program development, and credibility with their Academic Dean. These standards put professionals on equal footing with their academic colleagues. It would be like having your own accreditation standards so that you too could have professional standards for improving and enhancing the graduate and professional student experience.

These standards take a unique look at the many hats professionals, who work in this field, wear on a daily basis. They can be used by practitioners to justify and support their vision and strategic planning. The standards will give professionals a framework to think about how to improve and enhance their programs and services for students, as well as, represent what experts in the field of graduate and professional student services consider as standards for best practice.

Thank you to Pat, her team and our own AGAPSS representatives (Katie O'Dair and Lisa Brandes) for their hard work in creating an amazing document we can use to authenticate our practices and enhance our students' experiences.

For more information on the new CAS standards for graduate and professional students services, please attend our KC sponsored CAS panel of experts session at the National Conference in March. Stay tuned to more details on the date, time and location of the workshop. For more information on CAS, please go to www.cas.edu.

Reported by
Jessica Edonick
Super Sleuth

4. Up-coming NASPA Events You Should Know About and Participate In – A Great Way to Use Your Those Professional Development Funds

National Conference Conferences:



NASPA National Conference
Early Bird Registration is January 16, 2009

#17 AGAPSS Preconference – The Globalization of Graduate and Professional Student Education

Sunday, March 8, 2009

9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Hosted by and at: Seattle University

This full day workshop at nearby Seattle University will highlight how professionals can work with graduate and professional students to develop engaged and educated global leaders. Workshop sessions will focus on how global aspects of graduate and professional education fit within the University strategic plan; resources and services for international students; and the need for interdisciplinary research and collaboration. Participants will also have the opportunity to discuss hot topics, as well as, share best practices from their own campuses.

Stay tuned for a list of our Sponsored Programs

Leadership Educators Institute (LEI)

December 4-6th

University of Maryland, College Park

Leadership education of college and university students is an important and ongoing process within higher education institutions. Student affairs professionals play a quintessential role in coordinating, shaping, and evaluating this area through developing leadership courses and programs, creating co-curricular opportunities, and utilizing new technologies.

The Leadership Educators Institute (LEI) is an innovative forum geared specifically towards new to mid-level student affairs professionals and leadership educators with these responsibilities.

Participants will learn from plenary speakers and educational sessions, as well as through engaging in active learning and dialogue with one another during roundtable sessions. The Institute will assist participants with program and leadership course development and provide opportunities to learn through participation in smaller group environments on leadership education across institutional type and identity groups.

Women's Leadership Institute

December 7-10, 2008

Ritz-Carlton

Amelia Island, FL

Be part of a special program for women seeking to become leaders in higher education administration. With the sponsorship of seven higher education associations, this unique program will bring together mid-level administrators from across campus functions to share experiences, develop a better understanding of the campus as a workplace and culture, and develop new networks and networking skills.

Through presentations, small-group exercises, and discussion, participants will gain a practical understanding of what it takes - the challenges and the rewards - to be a leader on a college or university campus. Examine the unique roles, skills, and relationships needed for success as the landscape of higher education changes over the next decade.

5. Topics Of Interest – Graduate Student Organization Funding

One of the great perks of being in a Knowledge Community is sharing knowledge and best practices. So this edition, we have had several professionals ask about how:

**Your Graduate Student Government receives funding and,
if they allocate funds,
who do they allocate to and what criteria are in place?**

Please send you information to Jessica at jl66@drexel.edu.
We will compile the answers and post them on the AGAPSS website.

6. Coming up Next!

In our next edition, we will be introducing you to your AGAPSS Knowledge Community Representative and Sharing with you updates in your particular region.

Plus, we want to make sure you are getting the information you need to be successful, so please send along any question, topic or article ideas to Jessica at jl66@drexel.edu.

Please feel free to reach out to any of the AGAPSS leadership. All of our contact information is on the AGAPSS website:

<http://www.naspa.org/kc/agapss>.

