

NASPA IV-WEST

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF STUDENT PERSONNEL ADMINISTRATORS



The rising tide of documented psychiatric disabilities on college campuses

Greg Sullivan, Metropolitan State College of Denver
Region IV-West Disability Concerns Knowledge Community

Winter 2006
Regional
Newsletter



Mark your calendars!

NASPA National Convention

March 11-15, 2006
Washington, D.C.

NASPA Region IV-West Mid-Level Professionals' Institute

October 9-11, November 2, 2005
Breckenridge, Colorado

NASPA Region IV-West 2006 Regional Conference

Delta Run Resort & Conference Center
November 2-4, November 10-11, 2006

Each year, about one in five Americans are diagnosed with a psychiatric disability which includes major depressive disorders, schizophrenia, eating disorders, and anxiety disorders (*National Institute of Mental Health, 2002*). Research suggests that the onset of major mental illness often occurs between the ages of 18 and 25 – a time when many young adults are attending college. Perhaps the most significant factor resulting in more students disclosing a psychiatric disability in college is how such disorders are identified and treated.

Today, diagnostic criteria have expanded so that the term "psychiatric disability" represents a much broader range of disorders than ever before. As diagnostic criteria continue to improve in identifying other types of mental health disorders, it is likely that the population of students with psychiatric disabilities in post-secondary education settings will continue to grow as well.

In the last decade, there has been a dramatic increase of individuals with psychiatric disabilities attending college. Meisel (1998) found that in one year, **five institutions within the Big Ten Conference encountered an increase from 30% to 100% in the number of students served with psychiatric disabilities.** At the University of Minnesota, the number of students reporting a psychiatric disability as their primary disability (285) was more than the combination of students reporting learning disabilities and attention deficit disorders (269).

Barriers

While there is only limited research on this

issue to guide practice, information has recently become available that helps identify some barriers faced by students with psychiatric disabilities, as well as service providers alike (Blacklock, Benson, & Johnson, 2003). Based upon the results of 39 focus groups conducted with post-secondary Disability Services staff, faculty, administrators, and students with psychiatric disabilities, Blacklock et al. (2003) identified five primary barriers that impact the educational experiences of students, as well as service-delivery issues for providers. These include:

Stereotypes and Stigma — All of the focus groups stated that students with psychiatric disabilities often faced incorrect, stereotypical views about their disabilities, and they endured the stigma and negative consequences that frequently accompanies disclosure of such a disability.



Complex Nature of Psychiatric Disabilities

— Students felt challenged to simultaneously manage their disabilities along with maintaining academic performances

which reflected their abilities. Service providers and faculty members share students' concerns about these complex issues.

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Vice president's message

*Prakash Mathew
North Dakota State University
Region IV-W VP (2004-2006)*

My role as your Vice President is coming to an end in March of 2006. This is my last opportunity to write this column as your Vice President. What an awesome responsibility it has been for me to serve as your regional Vice President. I am confident that Cheryl Lovell from the University of Denver will find the experience as rewarding as I have.

Our regional conference recently held in Kansas City was a **HUGE** success! **This was the largest conference ever hosted in Region IV-West!** Congratulations to **Cheryl Anderson**, Dean of Students at Wichita State University, and the **Conference Committee** for their marvelous leadership. The conference theme, **"Architects of Purpose: Refining the Blueprints of Our Profession"**, provided us an opportunity to re-examine the roles we play in developing the "whole student" so that we can facilitate and support student learning.



Larry Roper, our opening keynote speaker, provided an insightful beginning to the conference by giving us a framework for constructing a purposeful leadership profile.

Pat King provided participants some practical suggestions for being purposeful in designing our learning environment.



Finally, our closing keynote speaker, **Nancy Hunter Denny**, inspired and encouraged us to maximize our potential and to believe in our passion as we live our life to the fullest.



Several of you have asked me to share with you my **opening address at the Kansas City Conference**.

..... Last year, as I stood before you coked up, I talked about my father. The inspiration for my talk today once again comes from my father. The world in which we live has offered many lessons for us. It reminds us all of the importance of recognizing the similarities among everyone and appreciating their differences. It also reminds us of the power that you have within yourself to make a difference when you believe in something, and when you share the passion that you have about your beliefs. It is an opportunity available for all of us. Our work with students influences their lives on a daily basis.

Through his struggles in life, **Nelson Mandela** reminded us that education is the most powerful weapon which one can use to change the world. Sometimes,

we need courage to face the obstacles in our lives and within our profession. **Maya Angelou** reminds us that we are not necessarily born with courage - instead - **we are born with potential**. The power of one is a concept that is appropriate in our work and our profession.

Sometimes, we sit back in our work, our profession, and even in NASPA, waiting for others to cater things for us. You can make a difference with your every day actions to make the ripple effect in the lives of others. To make this ripple effect, you must believe in your personal power to create ripples to make positive changes. It is also a responsibility that we share. Our actions and our failure to act can both have powerful consequences. What you say and what you do does make a difference in NASPA. It is not simply for your Board Members or your Vice President to act. With your own power, we can take this journey together.

We have all heard about the soaring geese and the efficiency of the flying "V formation". Research has shown that geese are able to fly 71% farther due to the flying "V formation". We all have had to rely on those ahead of us for formation and direction, whether that is from our NASPA President, Executive Director, or from your Board Members. We have also relied on those behind us. There is a wonderful quote by **Jon Quincy Adams** which says, "If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more, and become more, you are a leader."



Former IV West VP - **Tim Golin**, **Lon Renson** and **Diana Boyle** with Outgoing VP - **Prakash Mathew**, NASPA President **Karl Kerpelot**, and NASPA Executive Director - **Gwen Garry**

During the first week this past June, the Region IV-West Board met at this same hotel for our summer planning meeting. Of course, as usual, I talked about my father. As we were walking to the Plaza for dinner one evening, **Christina Schunkert-Luebbe** noticed a sign on a store window that reminded her of my father, so she shared this with me. "My father didn't tell me how to live. He lived himself and I observed." I ask you to join me and your Board in this journey to use your own power and make a commitment to be involved in the success of our students through this organization - NASPA.

Finally, I would like to share some highlights of my term as your Regional Vice President:

- Hosted two of the largest conferences in the history of Region IV-West, under the leadership of Ron Kopita, Cheryl Anderson, and their respective committees.

Continued on Page 3

Vice president message continued...

- In collaboration with the National Board, IV-West Board Members Chris Linder, Laura Oster-Auland, Brett Campbell and Jennifer Molock established an initiative for under-represented institutions.
- Two of our Regional Board Members, Grace Bagutu and Emily Griffin Overocker submitted a proposal to the National Board to allow graduate students to vote in the national election process for the President and the Regional Vice President positions.
- Implemented the Professional Development Matrix for the 2005 Regional Conference. The program proposals that were submitted were distributed based upon the themes within this matrix.
- Two outstanding Institutes - Mid-Level and New Professional - were hosted under the leadership of Kim Grassmeyer, Jill Pleicher, Jesse Fortney, and their planning committees.
- A very successful Undergraduate Career Fair was hosted under the leadership of Adrienne Leslie-Toogood.
- Created the Region IV-West Treasurer position and selected Kim Reichert for this leadership role.
- Established a Financial Management Plan under the guidance of our Treasurer.
- Established a financial plan to support the regional Vice President's leadership activities.
- Under the direction of Pat Mahon and the State Membership Coordinators, developed a plan to reach the **membership goal of "6% in 06"**, which was established by NASPA President Kurt Keppler.
- Strengthened the Knowledge Communities through various activities and action plans under the able leadership of Chris Linder and all of the Knowledge Community Chairs.
- Reached out to the Tribal Colleges and Canadian Provinces within our region to encourage and support their involvement and participation with NASPA IV-West.



Gwen Dungy, Diana Doyle and Deanne Sperling

Sperling who served faithfully as my assistant for the region, and to Audrey Olson who provided unconditional support in every way possible. See you all in Washington D.C.

Best wishes, Prakash

Once again, I appreciate the opportunity to serve you as Regional VP. I have been blessed to have had the opportunity to serve this great region with a capable and committed Board for the past two years. I also extend my sincere "thank you" to Deanne



Audrey Olson & Gwen Dungy

Upcoming Region IV-West Professional Development Activities

2006 NASPA National Conference
"Individual Commitment - Collective Action"
March 11 - 15, 2006
IV-West Regional Advisory Board
will meet March 11, 2006
Marriott Wardman Park Hotel, Washington, D.C.
NASPA Homepage: www.naspa.org

2006 NASPA Region IV-West Mid-Level Professionals' Institute
(Pre-conference to the Regional Conference)
October 30 - November 2, 2006
Beaver Run Resort & Conference Center
Breckenridge, Colorado
Co-Chairs: Eric Grospitch (University of Kansas)
Phone: 785-864-7220
E-mail: egrospitch@ku.edu
&
Renee Arnett (Johnson County Community College)
Phone: 913-469-8500 Ext. 4581
E-mail: rarnett@jccc.edu

2006 NASPA Region IV-West Conference
"Hidden Treasures, Uncovering Potential"
November 2 - 4, 2006
IV-West Regional Advisory Board
will meet November 1 - 2, 2006
Beaver Run Resort & Conference Center
Breckenridge, Colorado
Co-Chairs: Anne Flaherty (University of Kansas)
Phone: 785-864-4381
E-mail: aflaherty@ku.edu
&
Patricia Helton (University of Denver)
Phone: 303-871-6686
E-mail: phelton@du.edu

Additional information is available from the Chair of each event or on-line at the Region IV-West website at [http://www.naspa.org/RegionalCommunities/Region IV-W](http://www.naspa.org/RegionalCommunities/RegionIV-W)



Architects of Purpose

Refining the Blueprints of Our Profession

NASPA Region IV West Annual Conference
November 10 - 12, 2005 Kansas City, Missouri

Congratulations to Region IV-West 2005 Award Recipients!

PUBLICATIONS AWARD



Campus-Based:
"Dialogues 2005 Training
Resource Book",
Amanda Stone Norton,
University of Denver

Video/Computer Software

"Camp Crimson",
Recipient: Scott Dawkins,
University of Oklahoma;
Accepting for Scott is Quy
Nguyen



INNOVATIVE PROGRAM AWARD



"Student Health
Center Trans-
formation
Project",
Chris Meiers and
co-programmers,
The University of
Kansas Medical
Center

SUPPORT STAFF RECOGNITION AWARD

Audrey Olson,
North Dakota State
University



OUTSTANDING FACULTY MEMBER

Recipient: Marcia
Dickman, Oklahoma
State University;
Accepting for Dr.
Dickman is Dr. Bob
Huss, Tina Thayer
and Fran Gragg.



OUTSTANDING NEW PROFESSIONAL



Ann Marie Williams,
University of
Nebraska - Lincoln

**OUTSTANDING
MID - LEVEL
PROFESSIONAL**

Zauryah Waite,
University of
Missouri-Kansas
City



**RISING STAR
AWARD
RECIPIENTS**



Undergraduate



Kelsey Bunker
University of Arkansas
Sheena Martinez
Colorado State University
Bethany Brown
University of Kansas
Jackie Cook-Iberie
University of Missouri
Jon Griffin
University of North
Dakota
Quy Nguyen
University of Oklahoma



**DISTINGUISHED
SERVICE
AWARD**

Becky Barker,
University of
Oklahoma

Graduate

Alisa Michelle Tyson
University of Arkansas
Lindsay Sell
Colorado State University
Antwone Haywood
University of Kansas
Courtney Burstad
University of North Dakota



**JAMES J. RHATIGAN
OUTSTANDING DEAN AWARD &
REGIONAL
NOMINEE:
SCOTT
GOODNIGHT
AWARD**

Ronald R. Kopita,
Wichita State
University



New Professional

Kansas Sarah Hayner University of Kansas
Nebraska Erron Reynolds University of Nebraska-Lincoln
Oklahoma Sarah Covert Rogers State University
South Dakota Kristen Carlisle South Dakota State University

**PRESIDENTIAL EXCELLENCE
AWARD**



Recipient: Lee A.
Vickers, Dickenson
State University,
Accepting for
President Vickers is
Hal Haynes



*Thanks to Award Chair,
Christie Schickel Hubbard and
committee members Bryan and
Beth Hall for the honor and
to committee members Wendy
Ramsay, Greg Peterson and Beth
Carpenter (WST)*

Region IV-west hosts new professional institute in 2005

Jesse W. Fortney

University of Colorado School of Medicine
New Professionals Institute Chair

On November 8th, 2005, NASPA Region IV-West sponsored a two-day New Professional Institute (NPI) at the Marriott Country Club Plaza Hotel, located in beautiful Kansas City, Missouri. The purpose of NPI is to provide an intensive learning experience for new student affairs administrators by engaging the concepts of challenge, support, and the acquisition of skills and abilities necessary to be leaders in student affairs administration in the new century.

The institute was highly interactive and included sessions covering such topics as advocacy, diversity, institutional assessment, institutional/professional values, effective leadership, career opportunities, and change. Presentations focused on contemporary issues for new professionals in an effort to provide an intellectually stimulating and enjoyable program that facilitated both professional and personal growth.

Throughout the two days, faculty mentors met in smaller groups to help put the "theory into practice", and to help the participants relate the presentations to their individual institutions - and to the profession as a whole. Members of this year's faculty included **Dr. Catherine Todero** from the University of Nebraska Medical Center, **Dr. Dorothy Knoll** from the University of Kansas Medical Center, **Ty Patterson** from Ozark Technical Community College, **Dr. Frank Sanchez** from the University of Colorado at Denver and Health Sciences Center, **Dr. Carla Jones** from Kansas State University, and **Dr. Myron Pope** from the University of Central Oklahoma. A big "thank you" goes out to this year's planning committee: **Timaya Moon Morris** from the University of Wyoming, and **Lisa Shryock** and **Fonda Bries** from the University of Kansas Medical Center.

With the "what if" of Deanne Sperling from North Dakota State University, and a formal proposal from Jesse W. Fortney, the IV-West advisory board was pleased to offer a **scholarship for a new professional from a traditionally under-represented institution to attend the New Professional Institute**. Information announcing the scholarship was sent out to every Historically Black College/University, Tribal College, and Hispanic Serving Institution in the region which are not already members of NASPA. This **scholarship, which was awarded to RaShonda Alexander** from Harris-Stowe State University, paid up to \$1,200 for expenses related to travel, institute registration, planned meals during NPI, and a hotel room. RaShonda's energy filled the room during our sessions and, before she left NPI, she stated, "Thank you for such a rewarding professional experience." She also informed us that she now plans on becoming a member of NASPA due to the wonderful experiences she has had with our NPI, the regional conference, and its members.

At the close of NPI, we asked for some reflection from a few of the participants...



"Why did you attend NPI?"

Malika Carter from North Dakota State University stated, "I attended NPI to receive guidance from experienced professionals on the how-to's of student affairs, the Ph.D. process, negotiating professional and personal cutting-edge practices in the field, and (making) connections to people/practices and the uses thereof that I am not privy to as a new professional."

"What did you get out of attending NPI?"

Tricia Fechter from Rockhurst University stated, "I was impressed with the sessions offered, the diversity of the faculty members, and the commitment of the NPI attendees. It has been great to continue to network and bounce ideas off of other NPIers. It also sparked my interest to stay involved in NASPA."

"Why would you recommend that new professionals attend NPI?"

Brocke Wilson from the University of Central Oklahoma stated, "Why not? This is an opportunity to get plugged in with others who are in the profession on a regional level. As NPI was a part of the IV-West conference, it was easier to adjust to the sea of faces in the crowd because we already knew other individuals from NPI. Looking beyond NPI into the future, these are professionals who are sharing in the field with you. Getting to know these individuals now is key because one day you may come to realize that you will be working with these people at the same institution."

Overall, the institute received great evaluations from the participants! The region looks forward to continuing the professional development of its future practitioners.



The region's next New Professional Institute will be held in Little Rock, Arkansas in the fall of 2007.

NASPA region IV-west's 2005 "Faculty of the Year" award recipient: Marcia Dickman

Dr. Bob Huss, Director of Residential Life
Oklahoma State University



Last Spring, when Cassie Gearhart-Parish and I originally discussed nominating Dr. Marcia Dickman for this award, we never thought that Dr. Dickman would not be able to accept it personally. It has now been nine months since Dr. "D" passed away suddenly and without warning.

Since then, those of us who were privileged to have known her, greatly miss her wit and wisdom.

Yet, with all her wit and wisdom, Dr. "D" was challenged - like most of us - to explain what we do in this profession **to our parents**. Recently, Dr. "D's" 84-year old mother, Frances, commented to me that she now understood what Marcia did professionally. I asked Frances how she came to this understanding, and she told me that she had been reading the large book of memories we had compiled for her from many of Dr. "D's" former students and colleagues. Frances said very clearly to me, **"I now know that Marcia touched a lot of lives"**. Each of us could be so fortunate if our professional lives were described so simply and with such meaning.

Dr. "D's" mother now has the NASPA plaque for **"Region IV-West 2005 Faculty of the Year"** proudly held with the rest of the memories of her daughter, Marcia. Frances asked that I convey her great appreciation to NASPA for this award.



NASPA's 88th
ANNUAL
CONVENTION
MARCH 11-15, 2006
MARRIOTT
WARDMAN PARK
HOTEL

Reservations for conference lodging should be made through the NASPA Housing Bureau. Visit www.naspa.com/conference/botels/ for more information about hotel options.

ODDS & ENDS



For Inspiration

Though we can't always see it at the time, if we look upon events with some perspective, we see things always happen for our best interests. We are always being guided in a way better than we know ourselves.

-Swami Satchidananda

If you hear a voice within you say 'you cannot paint', then by all means paint, and that voice will be silenced.

-Vincent Van Gogh

Your vision will become clear only when you look into your heart. Who looks outside, dreams. Who looks inside, awakens.

-Carl Jung

The greatest good you can do for another is not just share your riches, but reveal to them their own.

-Disraeli

They may forget what you said, but they will never forget how you made them feel.

-Carl W. Buechner

On the Lighter Side

Laughter is the shortest distance between two people.

-Victor Borges

Ask your child what he wants for dinner only if he's buying.

-Fran Lebowitz

I like work: it fascinates me. I can sit and look at it for hours.

-Jerome K. Jerome

Sometimes I lie awake at night, and I ask "Where have I gone wrong?" Then a voice says to me, "This is going to take more than one night."

-Charlie Brown

Become a student affairs professional

*Adrienne Leslie-Toogood, Kansas State University
Region IV-West International Education
Knowledge Community Chair*

*"To pursue a dream is to touch the wind -
To reach out and fly on the wings
of the breeze to new horizons,
Often imagined, but never before seen."
Author Unknown*

The Undergraduate Career Fair took place as a component of the Regional Conference in Kansas City this past November. The purpose of the event was to introduce undergraduate students to the field of student affairs, and to provide them with the opportunity to learn about possible graduate programs within our region. There were approximately 65 undergraduates and 25 programs represented, so it was definitely a successful event.



Mike Dannells
(Former IV-
West Leader)
speaking to
the students.

Dr. Mike Dannells from Bowling Green State was kind enough to provide the undergraduates with some good information related to the field of student

affairs, and all of the faculty members present did a fabulous job of answering questions at the end of the session. The undergraduates were then escorted to the closing conference speaker by several professionals arranged by Chris Linder.

Thank you to everyone who made this event a success. A huge "thank you" to Cheryl Anderson and the entire conference planning committee for their ongoing thoughtful inclusion, and to all of the professionals who encouraged (and even sponsored) undergraduates to attend. I think that we are in good hands as a profession, looking at the wonderful undergraduates who will be joining us as colleagues!

Mike Dannells and
Adrienne Leslie-
Toogood, co-
facilitators
of the
Undergraduate
Career Fair



The Undergraduate Career Fair had an excellent turnout!

NASPA Region IV-West Advisory Board Vacancies

(Effective March 15, 2000)

Following the National NASPA Conference in Washington D.C.

Graduate Student Representative
New Professionals Institute Chair
New Professional & Graduate Student
Knowledge Community Chair
New Mexico Membership Coordinator
Missouri Membership Coordinator
Arkansas Membership Coordinator
South Dakota Membership Coordinator
Administrators in Graduate & Professional
Student Services Knowledge Community Chair
Assistant Corporate Sponsor Liaison

Contact: Cheryl Lovell,
Region IV-West
Vice President-Elect, if you
want to volunteer to fill the
position or if you want to
nominate someone.
Phone: 303-871-2479
E-mail: cdlovell@du.edu

"The rising tide" continued...

Access to Resources — All focus groups indicated that students with psychiatric disabilities faced additional barriers because of their need to seek out services within bureaucracies (educational or governmental) that are unclear and uncoordinated. These extra efforts are necessary to maintain their health insurance, student statuses, and their access to mental health and disability services.

Access to Information and Services — Many students in the focus groups expressed frustration with the lack of information about psychiatric disabilities, and the limited access to services that would allow them to effectively manage their disabilities.

Organizational and Institutional — Focus group participants identified a lack of coordination and communication between service providers on and off campus as additional barriers students with psychiatric disabilities face at the post-secondary level.

A common theme in the literature relating to the support of students with psychiatric disabilities is how such services should be configured at the post-secondary level. Through a series of interviews conducted with DSS staff at Big Ten universities and colleges, Sharpe and Bruininks (2003) identified several basic requirements common to these institutions:

Documentation — Students with psychiatric disabilities must provide current documentation by a qualified medical or mental health professional to qualify for DSS services.

Diagnostic Criteria — Generally, a diagnosis must reflect criteria established by the *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, Fourth Edition, Text Revision (DSM-IV-TR)*. Moreover, the diagnosis must meet disability criteria established by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

Accommodations — Although clinical input regarding functional limitations and instructional accommodations are considered, Disability Services staff members generally decide what accommodations will be provided.

Accountability — In nearly all cases, the declaration of a psychiatric disability does not exempt one from a code of conduct and similar policies established by the institution.

Assistance

Students with diagnosed psychiatric disorders may be eligible to receive academic accommodations from the Disability Services offices on campuses. Below is a list of accommodations that may be provided based upon the student's condition and how it impacts them in

an educational setting:

- Extra time and/or a private room for exams
- Priority registration
- Tape recording of lectures
- Note-takers for lectures
- Flexibility on assignment deadlines
- Reduced course load
- Preferential classroom seating
- Flexibility on attendance

At this point, only a small glimpse has been captured about this growing population of students. Much still needs to be learned about the overall nature of students with psychiatric disabilities entering post-secondary educational settings and how colleges can best meet their needs.

References

Blacklock, B., Benson, B., & Johnson, D. (2003). Needs assessment project: Exploring barriers and opportunities for college students with psychiatric disabilities. Unpublished manuscript, University of Minnesota.



Measel, D. (1998). Big Ten survey data—1997-1998. Paper presented at the annual conference of the Association on Higher Education and Disability (AHEAD), Las Vegas, NV. AHEAD.

National Institute of Mental Health. (2002). Mental disorders in America. NIH Publication No. 99-4584. Bethesda, MD: Author.

Sharpe, M. N., & Bruininks, B. D. (2003). Services for students with psychiatric disabilities in the Big Ten schools. Unpublished manuscript, University of Minnesota.

REGION IV-WEST NEWSLETTER

The Region IV-West newsletter is published four times annually. Suggestions or comments? Please contact the Editor—LSS Anna Lund, The University of Iowa at lcaanna.lund@uiowa.edu or at (319) 631-5059, or a member of the Editorial Board below.

Spring Issue Submissions Due – April 7
Summer Issue Submissions Due – June 10

Jay Corwin, University of Oklahoma, jcorwin@ou.edu

Emily Griffin Overaker, University of Central Oklahoma, emoveraker@ouco.edu

Myron Pope, Ed.D., University of Central Oklahoma, mpope@ouco.edu

Kathy Rose-Mockry, University of Kansas, krosemockry@ku.edu

Merideth Sherlin, North Dakota State University, merideths@ndsu.edu



Region IV-west membership report update

Pat Mahon, South Dakota School of Mines and Technology
IV-West Membership Coordinator

Since the recent meeting in Kansas City, we lost ground in our regional membership numbers. Overall, we were at 1,044 in December - down 33 from November. We need 98 additional members in order to reach our goal of 1,133 for March 2006. So, we need to promote NASPA IV-West to our colleagues and graduate students this semester!

Please check the membership roster on the NASPA site at <http://www.naspa.org/> to see if your colleagues are missing from the report. Encourage them to join NASPA IV-West and to take advantage of all of the member services available to them. Encourage new professionals and graduate students to join as well. For assistance with membership recruitment, contact your respective State Membership Coordinators. Thanks for your assistance in promoting this great organization!

NASPA IV-West, Summary of Membership by Classification

Classification	Oct 05	Sept 04	Difference
Associate	57	47	10
Emeritus	7	9	-2
Faculty	24	20	4
Professional	558	517	10
Student	253	190	67
Sub-Finite	3	4	-2
Sub-Advisarial	6	2	2
Sub-Nonprofit	4	5	-1
Post-graduate	5	N/A	5
Pre-graduate	1	N/A	1
Visiting Distinguished	127	131	-4
Total	1077	1030	(4.5% increase) 47
Institutions	128	124	4

NASPA IV-West, Summary of Membership by State

State	Oct 05	Sept 04	Difference
Arkansas	129	87	42
Colorado	183	241	-58
Kansas	166	151	17
Montana	2	3	-1
Missouri	210	193	15
North Dakota	85	73	10
Nebraska	92	83	9
New Mexico	51	58	-7
Oklahoma	97	71	26
Saskatchewan	1	1	0
South Dakota	34	28	6
Wyoming	24	25	-1
Other	1	4	3
Total	1077	1030	47

Greetings from the NASPA IV-West state membership coordinators!

Eric Grospitch, University of Kansas
Region IV-West State of Kansas Membership Coordinator

We are all riding a high after the hugely successful conference in Kansas City! I hope that those of you who were able to attend enjoyed yourselves, and that your commitment to NASPA was reinforced. For those of you who were unable to attend, start thinking about *Breckenridge in 2006!*

At the recent conference, **NASPA President Kurt Keppler** addressed the role of NASPA in both public policy issues as well as on our own campuses. One of his main goals is to get the NASPA membership up to 10,000. The ability to say that NASPA represents over 10,000 professionals in higher education increases the strength that we have in Washington at this critical juncture. To meet this goal, he proposed a six percent increase in 2006 for each region.

For those of you with admissions backgrounds, you understand that it is not solely the job of the State Membership Coordinators to achieve this goal, but we must all work together. We need you to maintain your membership status within NASPA. Also, if you know of anyone who is interested in joining a professional organization, please encourage participation in NASPA.

Membership information is available at www.naspa.org, or you can contact Pat Mahon, IV-West Membership Coordinator at patricia.mahon@sdsmt.edu, or your State Membership Coordinators for more information:

Arkansas: Dayna Mackey, djmjones@uark.edu

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Missouri: Mark Lucas, lucasm@missouri.edu

Oklahoma: Emily Griffin Overocker,
eoverocker@upok.edu

Nebraska: Christina Kaberline, kaberline2@unl.edu

New Mexico: Alex Gonzalez, agonzale@unm.edu

North Dakota: Hal Haynes,
hal.haynes@dickensonstate.edu

South Dakota: Marysz Rames,
marysz.rames@sdsstate.edu

Wyoming: Dean Bartow, dbartow@lccc.wy.edu

Have a wonderful semester, and I hope to see you in Washington!

National Association of Student Personnel Administrators Region IV-West

Kansas City, Missouri
November 11, 2005



A RESOLUTION HONORING

Mary Lou Feneli, from the University of Colorado-Denver, retired in September 2005. She was the University Ombudsperson Officer at UC-Denver, and was the Dean of Students at another institution in the northwest.

Lyle Gohn, Associate Professor in Higher Education at the University of Arkansas-Payetteville, will retire this year after 41 years in this profession. Lyle served as the Regional Conference Director (1972-1973 and 1973-1974), as the Region IV-West Vice President (1974-76), as the National Conference Chair in 1977, and as the NASPA National President from 1980-1981.

Gary Narum, North Dakota State University Associate Vice President for Student Affairs, retired December 31, 2005. He served students for 36 years at North Dakota State University as a student affairs professional and as an educator.

Jim VanderLind, former Dean of Students and then Dean of Community Service at The University of Tulsa, retired in May 2005. Jim served NASPA as the Region IV-West Conference Chair in 1974 and 1975, and then as the Vice President of Region IV-West in 1976-1977.

George Wallman announced his retirement after a 42-year career in education, the last 15 years as the Vice President for Student Affairs at North Dakota State University. George was a NASPA National Journal Board Member (1984-89), and the Co-Chair of the 1991 NASPA IV-West Regional Conference in Fargo, North Dakota.

James Griesen, Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs at the University of Nebraska - Lincoln.

Barb Wright Challet, Associate Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs at the University of Nebraska - Lincoln.

Jean Schober Morrell, Dean of Students at the University of Northern Colorado.

Paul Hankins, Vice President for Student Affairs, Henderson State University, Arkadelphia, Arkansas.

Deb Lewis, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs at the University of Missouri-Kansas City, left the university and the student affairs profession after 20+ years of service to the university and to NASPA Region IV-West.

Marcia Dickman, Associate Professor at Oklahoma State University, died May 21, 2005. She served as head of the College Student Personnel Services' academic program, and taught and advised over 230 students in the program during her twenty years of teaching and service to Oklahoma State. In addition to her faculty role, she served as the Assistant to the Vice President for Student Affairs for fifteen years.

WHEREAS, the above mentioned individuals left or will be leaving active participation in the Student Affairs profession after many years of exceptional and devoted service, and

WHEREAS, they have given years of extraordinary, loyal, and dedicated service to students at their respective institutions, and,

WHEREAS, they have been advocates for the development of effective Student Affairs programs for students on their respective campuses, and through NASPA leadership positions held on the regional and national levels, and,

WHEREAS, they have been instrumental in the establishment and support of professional development programs and organizations on their respective campuses and within NASPA IV-West Region and NASPA National;

BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that the members of Region IV-West of the National Association of Student Personnel Administrators extend their appreciation to **Mary Lou Feneli, Lyle Gohn, Gary Narum, Jim VanderLind, George Wallman, James Griesen, Barb Wright Challet, Jean Schober Morrell, Paul Hankins, Deb Lewis and Marcia Dickman** (posthumously), for their extraordinary service to the profession, to higher education, and to many generations of professional colleagues and the untold number of students they have mentored, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that their grateful colleagues everywhere extend best wishes to them as they begin to write a new chapter in their eventful lives.

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*NASPA welcomes new
Patron - Ed Sharrer with
Purple Porch Creative*

**Introducing a new NASPA
knowledge community: men and
masculinities**



*Ryan Barone,
Colorado State University
IV-West Men and Masculinities
Knowledge Community Chair*

The purpose of the new Men and Masculinities Knowledge Community is to provide a venue for discussion, research, and the distribution of information about men's gender identity development in the context of college campuses. We aim to make gender visible for the men we work with, and to examine the privilege that comes with being a man. Our underlying assumption is that men - in general - are interested in social justice, capable of enacting it, and that they need language and a connection to aid the process. We plan to publish, program, and present within the NASPA community and our field.

Specifically within Region IV-West, we plan to establish an advisory committee by the end of the Spring 2006 semester to help formulate and employ our vision for regional outreach. Please contact Ryan Barone, Region IV-West Men and Masculinities Knowledge Community Chair, at Ryan.Barone@colostate.edu for more information, or to join our KC and/or our advisory committee.



Marw thanks to our Conference 2005 Volunteers
and the Conference Volunteer Coordinators:
Laura Burrows (KI) and Eric Grospitch (KI)



**Conference Snapshots -
Say "cheeeeeese!"**





An investment in NASPA's future leaders

Grace A. Bagunu, University
of Missouri - Kansas City
Region IV-West Graduate
Student Representative

At this year's conference, Region IV-West offered ten Conference Assistantships to the following graduate students: **Molly Cunningham, Jamie Ehlinger, LaQuessa Foster, Kristen Goehausen, Linda Harvey, Melissa Hull, Ross Jungers, Ashley Maloney, Kelli Nichols, and Christopher Silva.** The \$75 scholarship paid their registration fees. Throughout the conference, they volunteered at least five service hours to various areas including working at the registration table, fun run/walk, and shadowing conference coordinators. One student said, *"Volunteering was a very worthwhile experience."*

Feedback was gathered from the graduate students after their experiences. Students suggested a special session that would allow them to meet the others participating in the conference, and to develop a way to elevate the prestige of the assistantship. Many comments that came back were very positive because the program provided an excellent opportunity to interact and feel comfortable throughout the conference. One student said, *"I enjoyed myself at the conference and felt like it gave me the chance to learn more about taking an active role in NASPA."*

The positive evaluations confirm that this is an experience that is beneficial to graduate students as well as to the region. The critical feedback will help to improve the program for the next regional conference. This assistantship program communicates to the graduate students of Region IV-West that the region is committed to investing in the future leaders of NASPA. Look for the next opportunity for graduate students in fall 2006 at the Region IV-West Conference in Breckenridge, Colorado!



Conference Snapshot!

Natalie Minyard (KU),
Mark Bernhardt (TU),
J.J. O'Toole - Curran
(UMKC) and Grace
Bagunu (UMKC)



Latino/a Knowledge Community Update

Santos Nuñez, The University of Kansas
Region IV-West Knowledge Community Chair

As I returned from the conference in Kansas City - which for me was just a short 45 minute drive - I felt rejuvenated once again about my commitment to NASPA. My favorite part of the conference was the Latino/a Knowledge Community dinner held during one of the evenings. As a group, we chose to go to dinner on Southwest Boulevard which has historically been one of the growing Latino neighborhoods in Kansas City.

Latino/a Knowledge Community members were able to tour part of the area during their stay in Kansas City, and see the shops that cater to this thriving community. LKC members also met briefly to discuss future activities and goals for the upcoming year which include increasing membership in the Latino/a Knowledge



Community within Region IV-West, and developing more outreach initiatives to Latino/a professionals in Region IV-West. We are very excited about our future activities, and I invite you to share your ideas and suggestions on how to better serve Latino/a higher education professionals and students. Please contact me at snuñez@ku.edu. We look forward to seeing everyone at the National Conference in D.C. this March *¡Adelante!*



Conference Snapshot!

Alex González -
UNM and Matt
Caires - Wyoming



Reflecting on my experience with the case study competition at the regional conference

Brooke Wilson, Graduate Student
University of Central Oklahoma

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to be a contestant on the hit reality show *The Apprentice*? Well, I



seemed to come as close as possible to being a contestant when I walked into the boardroom as a participant in the **NASPA IV-West Graduate Student Case Study Challenge**. Instead of Donald Trump sitting with his cohorts, we encountered three Student Affairs Professionals sitting across the table. With sweaty

palms and a racing heart, my partner and I began to present to our esteemed colleagues.

How did we get to this point? The previous day my partner and I decided to take the Graduate Case Study Challenge. More specifically, participants were given a scenario on **incivility in the collegiate classroom** and were asked to troubleshoot the situation. Resources were limited to our current Student Affairs' knowledge and any materials we brought to the conference. The participants were asked to prepare a 15 minute presentation for the review committee to judge the next day. Our incentive was a monetary prize for the top three participating pairs - per the judges' discretion.

Sounds easy enough right?

So it goes. My partner and I began to process the scenario and what we deemed to be the answer. This was particularly interesting because I met my partner only two days earlier when we were both participants in the **NASPA IV-West New Professional Institute**. Truly, we were getting to know one another fairly quickly! After a few hours of hashing out between the key stakeholders, the administration, the students, and the campus, we began to develop a plan of action for our presentation. We decided to role play with the judges as if we were truly acting as the Vice President of Student Affairs and they were the Provost and Chancellor of Academic Affairs. From there, the preparation took off and we were ready for the boardroom.

Continued on Page 18

New initiative: case study feature

Emily Griffin Overocker
University of Central Oklahoma
Oklahoma Membership Coordinator

As a part of our goal of continued professional development, we have decided to add a new feature to the NASPA IV-West Newsletter. Each issue will contain a brief case study covering a variety of issues. Some suggestions on how you can utilize the case include using the case in staff meetings, in RA training courses, or with graduate students in their course work. Of course, you can adapt the case as needed to fit your particular setting. If you are interested in submitting a case study for future issues, please contact Emily Griffin Overocker at emoverocker@ucok.edu.

The following case was submitted by **Dr. Lee Bird**, Vice President for Student Affairs at Oklahoma State University.

Monday, September 8, 2007

At approximately 2:00 p.m., an **F3 tornado** touched down on the south edge of campus. Early reports indicated that the Business Administration building, the Science building, and the Student Union had sustained severe damage. Heavy tree branches, sections of roof, glass and bricks litter the campus. Power is out across campus and in the areas surrounding campus. A cell phone call informed you that the Science building had also sustained significant structural damage.

Your local 911 reports that two people are trapped in an elevator car in the Student Union. Smoke - which has an odd smell - can be observed belching from the second floor of the Science building. Victims exiting that building have been observed gasping for air and collapsing. There are also reports of 10-20 severely injured people on the second floor of the Student Union. City Services and Campus 911 are overwhelmed.



Current conditions:

Winds gusting up to 75 m.p.h. heading from the South to the North.

Heavy thunderstorms are reported in the area.

More severe weather is predicted in the area - super cells moving from SW to NE at 30 m.p.h.

Take a risk and be forever changed

Adrienne Leslie-Toogood
Kansas State University
International Education
Knowledge Community
Chair



**"You must be the change you wish to
see in the world." Gandhi**

I would like to thank everyone who visited with us about International Education at the round tables during the Kansas City conference. For those of you who have an interest in **International Education**, please e-mail me with your thoughts on how we can promote International Education within our Region. Also, if you have International experiences you are willing to share, we would love to read about them in the newsletter. E-mail me at atoogood@ksu.edu and we can coordinate this process.

I am excited to share with you Kelly Thacker's experience of studying abroad. She does a fabulous job of describing how International Education has impacted both her personal and professional life. *Enjoy her story...*

My "formal" education at Kansas State University is quickly coming to an end, but, as I reflect upon my time spent at practicum sites, working with different student groups on campus, and in my graduate assistantship position, one of my most profound and memorable experiences did not happen in Manhattan Kansas, on the K-State campus, or even within the confines of the United States. This past summer, my perspective on life, and subsequently my aspirations as a future college administrator, were significantly changed as a result of an opportunity I had to study abroad.

As I prepared for my five-week Fulbright-Hays Summer Study Abroad program in Tanzania, East Africa, I was forced to examine my personal and professional objectives as they related to being a part of this team. Our Tanzania team was comprised of 22 upper-level architecture students from across the United States, a geographer, and me... a third-year graduate student studying College Student Personnel. My initial charge as a part of the group was to add a differing perspective about design and community development through the eyes of an educator, but I knew that this experience would forever impact the way I viewed the field of Student Affairs. Also, I knew this experience would reaffirm my personal belief as to the importance and impact

that international education opportunities can have upon future college administrators and leaders.

As a graduate assistant working with international students in an on-campus apartment complex, I am faced with the daily challenges of assisting students who are unfamiliar with the American culture, language, and college institutions. I believe, in order to truly understand and comprehend, one must live and immerse themselves in the cultural experience. Studying abroad allowed me the opportunity to become an international student. As a result, I experienced first-hand what it was like to be uncomfortable, unfamiliar, and uncertain of one's surroundings. Now, I feel that I better understand the needs and concerns of international students, and feel that this new level of understanding will be helpful when working to meet the needs of all students. At the same time, I learned about the generosity, compassion, and sincerity of the Tanzanian people who, by American cultural standards, lack so many material possessions, yet have a stronger sense of community, purpose, and gratitude which allows them to live a full and complete life.

Since returning home, I continue to reflect upon my experience abroad and the ways in which it is aiding in my growth and development as a Student Affairs professional. I am more self-confident and self-aware from facing many situations and experiences - particularly working in the poorest areas of Tanzania - that I never imagined I would be strong enough to face. I understand now that a college education is a privilege, not a right, which one should be forever grateful to obtain. Safety and security are not determined by the amount of money one has, but by the people that support and surround you on a daily basis. Most importantly, there is always an endless supply of love and compassion to share with others.

Seeing and exploring the world has strengthened my appreciation for the little things in life. My communication skills have been refined, and I am continuing to maintain all of the new friendships I started with people from around the world as well as within the United States. I have gained an understanding of the collegiate system in other countries, and of how fortunate American students are for the multitude of opportunities available to them.

All of these lessons are important as campus populations become more diversified and student needs become more complex. We are living in a highly-connected and global community. In order for us to successfully serve students, and for our students to be successful in life, we need to encourage, support, and be willing to experience other ways of being and living. My experience in Tanzania has forever impacted the way I view the world, and the way in which I will continue to serve students on college campuses in the future.



Kelly Thacker, Ph.D.
-student Assistant
Coordinator (KSI),
presenting her final
poster which was a
culmination of her
higher education
experiences while
abroad.



NASPA IV-West in Breckenridge, Colorado in 2006!

*Anne Flaberty, University of Kansas, and
Patti Helton, University of Denver
Co-Chairs for the Breckenridge
Conference in November 2006*

Well, we have just finished a great regional conference in Kansas City, Missouri, and we'd again like to thank the planning committee for a great experience. **Thanks!**

Alas, we move ahead and start shifting our thoughts towards next year's regional conference, which will be held in Breckenridge, Colorado! Our theme is "**Hidden Treasures; Uncovering Potential**", so mark your calendars for November 2-4, 2006! **What do you think you will discover?**

Beautiful Breckenridge is nestled in the Colorado Rockies, and you can't help but love the fresh air and sunshine! Historically a mining town, Breckenridge is known for its quaint Victorian shopping district and restaurants. For more information, you can visit www.gobreck.com or www.townofbreckenridge.com.

We have reserved hotel space at the **Beaver Run Resort and Convention Center**. A variety of room types have been reserved for the IV-West conference. A sample of the excellent rates include: \$84 for a hotel room, \$110 for a suite, and \$155 for a two-bedroom condo. Wow, what a deal! For more information, go to www.beaverrun.com.

It was great to see everyone in Kansas City! We hope that everyone had an enjoyable holiday season and will have a great new year!

Call for Region IV-west volunteers for Breckenridge conference in November '06!

*Matt Cairns, University of Wyoming, and
LeeAnna Lamb, The University of Tulsa
Co-Coordinates of Volunteers for 2006*

Would you like to become more involved with NASPA? If so, one of the best ways to do so is to volunteer at a regional conference. Especially for graduate students and new professionals, volunteering at the Regional NASPA Conference will help to introduce you to other professionals in the student affairs field, help develop your understanding about Region IV-West, and help to expand your opportunities to become involved with the association overall. **Plus, it's just a whole heck of a lot of fun!**

To volunteer for the 2006 Regional Conference hosted in Breckenridge, Colorado, please e-mail either Matt Cairns at caires@uwyo.edu or LeeAnna Lamb at leeanna-lamb@utulsa.edu. We hope to hear from you and see you in the mountains surrounding Breckenridge!



"Veteran IV-Westers" Jay Corwin (OU) and Jesse Bonney (CU-Sy) greet Registration Chair Theresa Brown (KLMC) and NASPA IV-West newcomer Darren Wibbenling (RU)

NASPA IV- west advisory board meeting minutes summary

November 9 & 10, 2005

The Marriott Country Club Plaza
Kansas City, Missouri

Submitted by Ruth Storer, University of Kansas
Region IV-West Historian

Summary of Board Decisions, Action Items & Future Agenda Items

1. The **Region IV-West Advisory Board** met on Wednesday, November 9, 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. and on Thursday, November 10, 8:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m., prior to the Kansas City Regional Conference.

2. November Board Decisions/Recommendations/Motions/ Announcements

A. The Region IV-West Newsletter will continue to be published in hard copy form and will be distributed through federal mail until further notice. An electronic copy will be added to the regional website for those who prefer electronic access.

B. A digital camera for the newsletter editor will be purchased for use at regional events. Digital pictures will be used for the newsletter and will be posted on the regional website.

C. Topic – Voting privileges for graduate students. A straw vote of the Advisory Board indicated support for graduate students having young privileges (and voting privileges should not be connected to full membership fees).

D. Region IV-West will continue with the Regional Innovative Program Awards, as currently defined. Regional members are encouraged to nominate institutional programs by sending them directly to the National Program of Excellence program coordinator, as defined on the National NASPA website.

E. The Conference Site Committee will explore Denver as the site for the 2008 Regional Conference.

3. The last four regional conferences have been very successful financial ventures as a result of successful budget management on the part of the conference committees, member support, and the solicitation of sponsor support from outside business sources. As a result of this financial stability of the Regional budget, the **Advisory Board, under the leadership of the Regional Vice President, made the decision to "give back" to the membership some benefits.** Examples of this include, but are not limited to, the underwriting of:

A. The registration fees for MUFP participants at the Kansas City Regional Conference;

B. One-half of the registration fee for NPI participants as an incentive to stay in Kansas City for the Regional Conference;

C. The regional conference registration fee and one-year NASPA membership fees for conference participants from under-represented institutions;

D. The registration fee and hotel costs for the graduate student representative appointment to the Advisory Board;

E. The registration fee for ten graduate students who "volunteer" assistance to the regional conference planning committee in Kansas City;

F. Cash awards for the Case Study Competition winners at the regional conference – \$350 total for First, Second, and Third Place recognition;

G. In order to keep the registration fee for the Breckenridge regional conference at \$150, the Board approved the reduction of expected profit for the conference from \$5,000 to \$2,500;

H. In order to keep the registration fee for the Mid-Level Institute at Breckenridge at \$475 for members and \$575 for non-members, the Board approved a \$3000 supplement to the MLJ budget as seed money. The financial goal will be to "break even" and there will be no expectation to return the seed money.

4. Discussion topics for/from the National NASPA Board

A. A Small College Representative position has been added to the National NASPA Board.

B. Merger talks with ACPA continue to surface as a topic of discussion. The 2007 national conference will be a joint NASPA/ACPA conference in Orlando, Florida.

C. The National Board approved \$5000/per region/per year, in addition to the annual allocation, be issued to provide financial support for the administrative needs of the Regional Vice President.

D. The annual allocation to the regional budget from the National Board will be increased to \$12 per institution + \$3 per member. It was previously \$10 per institution + \$2 per member.

Continued on page 19



Entirely on staff, KCIU's past recipient bestows the "Stepping Up Award" to Chris Linder, USU's IV-West Women in Student Affairs KC Chair.

Board meeting minutes continued...

5. The **New Professional Institute** held a very successful Pre-Conference Workshop prior to the 2005 Regional Conference in Kansas City. Thirty-eight individuals participated in the Institute. The Chair of the Institute was Jesse Fortney (University of Colorado School of Medicine).



Region IV-West
2005 Conference
Co-Chairs Anne
Flaherty (KU) and
Pam Helton (DU)

6. The **2006 Region IV-West Conference** will be held at Beaver Run Resort and Conference Center in Breckenridge, Colorado, November 2-4, 2006. The theme will be "**Hidden Treasures - Uncovering Potential**." The Conference Co-chairs are **Anne Flaherty** (University of Kansas) and **Patricia Helton** (University of Denver). Mark your calendars now and plan to attend. The **Mid-Level Institute** will be held as a **Pre-Conference Workshop October 30-November 2, 2006**, at the same location. More information will be distributed at the national conference and through the Senior Student Affairs Offices.
7. The **Region IV-West Advisory Board** will meet prior to the NASPA national conference to be held in Washington, D.C. in March 2006. Agenda items include:
- A. How do members get connected to KC? How do regional KC chairs get lists of interested members?
 - B. Recognition of regional "Pillars of the Profession"
 - C. Recognition of regional retirees and others who have left the profession

If you would like to place an item on the agenda for the March meeting in D.C., contact Prakash Mathew-Regional Vice President at prakash.mathew@ndsu.nodak.edu or the appropriate Board member. For further information on any of the above items or other initiatives of the Region IV-West Advisory Board, contact Prakash Mathew or any other Board member.



Leslie Erwin (KU)
MC IV-West Public
Policy Chair offers
appreciation to
Prakash Mathew for
his leadership and
service to the region
as Vice President

"Reflecting on my experience" continued...

Participating in the Graduate Case Study Challenge was an unexpected part of my first NASPA IV-West conference. All-in-all, the experience was challenging and memorable. The experience allowed me to get to know another colleague at an accelerated pace, test our current knowledge of the field, and it truly inspired me to continue to grow more in my chosen profession!

Region IV-west transition in leadership

The members of Region IV-West sincerely appreciate the wonderful leadership of Prakash Mathew!

His support, wisdom, and professionalism impacted so many during his term. We congratulate him and wish him much success in his new position as Vice President of Student Affairs at North Dakota State University. In March, Region IV-West will excitedly welcome Cheryl Lovell, Associate Dean/Associate Professor at the University of Denver, as the new Region IV-West Vice President! Best wishes to Cheryl in this new leadership capacity!



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