



NASPA

REGION IV-WEST

Fall 2007 Newsletter

Mark Your Calendar

New Professionals Institute
Little Rock, Ark.
Nov. 6-7, 2007

Region IV-West Annual Conference
Little Rock, Ark.
Nov. 8-10, 2007

National Conference
Boston
March 8-12, 2008

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Book Review: Encouraging Authenticity and Spirituality in Higher Education

by Arthur W. Chickering, Jon C. Dalton, and Liessa Stamm
Reviewed by Ronald Chestrough, Hastings College

Arthur Chickering has been a leading voice in higher education student development for nearly half a century, with such groundbreaking earlier works as *Education and Identity* (1969, 1993) and *Getting the Most Out of College* (1995). Chickering is presently special assistant to the president at Goddard College in Plainfield, Vt. Jon Dalton is associate professor of Leadership and Policy Studies and directs the Hardee Center for Leadership Ethics at Florida State University in Tallahassee, Fla. Liessa Stamm is a senior associate at Rutgers University Center for Children and Childhood Studies, directed the Civic Engagement Cluster from 2000-2002 with Arthur Chickering to promote university engagement among 10 universities.

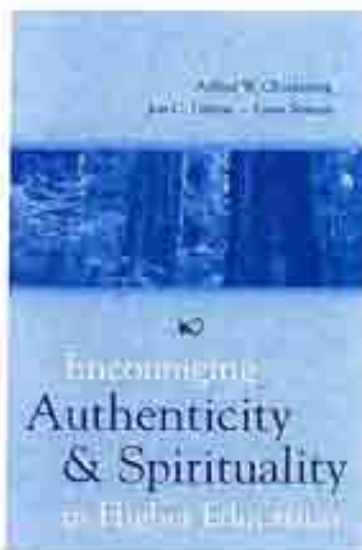
This work, *Encouraging Authenticity and Spirituality in Higher Education*, is the perfect blending of the skills and backgrounds of its authors. In this book the authors defy the reign of a focus on rational empiricism and vocational preparation in higher education and set out to find the place of authenticity and spiritual development in our colleges and universities, and they deliver. By authenticity the authors refer to an element of genuineness, the existence of a consistency among what one does, says and believes – or a state of “what you see is what you get,” in the words of one author. By spirituality they seek to describe

a personal commitment to a process of inner development, a disposition to a life of depth and growth as an ongoing life goal.

The book is well-organized, and begins with discussion of the theoretical and historical basis for a focus on spirituality in higher education. Here the authors are careful to distinguish spirituality from religion, noting both the common characteristics of

these and their differences. In their conception, the practice of formal religion often contains the quest for a spiritual life but is not a prerequisite for that quest. The two are compatible but not necessary partners, according to the authors, with spirituality – the quest for inner growth and meaning – often not requiring the “external validation” of formal religion.

The middle section of the book looks at policy issues in higher education related to spirituality and authenticity and provides curricular and pedagogical road maps for the encouragement of these. The authors discuss the place of spirituality in the mission and work of student affairs and provide models for the integration of spirit and community in higher education. This section is rich with powerful examples of pedagogical practices and curricula for the encouragement of authenticity and spirituality. There is the policy example of



book review continued on page 8...

Regional Vice President's message

*Cheryl Lovell
University of Denver
Region IV West Vice President*

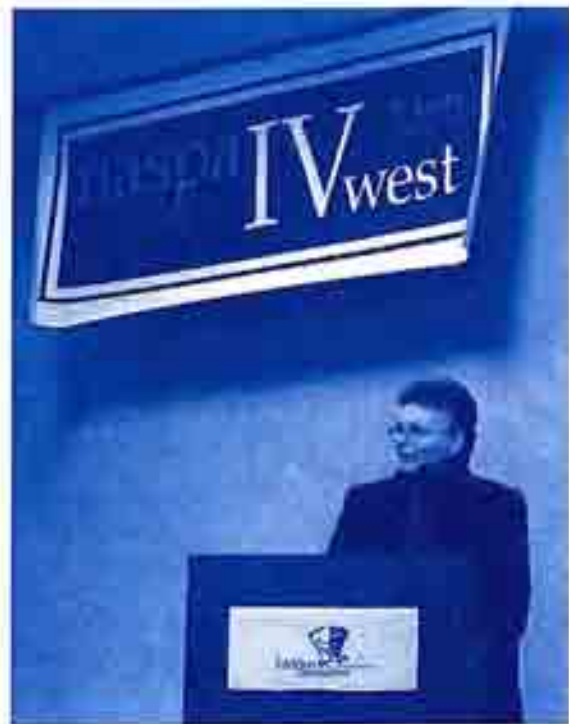
What do we learn from a crisis: can we build the necessary bridges to improve our responses?

As we all know our campuses are far from being immune from crises and from the dangers of the world. We are part of the world so it is natural, unfortunately, that the sadness and chaos all around us eventually finds its way to our campuses and leaves havoc and destruction on our sometimes rather calm, civil environments. For most of us it is so unexpected that no matter how many emergency preparedness training sessions we attend and no matter how many new policies we develop, we can never actually capture the magnitude of the devastation nor do we ever seem to be adequately prepared.

How does one prepare for the next big disaster? This is a legitimate question many campus leaders have been exploring over the last few years and especially in earnest over this last year. What protocols should be in place and who should do what, when, are the common tactics for campus preparations. Now after a year of the very horrific shootings at Virginia Tech we are again asking ourselves how to better prepare and hopefully prevent such a disaster. As the recent report reviewing the shootings implies, the sad reality is that at some level we can never prevent all random acts of violence. On the other hand, if we are astute and vigilant in our understandings of warning signs, we may be in a position to minimize or thwart such acts. We also may be in a better position if we ensure better communication across, within and between the various units on campus.

Building bridges is a good metaphor for thinking about campus preparedness and an excellent theme for our regional conference in Little Rock, Ark., Nov. 8-10. You will have many sessions to choose from and have several professional development opportunities that are well-presented, useful and timely topics. Some of the sessions will be dealing with campus responses to crises and some dealing with outcomes and assessment. For example, our own NASPA President, Jan Walbert will be leading a session on responding to campus crises. You will be challenged professionally and will have ample time for personal renewal, too. I personally invite you to register to attend this conference. The priority registration deadline is Oct. 7 so you will want to register quickly.

We are also providing our excellent New Professionals Institute (Nov. 6-7) and Jennifer Brantley has done an outstanding job of developing and organizing an excellent event for all new professionals that will focus on *Foundations for Success*. I ask that you also encourage all of your new professionals to attend this special institute just prior to our regional conference.



I am sure you will find many helpful sessions and will have wonderful colleagues from which to learn. You will also have time to explore Little Rock and will have free admission to view the Clinton Library nearby our conference hotel. As with any bridge, two strong anchoring points are necessary to hold the bridge up as it spans across the open spaces and our conference, amply so, is also anchored with two fantastic keynote speakers. We kick our conference off with a keynote address by Clifton Taulbert and conclude our conference with our very own Dr. Lyle Golin. These two powerful speakers will motivate us to build bridges, to reach out of our comfort zones and to change the way we now live our lives. We will be inspired to build bridges from the heart – frankly the only meaningful and sustainable connections often come from this place. I'm sure you will leave the conference filled with ideas and will have fond memories of your learning opportunities in Little Rock.

I encourage you to read on in this fall newsletter. As an on-going commitment to transparency and keeping all members informed about our regional activities you will find the summary of our summer advisory board meeting discussions and actions. Also review the information about our regional assessment project and the recent public policy update. An excellent review of an important book to our field about authenticity and spirituality and our responsibilities to encourage these on our campuses is also included. Finally, you will find lots more about our upcoming regional conference. I look forward to our time together and am pleased with the program planned by Roger Sorochty and his fantastic conference planning committee. See you in Little Rock!



Greetings NASPA IV-W Members

We are excited about the upcoming Annual Conference in Little Rock, Ark., Nov. 8-10,

preceded by the New Professionals Institute, Nov. 6-7. You can read more about NPI, the conference and Little Rock on the next four pages.

Early bird registration discount is available until Sunday, Oct. 7, so don't delay. To register, visit: www.naspa.org/communities/rc/page.cfm?rcpageID=235&rcid=42 or see the registration forms on pages 6-7.

The conference planning team has been preparing for a wonderful and exciting experience in Little Rock. We will have keynote addresses from Clifton Traubert and Lyle Gohn, Ph.D., that you are sure to enjoy. See page 4 for a brief introduction or review their complete biographies at: www.naspa.org/communities/rc/page.cfm?rcpageID=231&rcid=42. You can also review the complete conference schedule on page 5.

For those interested, we have also arranged a complimentary visit to the Clinton Presidential Library during your visit, and there is everything that a joint conference in student affairs in historic downtown Little Rock could offer. For more information about Little Rock visit: www.naspa.org/communities/rc/page.cfm?rcpageID=232&rcid=42.

Prepare to join us this November in Little Rock, as we continue *Building Bridges* within our profession.

~Conference Planning Team

The New Professionals Institute is fast approaching!

The institute will be held at the Doubletree Hotel in Little Rock, Ark., Nov. 6-7.

The Institute program is highly interactive and will include educational presentations, breakout sessions, small-group involvement and time for personal and professional reflection. The educational components will focus on contemporary issues for new professionals in student affairs. Institute participants will experience a high quality, intellectually stimulating and enjoyable programs that will facilitate both professional and personal growth.

The educational sessions will encompass the professional development curriculum as suggested by NASPA which includes the following topics:

- values, history and philosophy of the profession
- student characteristics, development and learning
- assessment and research practices
- leadership, administration and management
- culture, diversity, environment and organization development and
- law, governance and policy.

In addition to topical program sessions, institute faculty will facilitate breakout and small-group sessions. Members of the faculty include:



- Philip Covington, Dean of Students, Arkansas Tech University
- Jim Griesen, Professor, Educational Administration, University of Nebraska – Lincoln
- Denise Ortinger, Vice-President for Student Life, Washburn University
- Katrina Rodriguez, Assistant Professor, Higher Education and Student Affairs Leadership, University of Northern Colorado

This year's planning committee consists of:

- Amy Bonham, Johnson County Community College
- Taj Cobbs, University of Arkansas - Fayetteville

If you are a new professional or work with one who might benefit from this event, visit the Web site for more information and registration details. Questions about this year's institute should be directed to the NPI Chair, Jennifer Brantley, at brantley@ksu.edu or 785-532-1600.

Little Rock 2007 New Professionals Institute & Region IV-W Conference

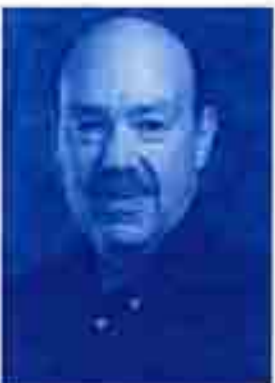
Regional conference keynote speakers



Clifton L. Taulbert
President and founder of The Building Community Institute and Ninth House Professor

Taulbert is one of America's leading thought-leaders on

the "Power of Community" and views community in the workplace as a powerful leadership asset. Taulbert was chosen by CNN at the turn of the millennium to represent one of the voices of "Community." In 1989, Taulbert gained international recognition with the publication of his best selling memoir *Once Upon A Time When We Were Colored* which became a major motion picture. He also authored *Eight Habits of the Heart* which he believes are essential for developing leadership, embracing diversity, mentoring and delivering commitment and collaboration among teams.



Lyle A. Gohn, Ph.D.
Vice Chancellor Emeritus of Student Affairs and Associate Professor Emeritus of Higher Education, The University of Arkansas

Gohn has served as an educator and leader in the student affairs profession for more than 40 years. He has served NASPA in numerous leadership positions and helped establish the National Orientation Directors Association. Gohn concluded his professional career by

authoring and editing the e-book *Understanding College Student Subpopulations: A Guide for Student Affairs Professionals* which serves as a guide for professionals in the field of student affairs for a better understanding of the 15 subpopulations including demographics, development, issues and concerns, retention and examples of campus successes. Gohn will give a lecture titled *Building an understanding of the differences and similarities of students – your bridge to success.*

Master's case study challenge

Attention Master's Students: register a team from your university for the third annual NASPA IV-West Case Study Challenge during the NASPA IV-West 2007 Conference in Little Rock, Ark. The competition will take place on Friday, Nov. 9, 2007 (mandatory orientation session on Thursday, Nov. 8). This event provides an excellent opportunity to translate theory into practice for master's students attending the conference from throughout our region.

Registration can be completed by going to the NASPA IV-West conference website and clicking on Master's Case Study Competition. Please complete the registration form found there and return it to Dr. Christine Austin at Arkansas Tech University. Please contact her by email at caustin11@atu.edu if you have questions!

Register today!!! More information about the competition and registration can be found on the NASPA IV-West conference website.

Special events for new professionals and graduate students

New Professionals Institute

Tuesday and Wednesday

(registration is required)

The Institute program for new professionals is highly interactive and will include educational presentations, breakout

sessions, small-group involvement and time for personal and professional reflection.

Graduate student roundtables

Wednesday and Thursday

Two-day pre-conference session to help graduate students prepare for a career in higher education, as well as network with other graduate students.

New member orientation

Thursday morning

A one-hour session to introduce new members to NASPA, its history, and key regional and national representatives.

Volunteer orientation

Thursday morning

A one-hour session to prepare anyone who would like to get involved with the conference by volunteering for a variety of duties.

Knowledge community poster session

Friday noon

Learn more about the knowledge communities and how to get more involved in NASPA.

Mentor dinner

Friday evening

An opportunity to eat dinner with an experienced Student Affairs professional and NASPA member. You will need to bring money to pay for your own dinner. Sign up at registration table at conference.

Job board

throughout conference

Look for job opportunities throughout the region. College representatives, bring position vacancies to place on job board.

CONFERENCE AT A GLANCE (draft 9/10/07)
NASPA Region IV-West/ArCPA – Little Rock, Arkansas
November 6 – 10, 2007

A Special Opportunity: Your conference name badge will entitle you to one complimentary admission to the Clinton Presidential library (about a 15 minute walk from the hotel) between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Thursday and Friday and 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Saturday. Trolley service is also available at a cost of 50 cents each way.

Tuesday, November 6, 2007

1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
 3:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

New Professionals Institute (NPI) check-in
 New Professionals Institute (NPI)

Wednesday, November 7, 2007

7:30 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.
 8:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
 4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

New Professionals Institute (NPI)
 Knowledge Community Representatives meeting
 Executive Committee Lunch
 NASPA Region IV-West – Advisory Board Meeting
Round Tables

- *Senior Student Affairs Officers*
- *Faculty*
- *Graduate Students*

6:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

NASPA Region IV-West – Leadership Dinner

Thursday, November 8, 2007

7:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.
 8:00 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.

NASPA Region IV-West – Advisory Board Meeting
Coffee Round Tables

- *Senior Student Affairs Officers*
- *Faculty*
- *Graduate Students*

8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 p.m.
 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
 11:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.
 1:00 p.m. – 2:15 p.m.
 2:30 p.m. – 3:45 p.m.
 3:45 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
 4:00 p.m. – 5:15 p.m.
 5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.
 5:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.
 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
 8:30 p.m. – 10:00 p.m.

Conference Registration
 Newcomers Orientation
 Volunteer Orientation
 Master's Case Study Orientation
 Exhibits open
Welcome and Opening Keynote – Clifton Taulbert
Program Session I
 Refreshment Break
Program Session II
 NASPA IV-West Business Meeting
 ArCPA Business Meeting
 Conference Banquet & Awards Ceremony
 Desert Reception and Social at the Pavilion at the River Market

Friday, November 9, 2007

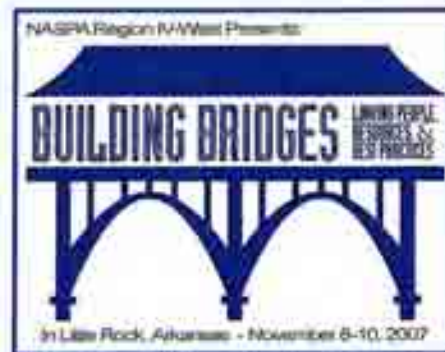
7:00 a.m. – 8:00 a.m.
 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
 8:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.
 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
 8:30 a.m. – 9:45 a.m.
 9:45 a.m. – 10:00 a.m.
 10:00 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.
 12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.
 12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.
 1:45 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.
 3:00 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.
 3:15 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.
 4:45 p.m.
 5:00 p.m.
 Friday evening

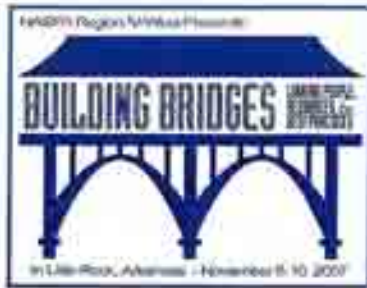
Early Bird Activities (Fun Run/Walk)
 Conference Registration
 Exhibits Open
 Master's Case Study Challenge
Program Session III
 Refreshment Break
Program Session IV
 NASPA IV-West Awards Luncheon/ Knowledge Community Poster Session
 ArCPA Awards Luncheon
Program Session V
 Refreshment Break
Program Session VI
 NUFJ Connections Program & Dinner
 Mentor Dinner
 Dinner on your own in Downtown Little Rock.

Saturday, November 10, 2007

9:15 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.
 10:45 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
 12:15 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Program Session VII
 Brunch and *Closing Keynote – Lyle Gahn*
 Conference Planning Committees Meeting (Little Rock & Tulsa)





**NASPA Region IV-West/ArCPA
Conference Registration Form
November 8-10, 2007
Little Rock, AR**

Name: _____ Appears on Nametag: _____
 Title: _____
 Institution: _____
 Phone: _____ Fax: _____
 Address: _____
 Email: _____ NASPA Membership #: _____
 Are you an ArCPA Member? Yes No

Participant Profile:

_____ New Professional (0-5years) _____ SSAO
 _____ Mid-Level Professional (5+ years) _____ Student
 _____ Faculty _____ Exhibitor-Sponsor

Do you have any specific dietary needs? (please explain): _____
 Do you request any special services? (please explain): _____

Is this your first Regional Conference? Yes No
 Are you interested in volunteering? Yes No
 Would you like to participate in the Master's Case Study Competition? Yes No
 Would you like to participate in the Fun Run/Walk? Yes No
 Do you give your permission to have your picture on the Web site? Yes No

Conference Registration

*Please circle the appropriate registration category if you are registering for the Conference OR the New Professionals Institute. Discounted rates are available for individuals registering for both the conference AND the New Professionals Institute. See below if you this applies to you.**

	Before October 7	After October 7
Member NASPA/ArCPA Registration	\$160	\$220
Non-Member Registration	\$250	\$310
Graduate Student NASPA/ArCPA Member Rate	\$80	\$110
Non-Member Graduate Student	\$160	\$190
Undergraduate Student	\$80	\$110
New Professionals Institute Only	\$250	\$250

*Individuals registering for Conference AND NPI receive discounted conference rates.

	Before October 7	After October 7
NASPA/ArCPA Member Conference & NPI	\$330	\$360
Non-Member Conference & NPI	\$375	\$405

Special Events

Would you like an extra ticket to the opening banquet? Price \$40 Qty. ____ * \$40= ____
Would you like a vegetarian option for the opening banquet? Yes ____ No ____
Will you be attending the closing brunch? Yes ____ No ____
Would you like an extra ticket to the closing brunch? Yes ____ No ____
Would you like an extra ticket to the ArCPA Awards Luncheon? Price \$30 Qty. ____ * \$30= ____
Would you like an extra ticket to the NASPA Awards Luncheon? Price \$30 Qty. ____ * \$30= ____
Special Events SUBTOTAL: _____

Please place a check next to your meal choice for the NASPA Awards Luncheon.

_____ Chicken Cordon Bleu _____ Prime Rib _____ Vegetarian

Total Amount (Registration + Special Events): \$ _____

Please make checks payable to "The University of Tulsa" and send with this completed registration form to:

Kathy Shelton
NASPA IV-W/ArCPA Conference Registration
The University of Tulsa
600 S. Collage Ave. HSC #51
Tulsa, OK 74104

If you have any questions, please contact Kathy Shelton at kathy-shelton@utulsa.edu or 918-631-2328.

The City of Little Rock: Almost Heaven in 2007

Located on the Arkansas River the city of Little Rock is both actually and metaphorically a city of bridges. The Clinton Presidential Library, just a 15 minute walk from the conference hotel, is built to represent a bridge to the 21st century.

The city also has served as the bridge in many important ways, too. In 1957, Little Rock Central High School served as a bridge across the racial divide in America in the early days of the civil rights movement when nine African-American students were able to attend what had previously been a school for white students over the resistance of the governor and with the help of President Dwight D. Eisenhower.

The city is also home to Heifer International. This non-profit organization was formed more than 60 years ago when Midwestern farmer, Dan West, was lulling out rations

of milk to hungry children during the Spanish Civil War. He realized that what they needed was not a cup of milk but a cow. So Heifer International was formed on the simple idea of "bridging" the "haves" and the "have nots" of the world, so families had a source of food rather than short-term relief. Seven million families in 125 countries now benefit from the idea of passing on the first born female calf to another family in need.

The metaphor of building bridges accurately reflects the work that Student Affairs professionals do, too. Because of that and our conference's location in Little Rock, along

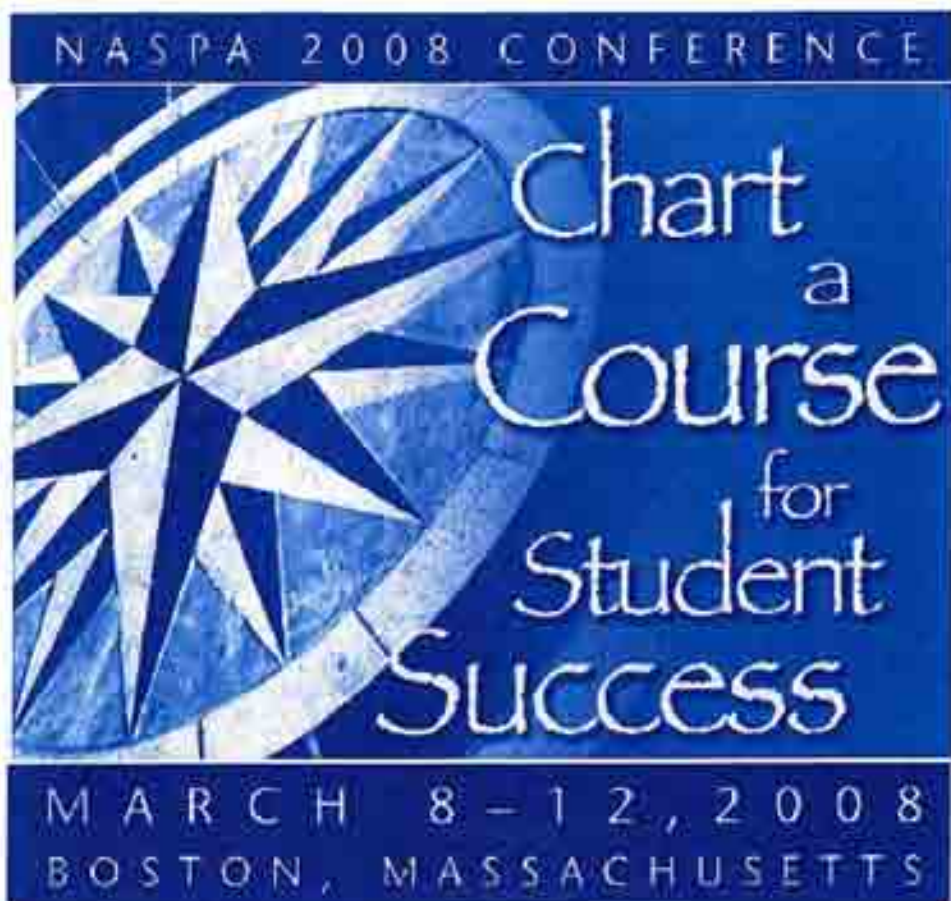


with the opportunity the theme provides for a broad range of programs, *Building Bridges: Linking People, Resources and Best Practices* was chosen as the conference theme. We look forward to seeing you there. The late Jon Denver used to refer to West Virginia as "almost heaven" but we think that Little Rock will be "almost heaven in 2007."

The Placement Exchange

NASPA, in cooperation with ACUHO-I (Association of College and University Housing Officers-International), is excited to present The Placement Exchange in Boston, March 6-9, 2008. The Placement Exchange offers members, professionals, students and employers the opportunity to learn more about student affairs, network with colleagues and interview with employers all at one convenient site. By providing a larger, more comfortable interview environment, the latest technology for job placement and the ability to reserve private interview rooms for follow-up meetings, The Placement Exchange is dedicated to making job placement a rewarding experience for all involved.

For more information visit: www.theplacementexchange.org. With helpful interview tips, candidate blogs, an ever-growing collection of articles, documents, studies and the most recent job postings, the Web site will be a valuable resource for every aspect of the placement process throughout the year. The Web site will also provide event updates as they become available. Discover why The Placement Exchange is the place for student affairs job placement.



NASPA 2008 CONFERENCE

Chart
a
Course
for
Student
Success

MARCH 8-12, 2008
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

...book review continued from page 1.

Amherst College's "Guidelines for Religious Organizations" in chapter 4, and Wellesley College's "moments of meaning" curriculum guide found in chapter 5, among several examples of institutional encouragement of spirituality and the authentic.

The authors conclude with a discussion of planned change – a practical how-to guide for "getting there from here." This section provides examples of professional development strategies, outcomes assessment models and leadership practices. Here the authors outline general principles and practices toward the establishment of an institutional focus on student spiritual development. Again this section is rich with examples, from the Alverno College assess-

ment model of chapter 9 to the leadership of Elaine Hansen, president of Bates College, in Chapter 10, who perhaps summarizes the thinking of the authors in her striving to balance the pressure and reality "of people always looking to the president to say things" with the equally important need "not to foreclose someone else's ideas."

The book concludes with a rich array of appendices filled with more examples of policy statements, course syllabi and assessment tools for spiritual development in college. This book is written for practitioners and policy makers, educators and administrators, presidents and student affairs personnel. While not written exclusively or even primarily for those in Christian higher education settings, the ideas and tools in the book have a particular fit within the mission

and purpose of the faith-based colleges. It should become a part of the library of anyone interested in encouraging the spiritual growth and development of students in college.

Chickering, A.W., Dalton, J.C., Stamm, L. (2005). *Encouraging Authenticity and Spirituality in Higher Education*. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass.

Public Policy update

Pat Boyer, University of New Mexico - Las Alamos
NASPA Region IV/W Public Policy Chair



Virginia Tech

Our hearts go out to those students, their families, colleagues, faculty and staff

affected by the Virginia Tech tragedy that took the lives of 32 individuals last April. On the Public Policy front, one of the topics in the Senate's Higher Education Act Reauthorization Bill that would affect the student affairs profession involves campus safety and fire safety reporting and log.

College campuses will be required to create policies for emergency response and evacuation procedures, including procedures to notify the campus community in a reasonable and timely manner in the event of an emergency involving an immediate threat to the safety of students and/or staff occurring on campus.



SAT scores decline

Eric Hoover for the Chronicle of Higher Education reported a three point decline in average combined SAT scores in mathematics

and critical reading sections for the Class of 2007 is being attributed to a larger and more diverse group of test takers (the Class of 2006 dropped seven points – the largest one-year drop since 1975) (*The Chronicle*, Aug. 30, 2006).

While the College Board attributed the decline in part to a drop in the number of students retaking the exam (students retaking the exam generally improve their scores), additional possible explanations included an increasingly more heterogeneous pool of test takers or the fact that the recently revamped test is now longer or may not correlate with the previous version.

Part-time students leaving higher education

Elyse Ashburn with the Chronicle of Higher Education states that part-time students are finding it difficult to complete their degree programs (69-70 percent who start at either two or four-year institutions). One suggestion was to incorporate advisement into the classrooms rather than expecting part-timers to find additional time in their schedules to visit the advising office. Due to family and work obligations, many part-time students take longer to complete degree programs or leave for a semester or more before returning. Campuses are encouraged to intentionally focus on the needs of this student population in an effort to enhance their completion rates.

College textbook affordability act of 2007

Another area of significant interest for students and faculty alike in higher education is college textbooks. A few of the areas addressed by the College Textbook Affordability Act include

- the requirement that publishers provide faculty written information concerning (1) the price the publisher would charge the bookstore (2) the history of revisions and (3) whether such items are available in other formats, including paperback and unbound (and the prices for the various formats).
- public institutions of higher education to include on printed or internet course schedules the ISBN number and retail price for required or recommended textbooks or supplemental materials.



It is the intent of this act to have all involved parties work together to identify ways to decrease the cost of college textbooks and supplemental materials for students while protecting the academic freedom of faculty members to provide high quality course materials for students.

Making college more accessible and affordable, the legislation

- requires lenders to provide student borrowers who have been approved for a loan with a 30-day window to continue to shop for the best loan product and rate
- provides students with a three-day "cooling off" period after consummation of their loan
- requires lenders to inform loan applicants of their eligibility for lower-cost federal loans, and
- authorizes financial regulators to offer financial institutions incentives under the Community Reinvestment Act (CRA) for making low-cost loans to low-income student borrowers.

Eliminating conflicts of interest and preventing unfair lending practices, the legislation

- prohibits revenue-sharing and loan co-branding arrangements between lenders and schools
- prohibits lenders from offering gifts to schools or school employees in exchange for preferential consideration of their private loan products or services
- prohibits advisory board members from receiving anything of value from a private educational lender other than reimbursement for reasonable expenses
- prohibits lenders from charging prepayment penalties on private student loans, and
- apply Truth in Lending Act (TILA) consumer protections to all private student loans.

...public policy update continued on page 10

Regional Assessment and Research

Ann Marie Vaccaro, University of Denver

The NASPA IV West Board is beginning the process of assessing the needs of our regional membership. The research will be conducted in two stages. First, a membership survey is being crafted. Second, we will be collecting data through four focus groups at the conference. We encourage you to participate in one of these focus groups. They will be clearly identified in the conference program.

Four graduate students will have the opportunity to become part of the focus group research team. Selected team members will receive conference registration fees and a stipend. See the call for applications below.

If you are a graduate student or know of a graduate student who might be interested in applying to be a member of the research team, contact Annemarie Vaccaro, Coordinator of Research at 303-871-3986 or Annemarie.Vaccaro@du.edu.

dinator of Research at 303-871-3986 or Annemarie.Vaccaro@du.edu.

Graduate research position description & call for applications

Graduate students are invited to apply for one of four research assistant positions for the Region IV-West Conference. Position responsibilities include

- assisting with the implementation of 4 focus groups
- typing notes/transcripts during the sessions
- working as part of a team to analyze the transcripts from the focus groups, and
- the responsibilities may include up to 15 hours of time at the conference. Some pre and post conference time may also be required (up to 3-4 hours).

Preferred qualifications include:

- students who have completed at least one research course
- the ability to type quickly, and
- applicants who can arrive at the convention a day early and remain through the closing session.

A stipend of \$325 and conference registration for the NASPA IV-West Regional Conference will be provided to the research assistants.

To Apply: send the following information to Annemarie.Vaccaro@du.edu by Sept. 21, 2007 (priority deadline): name, resume, Graduate school and program, a list of completed research courses, names and contact information of one to two faculty references and a two to three paragraph essay explaining why you are interested in the position.

—public policy update continued from page 9.

Improved disclosures to student borrowers, the legislation:

- requires lenders to provide clear and concise disclosure regarding the APR, rate, fees, terms and conditions of their private educational loans to students borrowers in all solicitation, approval and loan consummation material, and
- requires lenders to provide student borrowers with comprehensive disclosures upon approval of a loan, including the loan's interest rate, whether the loan is variable or fixed, all fees and finance charges and the borrower's monthly payment.

Preventing abusive lending practices, the legislation

- requires the General Accounting Office (GAO) to conduct a comprehensive study, and report to Congress, on the extent to which the use of no individual factors, such as school graduation rate, default rate, or accreditation, used in the underwriting criteria to determine the pricing of private educational loans may have a disparate impact on the types of

loan products made available to certain types of colleges and the pricing of loans made to students based on race, gender, and income level, and

- requires lenders to disclose to borrowers whether they currently use such no individual factors in the underwriting criteria used to determine the pricing of the loan offered to a student borrower.

Promoting financial literacy, the legislation

- requires federal agencies to develop initiatives aimed at improving the financial literacy of college students, specifically focused on growing awareness of the cost, obligations, and rights associated with educational loans and other college debts.

Take action!

As a NASPA member who is interested in staying on-top of the latest political and policy developments in the world of higher education, there are many ways for you to get involved and have your voice heard in the process.

Visit www.naspa.org/policy/action.cfm.

- subscribe to NASPA's Public Policy Action Alerts: NASPA's electronic Public Policy Action Alerts keep you in the loop and informed about

what's happening on the Hill, in the marketplace, and in the world of higher education policy.

- subscribe to NASPA's Friends of Public Policy ListServe.
- join NASPA's Pulse Groups: As a member of our Pulse Groups, from time to time you'll be asked to give us your thoughts about a bill or regulation, and what impact you foresee on your campus.
- contact your Regional Public Policy Advisor Board Member
- send a letter to the editor
- contact your elected officials.

What's happening with Student Affairs in Region IV-W?

Submitted by: *Tim Sawyer, University of New Mexico*

Written by: *Edina "Choo" Torres, Vice President for Student Affairs, University of New Mexico*

New summer programs at the University of New Mexico

This summer The University of New Mexico's Student Affairs Division inaugurated several new programs, such as the National LULAC Youth Leadership Program, which recruited students from various states. We also expanded the UNM ROTC Honors Camp, hosting one of only two such programs in the entire country. Our International Bridge Program brought several top students to our campus from Monclovia, Coahuila, Mexico, to study intensive English and to sample several of our academic programs. LA Works and HUB Cities continue to sponsor students from California to come to UNM during the summer to experience on-campus employment programs and academic preparation, for the purpose of retaining them in high school through graduation and preparing

them for college. Meanwhile, the local Law Camp is celebrating its third year on campus with prospective future UNM law students who are currently enrolled at middle schools around New Mexico. TRiO programs were also active, with students on main campus from the region and throughout the state; meanwhile, two orientation programs, New Student Orientation and College Enrichment Programs Orientation, together served almost 3,000 students this summer, in addition to hosting hundreds of parents in parallel parent-orientation programs.

First national LULAC leadership conference in Albuquerque is a success; Planning underway for next year's second national leadership conference at UNM

The one-week residential League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC) Leadership Conference, the inaugural event of which took place this summer at UNM, brought 26 top-achieving Latina/o students to our campus representing eight different states, including New Mexico. This conference is the first of its kind in the United States, and we will host another LULAC Leadership Conference for top-achieving Latino/a high

school students next summer as well. Funding was provided by the U.S. Department of Energy's Office of Economic Impact & Diversity, Office of Minority Economic Impact, and the program was run under the auspices of the College Enrichment and Outreach Programs within the Division of Student Affairs, which has committed to hosting the Annual Leadership Conferences.

This year's LULAC leadership participants were at UNM for the residential program from July 21-27, and underwent a graduation ceremony on July 27. The University of New Mexico's LULAC National Leadership Program is a one-week residential camp created to inspire high school students to pursue post-secondary education. Through workshops, classes, mentoring, and training, students develop the skills and information needed to make a successful transition from high school to college.

I want to especially recognize Connie Beimer, Special Assistant to the President for Strategic Initiatives; Dr. Tim Gutierrez, Associate Vice President for College Enrichment & Outreach Services; Mandie Pritchard, Student Program Advisor; Daniel Noriega-Lucero, Student Program Advisor; Dantryl Smith, Graduate Assistant Intern; and I particularly want to single out Krya Vega, who was our LULAC Leadership Program Coordinator.

For more information about LULAC at UNM, contact College Enrichment and Outreach Programs at 505-277-3096.



Frank J. Bezerra, Chief of Staff, Office of Economic Impact and Diversity with the U.S. Department of Energy, received a plaque in recognition of his department's funding of the First Annual LULAC Leadership Conference at UNM. L-to-r, Edina "Choo" Torres, Connie Beimer, Frank Bezerra, and Tim Gutierrez.

Tell us what's happening with Student Affairs at your school.

Send articles or announcements about events or accomplishments in Student Affairs on your campus and we'll publish as many of them as space permits in the NASPA IV-W newsletter. Submissions can be sent to: Karen Schlabach, NASPA Region IV-W Newsletter Editor, at schlabachk@unmke.edu.

A note from the IV-W graduate student representative

I hope you are well and settled into classes or research for the fall semester. My name is Malia Young and I am excited to be your new representative on the NASPA Region IV-W board for this year. My goal is to keep you updated on NASPA events and issues that affect graduate and undergraduate students and also to learn more about what you need and expect from your student membership in NASPA.

There are a few issues that you need to know about. First is to revisit a bill that would grant student members voting privileges. Region IV-W has voted to support this bill and has presented this bill to the

national NASPA board. There are several more steps needed in this process before hopefully being sent to the vote by NASPA voting delegates later this year.

Second, planning for the fall conference in Little Rock, Ark., Nov. 8-10, is in full swing and there are several opportunities you do not want to miss out on.

- Region IV-W has funding for undergraduate and graduate student scholarships to attend the regional conference. You can find the application on our regional Web site.

- On board for graduate students at the regional conference are events such as the mentor dinner, volunteer orientations, new member orientations and the master's case study competition (see page 4 for more information). There will also be information available on graduate programs and graduate student employment opportunities.
- If you are not attending the regional conference this fall, but would like to be involved in our region, consider joining the New Professionals and Graduate Student Knowledge Community. If you

...continued on page 14.

Professional Development Opportunities for Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education



NASPA professional development calendar

October 7-9

Institute for New Senior Student Affairs Officers

October 9

Responding to Troubled and At-Risk Students

October 16

The Lives of Transgender People Today

October 18-21

U.S. Department of Education's 21st Annual National Meeting on Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse and Violence Prevention in Higher Education

October 31-November 3

NASPA Western Regional Conference
Las Vegas, Nev.

November 3 - November 6

NASPA Region III Conference
Dallas, Texas

November 4-8

NASPA Region I Conference
Burlington, Vt.

November 8-10

NASPA Region IV-W Conference
Little Rock, Ark.

November 11-13

NASPA Region IV-E Conference
Indianapolis, Ind.

November 14

A Positive Approach to Educating, Involving, and Working with Parents and Family Members

November 27

Out of the Closet & Into the Cabinet: LGBT Professional Development and Promotion

December 2-4

NASPA/Stetson Student Affairs Law and Policy Conference

December 9-11

NASPA Multicultural Institute

January 10-13

Alice Manicur Symposium for Women Aspiring to be SSAOs

January 17-19

NASPA Strategies Conference 2008: Alcohol Abuse Prevention Conference

January 17-19

NASPA Mental Health Conference 2008

January 31-February 2

18th Annual Institute for College Student Values

March 8-12

NASPA 2008 Conference
Chart a Course for Student Success
Boston

June 11-15

International Assessment and Retention Conference

For more information about professional development opportunities, visit www.naspa.org.

NASPA IV-W Advisory Board Meeting

May 31-June 1, 2007

Summer planning meeting
Little Rock, Ark.

Advisory board agenda update
Ruth Stoner, Regional Historian

Summary of board decisions, action items and future agenda items

1. The Region IV-West Advisory Board met Thursday and Friday, May 31-June 1, for the annual summer planning meeting at the Double Tree Hotel in Little Rock, Ark. – site of the 2007 fall regional conference.

2. Board decisions/recommendations/motions/announcements

- The NASPA Region IV-W Advisory Board Leadership Manual has been updated and is on the IV-W Web site ([www.naspa.org/region4W/Downloads/Leadership manual](http://www.naspa.org/region4W/Downloads/Leadership%20manual)). This manual will be used as a NASPA Region IV-W resource and orientation guide.

- Advisory board reports of goals and activities are posted on the IV-W Web site ([www.naspa.org/region4W/Downloads/Board Reports](http://www.naspa.org/region4W/Downloads/Board%20Reports)).

- The board approved a request from the regional Research Division (Annemarie Vaccaro, University of Denver, Chair) to conduct a survey (electronic) of the Region IV-W membership to identify member needs and professional development expectations. One survey will be developed to represent all components of the advisory board.

- It was the consensus of the board to continue to support the issue of "(graduate) students voting for national and regional leadership positions" at the national level. Cheryl will "again" take this support to the summer national board meeting.

3. Decisions impacting the regional budget:

- The advisory board approved financing a research project to establish a graduate student research project team to help

the research division with an on-site research project to be conducted using focus groups at the upcoming Little Rock conference. (\$2,000)

- The program to recruit representatives from underrepresented institutions has been expanded to include community colleges that are not currently NASPA institutional members. Details regarding this topic and the overall impact on the regional budget can be found in the minutes of this meeting at [www.naspa.org/region4W/Downloads, Regional Advisory Board Meeting Minutes](http://www.naspa.org/region4W/Downloads/Regional%20Advisory%20Board%20Meeting%20Minutes). The Membership Work Group is charged with developing the process for the marketing and selection process for this program.

- The Board approved to budget up to \$2,500 to video tape and/or podcast selected programs at the Little Rock regional conference.

- The "basic" NASPA member registration rate for the 2007 Regional Conference was set at \$160. All other registration categories will be adjusted up \$10 above the rates charged at the Breckenridge conference. Future conference registration fees will be set annually (and approved by the board) based on financial needs of each conference.

- Clarification of previous board action: There is no expectation for the Institutes (MLJ and NPI) to make money or return the seed money; the expectation is that the Institutes will break even.

- The board approved increasing the number of NUPP scholarships available for regional conference registration from 15 to 20.

- The board approved to accept the "spirit" of the 2007-08 Region IV-W budget presented by Kim Reichert, Regional Treasurer, plus the adjustments approved at this meeting.

4. Discussion topics from the National NASPA board:

- NASPA National is considering options to purchase property for the national office. The current lease will expire June 2008.

- NASPA will be hiring a consultant to assess the communication process with members and make recommendations. Other topics to be addressed include: How do we cultivate leaders? How is the association governed?

- A national-level task force regarding membership has been put together to look at retention rate of members, as well as other designated topics.

5. The 2007 Region IV-West Conference will be held at the Double Tree Hotel in Little Rock, Ark. on Nov. 8-10, 2007. The theme will be *BUILDING BRIDGES: Linking People, Resources & Best Practices*. The conference chair is Roger Sorochty (University of Tulsa). Mark your calendar now and plan to attend. The New Professionals Institute: Foundations for

Success will be held as a pre-conference on Nov. 6-7. More information is available on the Region IV-W Web site.

6. The Region IV-West Advisory Board will meet prior to the Little Rock Region IV-W Conference on Nov. 7-8. If you would like to place

an item on the agenda for this meeting, contact Cheryl Lovell, (JVWRVP@du.edu), Regional Vice President, or the appropriate board member.

For further information on any of the above items or other initiatives of NASPA National or Region IV-West Advisory Board, contact Cheryl Lovell, (JVWRVP@du.edu), Regional Vice President, or the appropriate board member.

A complete set of minutes for the Little Rock summer planning board meeting are available on the Region IV-W Web site ([www.naspa.org/region4W/Downloads, Regional Advisory Board Meeting Minutes](http://www.naspa.org/region4W/Downloads/Regional%20Advisory%20Board%20Meeting%20Minutes)).



NASPA IV-W Advisory Board openings

Are you interested in getting more involved in NASPA? Volunteering for a Region IV-W Advisory Board position is a good way to give back to the profession and get more connected with your colleagues. Region IV-West has a long history of wonderful leadership and has built a professional legacy that propels us forward faster into the future because of where we have been.

There are currently two open Advisory Board positions: Arkansas Membership Coordinator and a Region IV-W representative for the International Education Knowledge Community (IEKC).

Some of the responsibilities of the Arkansas State Membership Coordinator are

- welcoming each new members from your state
- inviting lapsed members to renew their memberships
- disseminating NASPA materials at state professional meetings
- communicate NASPA Region IV-W activities to non-members
- finding creative new ways to recruit and retain individual and institutional members, and
- participating in the regional advisory board and assist in setting vision and goals for the board and membership

For more information on the Arkansas Membership Coordinator position, contact Eric Grospitch, Region IV-W Membership Services Coordinator, at grospitche@umkc.edu or 816-235-8955.

The International Education Knowledge Community (IEKC) is looking for a regional representative for NASPA IV-West. The IEKC has four goals

1. to stimulate increased awareness of the global perspective in higher education
2. to provide a forum for addressing global issues related to student affairs
3. to provide a structure and opportunity for members with interests in global issues to communicate and
4. to encourage professional connections with colleagues in other countries.

If you are interested in learning more about this opportunity, contact Lisa Bardill Moscaritolo, Chair for the IEKC, at lbardillmoscaritolo@pace.edu or 914-773-3860.

Not sure if you are ready to commit to an advisory board position? Contact one of the current advisory board members (listed on page 15) to see if there is anything you can help them with. It is a great way to find out more about what is involved in being an advisory board member and get connected with fellow student affairs colleagues.

About the Newsletter

The *NASPA IV-West Newsletter* is published four times a year, in the summer, fall, winter, and spring.

Written submissions from NASPA IV-W members are welcomed. We need a book review for each edition, as well as a feature article for page 1. If

you are doing research or have an exemplary practice to share, consider submitting an article. Written submissions can be sent as attachments in Microsoft Word to Karen Schlabach at schlabachk@umkc.edu and should be in APA style. You may also submit photographs for the newsletter, include

the names and institutions of all people featured.

The deadline for the winter edition is Dec. 10 with a projected mail date of Jan. 10. The deadline for the spring edition is March 28 with an anticipated



mail date of April 28.

Electronic archives of past issues can be found on the NASPA Web site at www.naspa.org by selecting Communities in the left-hand navigation menu, then Regional Communities, then Region IV-W, then click on Newsletters.

...graduate student rep continued from page 12.

would like to be added to that community, let me know and I can give you more details.

Third, I would like to establish a student committee that would

be made up of students from the region to provide feedback for the organization on issues specific to graduate students. If you are not attending the conference, send me your suggestions or ideas before the conference. Then the student committee will meet at the con-

ference to discuss and forward any suggestions or ideas on to the Region IV-W advisory board.

Feel free to contact me anytime with questions, suggestions, or ideas on how to make NASPA an even better organization.

I'm looking forward to serving you and would like to hear your thoughts and how NASPA can serve you as a student member.

Malia Young
University of North Dakota
MaliaYoung@mail.und.edu
701-777-9862