Hello Region I!!

Congratulations to the winners of the 2019 NASPA Election Results! Thank you to all that participated in the voting process!

Angela Batista-- Board Chair Elect
Melinda Stoops-- Region I Director-elect

Conference Opportunities

Will you be attending the National Conference next week? Check out these opportunities for while you are there!

Consider being a conference volunteer! More information can be found here

Region I Programs
Region I Business Meeting
March 11th  5:15-7:00pm

Region I Reception
March 11th 9-11pm

Civic Learning & Democratic Engagement KC
Join the Civic Learning/Democratic Engagement KC at the Annual Conference for a CLDE-themed Pre-conference session entitled “Democracy Academy: Engaging Campuses, Persons, and Communities in the Electoral Process.” This pre-conference workshop will be held Sunday, March 10 (9:00 AM - 12:00 PM) in the Olympic I room of JW Marriott LA Live. Staff from various functional areas within student affairs and other organizations related to civic engagement will engage with attendees through panels, workshops focused on action planning and assessment, and through dialogue with fellow attendees. For more details, visit: https://conference.naspa.org/program/session-formats/pre-conference-workshops#.

Conference Keynote Speakers

Kal Penn
Actor/Former Associate Director at the White House Office of Public Engagement

Amanda Nguyen
Founder and CEO , Rise

Janet Napolitano
President, University of California

Shaun Harper
Provost Professor, Rossier School of Education and the Marshall School of Business, University of Southern California, Founder and Executive Director, USC Race and Equity Center

For more information regarding conference sessions: https://conference.naspa.org
As a first time attendee of the NASPA Region I Conference, it was a remarkable experience! I started the week participating in the Ubuntu Institute with my peers of color and was able to make great connections across the region and have an amazing educational experience. During the Institute, I was able to sit down and have a round table discussion with senior and new professionals of color and hear about the experience they’ve had in this field. We were welcomed by professionals who were so obviously passionate about issues revolving diversity and having that represented in this profession was a valuable experience. At the Institute, I met other entry level professionals who shared my passion and excitement for the field. Being surrounded by other professionals of color, who are motivated and enjoy working within the higher education field was energizing and made me feel inspired. This institute allowed me to expand my network and create friendships with colleagues that I think will last a lifetime.

This diverse and inclusive experience set the tone for what was to come for the main event, the NASPA Region I Conference. The most memorable session was “Azucar Negra: Highlighting Afro– Latinidad in Higher Education.” The session highlighted the history, issues, and celebrations of the Latina community and its intersections with being black was so relatable and engaging. The presenters shared their personal stories and entertained the audience with their friendly banter and interactive presentation. Presentations like these are needed to continue the movement of why “representation matters” and embracing knowledge about the identities our student have. Another session that was very valuable was “Personal Branding: How to Craft & Tell Your Story.” This session discussed tips of creating your own brand and how to market yourself by aligning your strengths, values, and unique personality. Rollie and Dustin did a phenomenal job and it was easily the most entertaining and enjoyable session I attended. The NASPA Region I Conference was a genuinely valuable experience that gave me extraordinary networking opportunities and imparted knowledge that I will keep with me as I progress further into the world of higher education. I am honored to be the recipient of the Jim Rhatigan Fellowship Award and grateful to have been financially supported to participate in a professional changing experience.

Alexandra Valdez
MA–NASPA Program Highlights

Brunch Social–Tavern in the Square

On February 2nd, the MA–NASPA board hosted a brunch at Tavern in the Square North Station in downtown Boston. This brunch was organized by Becky Lindley (Northeastern) and Patrick Joseph (UMASS Boston) as an opportunity for members to meet new people and network in a more informal setting. About 13 members from various institutions and professional levels were in attendance. Everyone had a great time reconnecting with one another and/or meeting other professionals in the area for the first time!

Patrick Joseph
UMASS Boston

On February 9th, MA–NASPA board members, Jacquelyn Fitzpatrick and Patrick Joseph, supported the All of the Above Conference at Boston College. The All of the Above Conference is catered to undergraduate and graduate students in addition to new professionals in student affairs. The conference was made possible by collaboration with three other organizations, NEACUHO, BACHA, and NECPA in addition to two fearless leaders from BACHA, Sam Gordon (Boston College) and Brianna Burk (Suffolk University). The conference planning began in November 2018 and the hard work put in by all most certainly paid off! The Saturday conference was enjoyed by 75 participants, a graduate school fair, resume reviews and mock interviews, in addition to 12 session offerings.

All of the Above

On February 2nd, MA–NASPA hosted our first ever brunch social, located at Tavern in the Square in Boston. The event was a great success, with a significant yet intimate gathering of colleagues who had the opportunity to connect with one another over food, mimosas, and coffee. Many attendees commented on the comfortable feeling of networking with others in a casual atmosphere during the day on the weekend. Many topics were discussed including student affairs hot topics as well as areas of personal interest. The MA–NASPA board is encouraged by this event’s success and intends to continue this offering in the future, potentially with a brunch to occur in the fall. Thank you to all who attended!
State & Knowledge Community Updates

**NASPA Massachusetts**
MA– NASPA Vacancy: Member at Large– Marketing and Social Media Coordinator

The MA– NASPA Board seeks an energetic graduate student or professional to join the board to support programs and events to meet the needs of our members. Specifically this position will focus on coordinating efforts with the Regional Communications team to generate promotional materials for events, monitor social media, and highlight achievements in Massachusetts.

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**Civic Learning & Democratic Engagement**
Ryan Baldassario, University of Connecticut

While January may be in the rear–view, it is never too late to get on board with some practical resolutions! Check out this NASPA Blog Post about institutional and self–reflection, setting new goals, and looking proactively towards future nation-wide political engagement efforts that impact our campuses. Read the full blog post here: [https://www.naspa.org/about/blog/conceptualizing-and-assessing-campus-climates-for-political-learning-and-en](https://www.naspa.org/about/blog/conceptualizing-and-assessing-campus-climates-for-political-learning-and-en)

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**COFFEE & ART!**

Join us for a meet up at the RISD Museum! Admission is free.

SUNDAY, MARCH 24
10:30 AM
Organized by NASPA RI

224 BENEFIT STREET
PROVIDENCE

Meet at Bolt Coffee (cafe inside RISD Museum)

Let us know you are attending here: http://bit.ly/2T07u0Q

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**16th Annual New England Latinx/a/o Student Leadership Conference**

16th Annual New England Latinx/a/o Student Leadership Conference, taking place at Rhode Island College in Providence, Rhode Island on April 5-6, 2019.

Registration and Lodging is now live!

Early Bird Registration $35 (Ends 3/9)

General Registration $45 (3/10-3/25)