

News Release

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Three Rivers Dean 2014 recipient of NASPA National Award

Dean of Student Services Karin Edwards honored with Scott Goodnight Award

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Each year, NASPA - Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education, recognizes members who are doing outstanding work in the student affairs profession. Karin Edwards, dean of Student Services at Three Rivers Community College in Norwich, Conn., is the 2014 recipient of the Scott Goodnight Award for Outstanding Performance as a Dean.

The award is given to a senior student affairs officer who has demonstrated sustained professional service in student affairs work, high-level competency in administrative skills, innovative response in meeting students' varied and emerging needs, effectiveness in developing junior staff members, and leadership in community and university affairs. The recipient must also have earned stature among and support of students, faculty, and fellow administrators on his or her campus and made significant contributions to the field through publications or professional involvement.

Dean Edwards is known as a progressive administrator, cultivating an environment of cutting-edge and creative programming at Three Rivers Community College. She formalized peer mentor course, the minority fellowship program, suicide prevention initiatives and boot camp classes. Edwards also put an emphasis on access to counseling services to make sure students, especially military veterans, could successfully progress through college.

“Time spent with these counselors on a range of time management, stress management, and college adjustment topics has resulted in the successful integration and persistence of hundreds of students in just my three years here at Three Rivers,” says Michael Lopez, dean of Administration for Three Rivers.

As the college’s liaison to the Three Rivers Foundation, Edwards has helped secure more than \$35,000 in scholarships and \$45,000 for the Dr. Martin Luther Jr. Scholarship Trust Fund.

“The positive impact these scholarships have brought to these disadvantaged student awardees cannot be overstated and has resonated throughout the community resulting in several new scholarship pledges,” Lopez says. “

Her colleagues say she’s supportive and hands on, a leader at Three Rivers and in the community of Norwich. Edwards and the other National Award winners will be honored in March at the 2014 NASPA Annual Conference in Baltimore, Md.

NASPA is the leading association for the advancement, health, and sustainability of the student affairs profession. Our work provides high-quality professional development, advocacy, and research for 13,000 members in all 50 states, 25 countries, and 8 U.S. territories.