



NASPA

REGION IV-WEST

Winter 2008

Newsletter

Mark Your Calendar

National Conference
Boston
March 6-12, 2008

Regional Conference
Tulsa, Okla.
November 6-8, 2008

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Why partnering with parents and families is beneficial

By *Jody Dawson, Parent & Family Knowledge Community Representative*

Recently a colleague from a neighboring state contacted me with an urgent plea, "I love my job, but I hate talking with parents! Can you give me some tips to make me love this part of my job too?" Of course I responded affirmatively. It's no secret that I love working with parents and families and see them as partners in students' educational journeys. In this spirit, I offer the following "tips":

They are here, so don't fight it: The Millennial generation is uniquely attached to their parents and families (Howes & Strauss, 2003). While this may be a new concept to the Western world, there are numerous collective cultures around the world who celebrate the interdependence and connectedness of families. Rather than bemoan the lack of adolescent rebellion, celebrate that students have "cheerleaders" in their corners. Wouldn't it be great if every student had a support system at home?

Attitude is everything: What is your relationship with your own parents and family? If you have a negative attitude toward your own family of origin, this will reflect and impact your interactions with students' parents and families. Acknowledge this and move on. There are nice parents in this world.

Families are systems: It helped me a lot to remember a theory from my graduate counseling class by Minuchin (1974). There

are basically three types of families. The healthy family has appropriate boundaries with one another and is genuinely interested and engaged in one another's lives. The detached family is just that, they are not engaged nor are interested in one another's lives. And finally, the enmeshed family has no boundaries and is overly concerned with one another's lives to the point that what happens to one family member happens to all family members.

Remember, you can't change these systems with a phone conversation or an office visit. The Enmeshed parent is all in the student's business and cannot separate from the situation. The best you can do is to be patient while with the parent/family member and then breathe a sigh

of relief when finished. It is a joy to work with the healthy parent and most likely, you will not come in contact with the detached family member.

Seek first to understand, then to be understood: This is borrowed from Steven Covey (1989), and basically means that it is important to listen to the parent or family member, try to understand their perspective. Recognize they are learning how to become a parent/family member of a college student and we are there to help in that process. Validate their emotions or concerns when appropriate. After we truly hear and understand the concerns, then it is time to offer suggestions.

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Regional Vice President's Message

Cheryl Lund
University of Denver
Region IV West Vice President

Moving from building bridges to action at home: Keeping the faith on a daily basis

Our fall regional conference was a tremendous success and we owe a tremendous debt of gratitude to Roger Sorochty and his conference planning committee. Thanks to each of you, as well who volunteered with the conference or who presented a professional development interest session. We have an outstanding region and it is fantastic how each of you contribute so much to make our association relevant and meaningful to all of our members. If you are like me you have been reflecting back on the conference and our theme of building bridges since you left Little Rock. I came home committed to seeking even more ways to make additional linkages that keep my college thriving and moving forward. I've been able to reach out to other campus administrators and form a new "study group" on identifying ways to support our junior faculty as they are learning how to develop their research agendas and I'm facilitating another campus wide effort to gather various stakeholders on my own campus to learn what best practices are in use that lead to creating the most constructive learning environments.

We are fortunate to be able to build a new state of art, \$25 million College of Education starting next spring so we are interested in finding out what physical spaces have proven to be effective in enhancing learning. It is a fantastic opportunity for our college and our faculty and our design team is reaching out—or building bridges—with a wider community of scholars. I'd love to hear how you have been reaching out and linking with others on your own campus. I'm guessing you are also always trying to identify new linkages and hopefully you have new ways of thinking about them as a result of your participation in the conference. Keeping the faith and staying on target to build new relationships and to strengthen existing ones is a laudable goal.

After our regional conference, I traveled to Washington, D.C., to attend the NASPA Board of Director's Meeting. I can assure you our association is alive and well and continues to build bridges, linkages, and connections within and across the entire higher education community. I am impressed with our national office and continue to be wowed by our staff every time I get a chance to work with them. I'd like to provide a few national updates since our conference so you can get a sense of the work that is going on in our behalf.

Items of interest from a national perspective:

- Our national conference is coming up March 8-12, 2008. New hotels are being added to accommodate the growing excitement about being together in Boston so please check the conference



- information on the NASPA Web site regularly.
- The National Placement Exchange is a new venture that we have undertaken with ACUHO-I, NACA, ASJA, and NODA and it will be held just prior to our national conference March 6-9, 2008, so placement attendees will not have to miss any of our important conference activities.
- Regarding the conference, if you are interested in serving as a volunteer register and jump in as you'd have the time of your life!
- As noted on the NASPA Web site, "The Profile of the American College Student (Profile), administered by NASPA and powered by Student Voice, is a comprehensive survey program designed to provide institutions with a descriptive portrait of their students at all levels, from first year to senior year-plus. The Profile provides your institution with credible, accurate, timely, and relevant information that can be used to inform decision making and improve programs and services." If your institution is interested you should read more about it on our Web site. This is a new endeavor of NASPA that allows institutions to track their longitudinal data trends in your students' demographics and make comparisons among different groups of students on their campus. A key feature is that this tool, the Profile, will also provide the ability to compare the characteristics of students at your institution with a national profile of students.
- We have extended the complimentary membership to under-represented institutions for another three years. This is a special program designed to support institutional memberships from HBCUs, HSIs, and TC. Recall that our region has a similar program and we have also recently included community colleges. These targeted memberships have specific details and we are working with our state membership coordinators to facilitate this program.

- Finally, NASPA is in the process of purchasing new office space as our current lease is up next year. With the continuing rising costs of rent in D.C., the board determined it was better to invest in purchasing office space rather than renting. The new location and all the details to make this purchase are under close scrutiny right now and an announcement of a signed contract is forthcoming.

One additional point of information from our region is that we are seeking state representatives to assist Pat Boyer, Public Policy Division Chair. We are asking for volunteers to serve as state representatives for this division and we would specifically love to have senior student affairs officers in this role, though any well-connected member to his/her state issues would be very helpful in this new capacity. If you are interested, contact Pat (see contact information on page 15 of this newsletter).

I encourage you to read on in this winter newsletter. As an on-going commitment to transparency and keeping all members informed about our regional activities you will find the summary of our fall board meeting discussions and actions. Also review the information about our public policy update. An excellent review of our fall conference is provided below by Roger Sorochty. Finally, I trust that you will be in Boston in March. Also, keep our next regional conference on your schedules for Tulsa, Okla., in November.



Past, current, and future Region IV-West Vice Presidents: Christina Schnitzer-Laubie (2006-10), Prekash Mathew (2004-06), Vicky Tripancy (1995-08), Lori Rouse (1999-2002), and Cheryl Lovell (2006-08).



Conference review

Roger Sorochty, University of Tulsa

This year's Region IV-West annual conference was another in a series of conference successes. For the first time in several years, the conference was actually a joint conference with another Student Affairs professional organization – the Arkansas College Personnel Association (ACPA).

Slightly more than 380 delegates and a dozen exhibitors filled the Doubletree Hotel in Little Rock, Ark., from Nov. 8-10 causing rooms to be added at two other hotels. This year's conference was preceded by the New Professionals Institute led by Jennifer Brantley.

Attendees were fortunate to again have NASPA Executive Director Gwen Dugy, and President Jan Walbert, not only in attendance but also actively participating in the conference's programs.

Among the Little Rock highlights that conference attendees were able to enjoy in the city of bridges were beautiful weather, a wonderful shopping and entertainment district adjacent to the hotel, and complimentary admission to the Clinton Presidential Library.

The conference program provided a broad spectrum of programs which addressed all areas of NASPA's professional development curriculum. Exhibitors also provided information on a broad range of products and services which were well received by the attendees.

Regional Vice President Cheryl Lovell opened the conference Thursday afternoon and set the stage for the conference theme: *Building Bridges: Linking People, Resources, and Best Practices*. Conference chairperson, Roger Sorochty, then introduced the opening keynote speaker, Clifton Taulbert, whose remarks based on his book, *Eight Habits of the Heart*, set the tone for the programs that took place over the next three days. Clifton is president and founder of The Building Community Institute. Among his many other affiliations, Clifton also serves as visiting professor at Harvard University's Principles Center and professor at Ninth House, The Leadership Development Company.

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Regional conference continued from page 3

During the opening banquet on Thursday evening the following award recipients were introduced: the Professional Development Institute of the University of Arkansas, recipient of the Innovative Program Award; Publication Awards winners University of Arkansas Productions and Student Voices from the University of Denver; Outstanding New Professional, Sandy Vasquez, from the University of Arkansas; and Linda Claypool from Wichita State University of Wichita, recipient of the Support Staff Recognition Award.

Following the banquet, attendees walked to the pavilion in the River Market District on the banks of the Arkansas River where they enjoyed a sumptuous dessert reception and music from members of the faculty at the University of Arkansas, Little Rock.

Friday began with a Fun Run/Walk along the banks of the Arkansas River. The Master's Case Study competition got under way, and the Knowledge Communities hosted a poster session prior to the NASPA and ACPA Awards Luncheons. Award recipients introduced at the NASPA Awards Luncheon were: Charlotte Cote from the University of Central Arkansas, recipient of the Outstanding Faculty Member Award;

Randy Alexander, from the University of Arkansas, recipient of the Outstanding Mid-Level Professional Award; Ty Patterson from Ozark Technical Community College, Distinguished Service Award winner, and Earle Doman, from Missouri State University who received the James J. Riatigan award for Outstanding Dean which makes Earle the Region's nominee for the Scott Goodnight Award.

Friday evening was a time for attendees to renew friendships and make new ones by getting together for dinner at the various restaurants throughout Little Rock. Five Mentor Dinners were also hosted.

Saturday saw the conference come to a successful conclusion with the announcement of the winners of the Master's Case Study Competition, the final program sessions, and closing keynote address by Lyle Golin, Vice Chancellor emeritus of Student Affairs and Associate Professor emeritus of Higher Education from the University of Arkansas.

The following Rising Star undergraduate award recipients were also announced at the closing brunch: Tina Fletcher, Courtney Padlock, Samuel Holden, John Benavhar, Marguerite Miranda, Brooks Herle, and Miriam Iams. Graduate Rising Star recipients were Shehan Weihintha, Gretchen Streiff, Craig



NASPA President Jan Walbert speaks during the Region IV-IV Business meeting.

Koehnert, Tador Abdelmalek, Jennifer Novotny, Valerie Johnson, and Melissa Ingram. The New Professional Rising Stars are Kathy Van Steenis and Rebecca Slade.

The conference would not have been possible without help from more than 100 volunteers and the members of the conference planning committee. In addition to Kevin Hamilton who as president-elect of ACPA represented the organization on the committee, the other members of the committee and their responsibilities are as follows:

- Heather Scheller, Assistant to the Conference Chair
- Lori Reesor, Awards Chair
- Alex Gonzalez, Development and Exhibits Chair
- Chris Linder, Knowledge Communities Chair
- Jan Austin & Lonnie Williams, Local Arrangements Co-chairs
- Jennifer Brandley, New Professionals Institute Chair
- Gigi Secuban, NUPP Chair
- Yolanda Taylor, Programs, Major Sponsors, and Pre-Conference Programs Chair
- Erin Case and Mark Bernhardt, Publicity and Publications Co-chairs
- Kathy Shelton, Registration Chair/Treasurer
- Brett Campbell, Technology Chair
- Gigi Secuban and Dan Sepins, Volunteers/Social Activities Co-chairs



Jennifer Brandley (right) answers questions during the Knowledge Community poster session.

Region IV-West award winners

Innovative Program Award

This award is presented to the individual who has developed and implemented a program that results in improved educational activities, services or management for an individual campus community or group of campus communities.

Professional Development Institute
University of Arkansas

Publication Awards

These awards are presented to the individual or institution that has developed outstanding materials that contribute significantly to the field of student affairs.

Publication Award (Video)
*LEA Productions for the DVD
of the Pat Walker Health Center*
University of Arkansas

Publication Award (Campus Based)
Student Voices
University of Denver

Outstanding New Professional Award

This award is presented to an individual who has been in the profession less than five years, is a NASPA member, and has made significant contributions to his or her campus, the regional organization and the profession.



Graduate Rising Star recipients pose with NASPA leadership: Cheryl Lamm, Jennifer Nivonty, Gretchen Struff, Melissa Ingram, Shoban Willehalla, Craig Kuhlert, Gavin Dwyer, and Jan Wallert.



Undergraduate Rising Star recipients pose with NASPA leadership: Cheryl Lamm, Brooke Heath, Tina Fincher, Gavin Dwyer, Margy Miranda, Samuel Holden, and Jan Wallert.



Outstanding New Professional award winner Sandy Vazquez, University of Arkansas, with NASPA President Jan Wallert, Region IV-W Vice President Cheryl Lamm, and NASPA Executive Director Gavin Dwyer.



Support Staff Recognition Award winner Linda Claypool, Wichita State University, with NASPA President Jan Wallert, Region IV-W Vice President Cheryl Lamm, and NASPA Executive Director Gavin Dwyer.

Support Staff Recognition Award

This award is presented to the person who has contributed significantly to higher education and student affairs professionals.

Outstanding Faculty Member

This award is presented to the Region IV-West faculty member who has contributed significantly to graduate higher education and to the preparation of student affairs professionals.

Outstanding Mid-Level Professional

This award is presented to an individual who has been in the profession at least five years, is a NASPA member, and has made significant contributions in the areas of innovation and responsive services and programs that address the varied and emerging needs of students.

Distinguished Service Award

This award is presented to the individual who has provided exceptional service to the region and has enhanced our professional organization.

James J. Rhatigan Outstanding Dean

For outstanding performance as a Dean, this award is presented to the dean who has (A) sustained professional service in the area of student personnel work; (B) high level competency in administrative skills; (C) merited stature among and support of students, faculty, and fellow administrators on his or her campus; (D) innovative response in meeting varied and emerging needs of students; (E) effectiveness in the development of junior staff members; (F) significant contributions to the field through publications; and (G) leadership in community and university affairs.

The nomination deadline for next year's awards is July 31. Watch the Region IV-W West site for nomination forms.



Outstanding Faculty Member Award winner Charlotte Cain, University of Central Arkansas, with NASPA President Jan Walbert and Region IV-W Vice President Cheryl Lanell



Outstanding Mid-Level Professional Award winner Randy Alexander, University of Arkansas, with NASPA President Jan Walbert and Region IV-W Vice President Cheryl Lanell



Distinguished Service Award winner Ty Patterson, Ozarka Technical Community College, with NASPA President Jan Walbert and Region IV-W Vice President Cheryl Lanell



New Professional Rising Star Kelly Van Strum, Kansas State University, with Region IV-W Vice President Cheryl Landl, NASPA Executive Director Gwen Drury, and NASPA President Jan Walbert.



James J. Blouin, Outstanding Dean Award winner, Earlham College, Missouri State University, with NASPA President Jan Walbert and Region IV-W Vice President Cheryl Landl.

Parents continued from page 7

We share the same goal – student success: They know their student best, and you know the campus environment best. You can now work together to determine the concern and the appropriate resources. It is not our job to “tell,” instead, it is our job to “share.” Let the parent or family member decide from a number of options what might work best in their particular situation. They need to have some sense of “power” or “control” when they feel the most powerless and out of control.

Give them something to do: Parents and families want to do something, so, offer helpful conversation starters for them to talk with their students in an adult-adult manner, suggest helpful websites they can access, such as your own Parent and Family website, or the “College Parents of America” or the “Century Council” websites. A niche market has been created with numerous books focused on parenting college students; some are as detailed as *What to Expect When You’re Expecting* (Eisenberg, 1991). A word of caution, however, it is crucial to reinforce students need to develop necessary life skills during college. Under no circumstances should we suggest parents and family members take charge of their students’ business. Instead, reinforce the parental/familial role in helping students learn how to become interdependent and responsible for themselves.

Maintain integrity with students: While it is great to partner with parents and families to offer assistance to students, never go behind students’ backs or share personal information without the students’ permission. Parents and families may wish for us to keep secrets, but try to refrain from this.

In closing, being proactive in sharing resources and helpful information with parents and families of college students builds trusting relationships and ultimately help students succeed. Best wishes!

NASPA 2008 CONFERENCE




Chart
a
Course
for
Student
Success

MARCH 8 – 12, 2008
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

New Professionals Institute: Foundations for Success

The New Professionals Institute was held Nov. 6-7 at the Doubletree Hotel in Little Rock, Ark. Participants learned about a variety of issues from four faculty mentors, Phil Covington (Arkansas Tech University), Jim Griesen (University of Nebraska – Lincoln), Denise Ottinger (Washburn University), and Karina Rodriguez (University of Northern Colorado). Topics included Authenticity and Values, Collaboration of Student Affairs and Faculty, Crisis Management and Critical Issues, and Managing and Relating to Managers. In addition to the presentation topics, the participants and faculty discussed more personal issues such as mission statements, campus politics, work/life balance and the value of a Ph.D. and Ed.D. The group was able to wrap-up the intense 28-hour institute with dinner at a local restaurant, Ciao, known for its quaint atmosphere and delicious Italian cuisine.

Thank you to all who participated in the 2007 New Professionals Institute. We had 34 participants representing nine states within our region, as well as a variety of student affairs offices. It was good to read about the wonderful things these people are doing on campus through the letters of recommendation from supervisors and senior student affairs administrators. The support of all supervisors and other NASPA members to send new professionals to this institute was greatly appreciated.

This was a wonderful opportunity for new professionals to get together to talk with others about their challenges and successes in their positions, as well as participate in networking opportunities that will last a lifetime.

Jennifer Brounley
Kansas State University



Public Policy Update

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

On Thursday, Nov. 15, by a vote of 44-9, the House of Representatives Committee on Education and Labor passed their version of the Higher Education Reauthorization Bill. The following highlights represent some of the issues NASPA has provided (see NASPA's home page for more details):

- The House Reauthorization Bill, "College Opportunity and Affordability Act of 2007" has a number of new programs for low-income students along with multiple new reporting requirements.
- **Fire Safety Legislation**
Language that was adopted in this bill is more manageable than past versions. It requires open logs maintained of fires in on-campus housing, damages, and injuries, as well as all education and fire safety systems in place. Not included were provisions to include off-campus fraternity and sorority house reporting of false alarms.
- **Reporting of Disciplinary Hearings**
"Institutions will disclose to the alleged victim of any crime of violence or non-forcible sex offense, the final results of any disciplinary proceeding conducted by such institution against a student who is the alleged perpetrator of such crime or offense with respect to such crime or offense." Our representatives hope to work with conferees on this language as the bill moves to the next stage.

- **Creates a National Center for Campus Public Safety**

The Center will provide education training, serve as a clearinghouse for information while also developing protocols for distribution in conjunction with the Secretaries of Education, Homeland Security and the Attorney Generals of each state.

- **File-to-file Sharing**

Requires universities to provide yearly disclosures on the civil and criminal liabilities involved in file-to-file sharing, disclose information on the university's policies and disciplinary actions of using the university's technology to download, as well as the description of actions the university plans to take to prevent and detect distribution of copyrighted materials.

- **Campus Based Digital Theft Prevention**

A separate section for the file-to-file sharing info that requires information on sanctions and for universities to develop a plan for offering alternatives for file sharing. The provision also authorizes grants for universities, consortia of institutions or organizations to develop plans, systems or technical assistance. This provision and the preceding one could cost institutions millions of dollars and are strongly opposed by Educause.

- **Mental Health Disclosures**

There was fear there could be language in a bill from Congressman Murphy (R-PA)

on mental health and disclosures relating to education records. The provision asks that the Department of Education shall provide guidance that clarifies institution roles when a student demonstrates risk to others and/or him or her.

- **Accreditation Information**

There was an amendment by Congressman Andrews (D-NJ) that was accepted which repealed language in the bill that would have kept control for developing measures of student learning which accreditors use with the university. The bill as currently worded opens the door for the Department of Education to impose those guidelines directly through accrediting organizations. This will be an item heavily battled as they move into conference with the Senate.

- **Financial Aid Lenders**

The bill covers a number of other very important items regarding the college price index and lender relationships with universities, not allowing financial aid officers any formal roles with lenders and adopting strict codes of conduct.

The next steps for the bill will be in conference with the Senate. The two bills have many similarities, however, some of the lender provisions vary. Once the bill passes the House and conferees are named, then the journey of working to deal with concerns through the conference process begins.

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 8-9. 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.

Administrators in Graduate and Professional Student Services

Greetings from Aurora, Colo., where the new Anschutz Medical Campus of the University Colorado - Denver is up and running. Over the winter break, the remaining academic programs for the health professionals and graduate biomedical sciences will move to this campus from the Ninth/Colorado Avenue location.

With that comes my plea for all IV-West Student Services folks who would like to be involved in the Administrators in Graduate and Professional Student Services (AGPSS) Knowledge Community stand up and be

counted. We all know that those of us in Graduate/Professional Student Services work with thin budgets and fat job descriptions...sometimes we may feel this keeps us from interacting with each other, sharing good tips, getting good information from our peers in other institutions.

In a nutshell, those of you working in Graduate and Professional Student Services are invited to participate in this regional Knowledge Community. I hope we can set up a method to share our great work, and come up with some specific sub-commu-

nities such as Student Services for Health Professional Programs, Law Programs, etc.

Contact me directly if you'd like to become involved in this knowledge community – we're waiting to share great things with you!

Cheryl A. Gibson, M.A.
Region IV-West
APGSS Knowledge Community
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(303) 724-7684

Men and Masculinities Knowledge Community

The Men and Masculinities Knowledge Community (MMKC) was founded upon a pro-feminist, anti-racist, gay-affirmative agenda with the hope of providing resources to increase multi-cultural competence among male students by providing the NASPA membership with tools to invite and engage men into this process. The 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 the process.

Being one of NASPA's newest knowledge communities, the MMKC is still finding how to meet the needs of the membership. Approaching the subject of men on our campuses is complex. How do we serve this population? For decades, men were the focus. As we have rightfully moved on to other underrepresented communities, the study of men has lessened. Now we are trying to bring the study of men and masculinities back into the shared light, but no one way is right or wrong. Do we join the efforts of women's centers to help men see their feminine side? Should we address issues of bad behavior of men in the judicial process? "Where to begin?" is the question.

If you get the opportunity to join other NASPA members in Boston this coming March 2008, discover and attend the programs sponsored by the Men and Masculini-



Chris Stoppel, Men and Masculinities Knowledge Community representative for Region IV-W, poses in front of his poster for the knowledge community poster session at the Region IV-W conference in Little Rock, Ark.

ties Knowledge Community. If you cannot make it to Boston, visit <http://naspa.org/communities/kc/community.cfm?kcid=25> or on MySpace at <http://groups.myspace.com/nasparamkc>.

If you wish to be involved with the MMKC, e-mail Chris Stoppel, cstoppel@ku.edu, the MMKC Representative for NASPA IV-West.

Greetings from the Alcohol and Other Drug and Health in Higher Education Knowledge Communities!



**NASPA Strategies Conference 2008:
Alcohol Abuse Prevention and Intervention
Jan. 17-19**

Sponsors: NASPA, Alcohol and Other Drug Knowledge Community, Health in Higher Education Knowledge Community, Outside the Classroom, Center for College Health & Safety, and The BACCHUS Network

Location: Tampa Marriott Waterside Hotel and Marina, Tampa, Fla.

If you are interested in the AOD KC Coordinator Board position let Pat Mahon know ASAP as her term expires in March 2008.

Contact us if we can be of assistance,

Sincerely, Dee and Pat

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NASPA IV-W Advisory Board Meeting

Nov. 7-8, 2007
2007 Regional Conference
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 from Wednesday, Nov. 7, 1-5 p.m. and Thursday, Nov. 8, 7-10 a.m. prior to the Little Rock Regional Conference.
2. A complete set of the quarterly board reports and the Advisory Board minutes are available on the Region IV-West Web site at www.naspa.org/region4W/Downloads.
3. Board Decisions/Recommendations/Motions/Announcements
 - The nomination deadline for the 2008 Awards process will be July 31. The board updated and clarified NASPA membership requirements for award nominees and institutional membership for some of the awards.
 - A Public Policy Committee, under the direction of the Public Policy Coordinator, Pat Boyer, will be established to assist with the flow of public policy information between the states and national. A representative from each state will be on the committee.
 - A recommendation to exempt Conference Committee members from payment of the regional conference registration fee was tabled to the spring board meeting. A conference budget impact statement plus a written proposal will be presented at that meeting.
 - Region IV-West will submit a 2008 Regional Conference Registration Certificate to the Silent Auction sponsored by the NASPA Foundation at the Boston National Conference.
 - The board approved a request from the Knowledge Community (KC) Work Group to alter the board structure that was approved last spring. In essence, the KC Regional Coordinator and three KC

"Leads" (representing the three basic work areas) will represent the KC Work Group on the advisory board as voting members. All KC Chairs will be encouraged to attend the Advisory Board meetings and activities as ex-officio members. KC Chairs will devote their time and activities promoting themselves as "consultants" rather than recruitment of members.

4. The Region IV-West Advisory Board will meet prior to the NASPA national conference to be held in Boston in March. Agenda items for that meeting include:
 - "Communication with Membership" guidelines will be presented for review and approval.
 - Membership of state representatives to the Public Policy Committee mentioned above.
 - The Executive Committee will prepare for discussion two budget related proposals for further board discussions: 1) Investment options and protocol for "investment vs. spending as a 'return to membership' benefit; and 2) Prioritize the "investment in the profession" ideas presented at the fall meeting and develop a budget impact statement.
 - Registration payment for Conference Planning Committee – topic and approval were tabled at the fall meeting.
 - If you would like to place an item on the agenda for this meeting, e-mail Cheryl Lovell at IVWRVP@du.edu, Regional Vice President, or the appropriate board member.

5. The New Professional Institute held a very successful pre-conference prior to the 2007 regional conference in Little Rock. Thirty-four new professionals

attended the Institute, chaired by Jennifer Beasley (Kansas State University).

6. The 2008 Region IV-West conference will be held at the Tulsa Marriott, Southern Hills, Nov. 6-8, 2008. The conference

co-chairs will be Denise Ortinger (Washington University) and Dennis Day (Johnson County Community College). Mark your calendar now and plan to attend. The Mid-Level Institute will be held as a

pre-conference. More information will be distributed at the national conference and through the senior student affairs officers'.

A complete set of minutes for the Little Rock fall Advisory Board meeting (including additional information on all topics highlighted above) is available on the Region IV-West Web site (www.naspa.org/region4W/Downloads/RegionalAdvisoryBoardMeetingMinutes).

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





*Denotes executive committee

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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. A book review is needed 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 the *Newsletter* editor, 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 spring edition is March 28 with an anticipated mail date of April 28. The deadline for the summer edition is June 10 with an anticipated mail date of July 10.

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*.



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