



**Renee Romano, Region IV-E Vice President**  
**Report for the 2011 July Board of Directors Meeting**

July 10-12, 2011

**Discussion Items**

None at this time.

**Action Items**

None at this time.

**NASPA GOALS**

- A. To provide professional development to our members through the creation and dissemination of high quality experiences, information and exemplary models of practice

**Regional Vice President Update**

Since the National Conference, Region IV-E has been transitioning from the leadership of Les Cook from Michigan Technical University to Renee Romano, University of Illinois as Regional Vice President. This has involved making multiple appointments to the Board, establishing regional goals and initiatives, managing the planning activities and work of the Executive Board, working with the National Office to work through the consolidation vote and the subsequent activities, and planning the 2011 and 2012 Regional Conferences.

**Appointments**—A number of important appointments have been made, including the Treasurer of the Region, Herb Jones and Anna Gonzalez, 2011 Conference Chair, both from the University of Illinois. In addition, Jim Hoppe, from Macalester College has agreed to hold the position of Membership Coordinator and Jason Ramirez from Carthage College is the Newsletter Coordinator. Other positions have been filled as well and some members of the Board have agreed to stay on for another partial or full term.

**Establishing Regional Goals and Initiatives**—The Regional Vice President has established some preliminary goals, but the Executive Board will have the opportunity to weigh in at the upcoming Summer Meeting. The preliminary, transitional goals are:

1. Continuing our communication and connectivity with one another. Increase the opportunity of members in the Region to be involved.

2. Providing enriched opportunities for learning and professional development activities that meet the needs of the profession.
3. Increasing membership within the Region, with particular attention to Community College members.
4. Increasing the number of institutions involved in the NUFPP program and the number of NUFPP fellows from Region IV-E.
5. Working with the National Office to move NASPA forward beyond the consolidation vote.

**Financial Report**— The role of the Treasurer for NASPA IV-E transitioned to Herb Jones, University of Illinois. Herb also serves as the treasurer for the 2011 Regional Conference. We are developing a budget that will be our financial plan and a strategic tool utilized in providing guidance for regional activities. As we wrap up FY11, we are estimating that the carryover for FY12 will be \$26,100 once adjusted for expenses that occurred at the National Conference and initial planning costs for the Regional Conference taking place in Evanston, Illinois.

**The Region IV-E Executive Board**—A summer planning session is in the works, hosted by Rob Kelly, SSAO at Loyola University. The retreat is scheduled for July 21 and 22 and is intentionally planned for after the National strategic planning session so Region IV-E's activities can support and enhance that of the NASPA Office. Activities will include team building, creating a shared vision for a successful Regional Board, and goal setting.

**Technology**—A Region IV-E twitter account was established with the username NASPA4E. As of the writing of this report we have grown to 74 followers and hope to continue to increase as we lead up to the regional conference. We will continue to use the twitter account beyond conference updates, and are still working on what that would look like for the region. We could use it to offer a more active professional development presence for our members.

A permanent hosting location for conference web pages ([www.naspaiv-e.org](http://www.naspaiv-e.org)) has been established. This site has been purchased for the next three years and will serve as the host location for our conference websites. At the writing of this report, we were about halfway through constructing the regional conference website; this work is an ongoing collaboration between the conference committee and technology coordinator. The Conference Committee is working to get all of the relevant information together and posted to the website as soon as possible to begin the process of fully advertising for and registering people for the conference.

**Mid Level Institute**-- Over the past few months the Mid Level Managers Institute (MLMI) has been working two-fold, continuing to work with the current group of participants that started at the last Regional Conference, as well as planning for a new MLMI next November. At the same time the new Chair of this Institute convened a national group of leaders from across all regions to discuss the MLMI curriculum and whether the curriculum should be standardized across the regions.

The current Region IV-E MLMI program is in the eighth month and has had relatively consistent with respect to participation. The planning group is consistently tweaking information delivery to identify a better capture rate and are hoping that the last few months will draw an even greater audience. Over the next few months presentations are planned on:

June 24, 2011 - Effective Supervision – Dr. George McClellan

July 29, 2011 – Mentoring for Middle Management in Student Affairs – Emily Langdon & Stephanie Gordon

September 30, 2011 – Understanding the Role & Work of Faculty and Developing Strong, Collaborative Working Relationships – Dr. Michelle Boettcher

October 28, 2011 – Professional Development in Middle Management – Preparing for the Future – Jennifer Hiatt, Spelman & Johnson

We are excited about the rest of the program that we have set and believe that this will assist our participants in developing strong skills for the future

We are identifying some issues with technology and would like to propose the purchase (from money collected in the registration costs from the MLMI participants) of a yearly license (for the region) to [gotomeetings.com](http://gotomeetings.com). We have been using [freeconferencecall.com](http://freeconferencecall.com) but this has many issues that are hard to overcome. Gotomeetings changes this and allows the program to be much more professional in nature and allows for presenters to actually present powerpoints and other materials. We are working with Joey DeSanto in the national office to determine whether or not we can get a license fee at reduced cost since the National office has a license for [gotomeetings.com](http://gotomeetings.com).

In the future, we are planning to have a MLMI in November at the conference in Chicago. This event will be important as we have developed strong momentum in the program and believe that to stay consistent we need to continue to bring individuals into the program to keep it viable and strong. We are already identifying things that need to be done differently for this format of the program to remain strong and to serve the needs of the participants to the best of our ability.

Representatives from all six regions as well as the NASPA office have started to share and talk about standardizing the curriculum nation-wide and what the MLMI could look like in the future if we were to base the curriculum on the professional standards areas as identified by NASPA. All participants felt that this should be the case and that there should be some standardization that needs to occur, while at the same time allowing for some individuality amongst the regions. The group is sharing best practices as well as talking about ways in which NASPA as a whole can support our mid-level professionals even better than they have in the past.

**New Professionals Institute (NPI)**— The NASPA Region IV-E NPI has averaged 30 plus participants the last two years. This year the faculty included:

- Linda Newman, Director of Housing, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor

- Jim Thorius, Vice President for Planning and Student Development/Dean of Students Simpson College, Iowa
- Laurie Hamre, Vice President for Student Affairs Macalester College, Minnesota

We are currently recruiting the 2011 faculty. On our short list of names are: Kent Smith, VPSA Ohio University, Terry Hogan, VPSA Northern Iowa, and Linda Deanna Associate Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs at the University of Illinois Chicago. The curriculum will combine the work of Linda Deanna (UIC) and Mary Dressler (Northwestern) and offer participants the opportunity to develop a professional philosophy. We will use NASPA/ACPA Professional Competencies to frame the discussions. The highlight of the institute is Gwen Dungy sharing her own story and professional philosophy.

**2011 Regional Conference**—The Region IV-E Conference will be held at the Hilton Orrington in Evanston, Illinois from November 5-8, 2011. The conference theme is “Re-imagine, Reinvent, Re-awaken”

Re-imagine: Sessions should focus on student affairs and what ways we can play a leadership role in our institutions and the greater community as higher education continues to evolve and change in the 21st century. These sessions should provide innovative solutions and new services created in order to address issues and problems that arise on our campuses.

Re-invent: Sessions should address the values of student affairs and what this means for today's and tomorrow's staff and students. It should look at the diverse groups and individuals that make up our universities and address how higher education can play a meaningful role in the changing student population.

Re-awaken: These sessions should identify ways that allow practitioners to develop and maintain their passion for the profession. Those who are new and not so new in the profession will be inspired and refreshed in preparation for our work in student affairs.

Major Speakers:

Sara Benincasa – Writer and performer whose work touches on mental health, body image, and women's issues. Her one-woman comedy show, AGORAFABULOUS! chronicle her lifelong struggle with mental illness.

Keith Boykins – Former special assistant to President Bill Clinton and author of three popular books, including the New York Times best-seller Beyond The Down Low.

George Kuh – Chancellor's Professor Emeritus of Higher Education at Indiana University Bloomington and founding director of the Center for Postsecondary Research and the National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE) and related instruments for law students, beginning college students, and faculty. He currently directs two national projects, the National Institute for Learning Outcomes Assessment and the Strategic National Arts Alumni Project (SNAAP), the first-ever in-depth look at the factors that help

or hinder the careers of graduates of arts-intensive training high schools and postsecondary institutions.

Pre-conference session institutes and sessions include:

Student Affairs Leaders of Tomorrow (SALT) – institute for undergraduates interested in a career in higher education.

New Professionals Institute – program targeting individuals who have been in the field for five years or less.

Mid-Level Institute – program that focuses on issues facing those who have been in the field for more than five years.

Mental Health Assessment and Student Discipline—program that focuses on how these practices intersect when institutions are faced with disturbed students and the negative consequences of their behavior on campus.

Other special sessions include SSAO track that features a sponsored breakfast reception and programs, deans from small colleges and universities, and the annual knowledge community fair.

Registration for the conference will be open before June 30 at 2010 conference rates, so that fiscal-year 2011 funds may be used for November's conference. As of July 1, new "early" rates will be in effect until September 30, followed by "regular" rates in effect through October 31. As of November 1 and on-site at the conference, a final rate structure will be in effect. Details regarding rates, payment, and refund policies will be available on the regional conference website.

**Membership-** In addition to an orientation provide by outgoing membership coordinator, the new membership coordinator of Region IV-E has participated in two conference calls with staff from the headquarters in Washington DC, and will continue to work with them as they upgrade the current membership website.

We have conducted an initial orientation with each State and Provincial coordinator, and many have quickly begun their new roles. The former Ohio state coordinator constructed an excellent policy and procedure manual for her State, which has been adapted to fit for the region as a whole.

As of June 1, 2011 there are 218 institutional members and 2,329 total members in our region (this includes 15 who report currently living in a state outside of our region). Of the 2,329, we report 79 faculty members, 607 graduate students, 47 NASPA fellows and 38 undergraduate student members. Projects currently in progress include working with the headquarters staff to gain an accurate count of two year and community colleges in our region, updating the graduate school contact list, and assisting state/province coordinators in developing relationships with the various local student affairs associations.

**2012 Regional Conference**—Rob Kelly, SSAO at Loyola University of Chicago has agreed to chair the 2012 Regional Conference to be held in Madison, Wisconsin. He is currently evaluating proposals for a conference site and hotel and assembling the conference planning committee.

**Awards and Recognition**—The Board decided to add an award for Undergraduate Student Rising Star Award in conjunction with the Regional effort to grow both the NUFPI initiatives and focus on increasing undergraduate awareness and involvement. That award will go out with the call for nominations in late June/early July with the rest of the nominations. After speaking with the previous awards chair, we will maintain the Regional close date of September 15, 2011 for the awards nominations, and look at extending it at the point where we can review the number of nominations we have.

**Knowledge Communities**—All knowledge community positions in region IV-East except Administrators in Graduate and Professional Student Services and African American Concerns have been filled. The KC Coordinator continues to work with the National Chairs of both these KC to fulfill appointments. The new KC representatives have met once through a conference call to begin talking about their level of engagement at the Regional Conference. The KC coordinator will work with the conference planning committee to provide input on what the KC reps want to do and the success of these activities at prior conferences. In addition, the KC coordinator is working with the reps on a training session that will occur for all KC reps at the Regional Conference.

WISA organized a women's leadership drive-in conference at Ohio State University on June 17, 2011. The registration deadline was June 10 and at the time of this report, there were 80 individuals attending the conference. The organizers budgeted for 100 in attendance.

- B. To provide leadership in higher education through policy development and advocacy for students on important international, national, state, and local issues

**Public Policy**—Lisa Erwin, our Region IV-E Public Policy Division Chair, has been participating at the national level with Jeanne Miller and more recently, Rebecca Mills. The Public Policy Board has been discussing a variety of issues and Lisa also participated in the Public Policy Division meeting at the national conference in Philadelphia where they engaged in strategic planning and providing clarity on state representative positions.

- C. To advance pluralism, diversity, and internationalism in NASPA and the profession
- D. To provide leadership for promoting, assessing, and supporting student learning and successful educational outcomes
- E. To maintain, evaluate, and develop a high quality association structure and national office to meet current needs, anticipate future trends, and promote growth

#### **DIVISION REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS**

**Community College Division**—Region IV-E has identified increasing community college participation as a goal for the region this year. Therefore, the Community College Division representative has been

engaged in conversations with John Laws, Community College Division Chair and the RVP regarding strategies to reach out to community colleges. Together, we drafted a letter that was sent (with the help of Tiki at the NASPA office) to all SSAOs at Region IV-E community colleges informing them of the Community College On-line learning series and encouraging them to attend the Region IV-E conference in November, 2011. We are working to create a community college track at the conference and I have been encouraging my community college colleagues to submit proposals for the conference.

In addition to the work in Region IV-E, I have participated in one Community College Division Conference Call since the March national meeting. We continue to discuss strategies to increase NASPA membership among community colleges and to provide meaningful professional development opportunities for community colleges (through the On-Line learning Series, the Student Services Institute and the Community College Institute).

**Small Colleges & Universities Division**—Nationally, the small college and university representative has begun work with others on two Divisional initiatives: 1) expanding the contact between graduate preparation programs and small colleges and universities and 2) publishing on the Divisional website some small college templates for departmental and program assessment. In May he wrote to all NASPA small campus colleagues in the region, outlining ways in which they can be involved with the region and increase the profile of small colleges and universities – as well as soliciting input about additional ideas.