

Draft Vision Statement for the New Association

The New Association will be the comprehensive, all-inclusive, career-spanning student affairs association for professionals and faculty in the country and internationally. Through membership of 20,000 and growing, the New Association will garner a stronger voice in and for higher education and the student affairs profession, as well as with external constituencies and organizations. The New Association will enjoy significant financial strength and sustainability through its united status, providing new resources to fund scholarship, creativity, and innovation of practice. As the foremost student affairs association, it will be strongly positioned for private and federal grant funding and corporate sponsorships.

As the New Association welcomes and engages all student affairs professionals and faculty, it will promote and enjoy an open exchange of ideas through inclusive participation of its members at all stages of their careers and in various professional specializations. The New Association will draw on the knowledge, expertise, and experiences of seasoned professionals, serving as their networking venue for staying abreast of current trends and conversing with like colleagues on top-level issues. Further, as the entry point association for all new professionals, the New Association also will focus strongly on mentoring and nurturing the future leaders of our profession, while gaining vibrancy and insight from the active participation of graduate and undergraduate students. The New Association will make it a priority to forge strong partnerships with sister associations, and through these collaborations, will be uniquely situated to lead policy, practice, scholarship, and advocacy for student affairs in higher education.

The New Association will lead in advancing whole person learning, particularly in areas such as ethical decision making, intercultural and multicultural competence, global knowledge, civic participation, leadership, and experiential learning. Building on the strong traditions, expertise, and experience of ACPA and NASPA, the New Association will be known for its extensive and coordinated array of professional development opportunities for members. These opportunities will assist the membership in becoming effective leaders in Student Affairs by expanding their knowledge base through professional development and research and strengthening their expertise in various arenas. In doing so, members will contribute to the enhancement of relevant and effective services to students; partner with faculty to enhance learning and to develop evidence based research; provide transformational experiences; and contribute to the success of future lifelong learners and problem solvers of the 21st century.