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FAREWELL FROM YOUR REGIONAL DIRECTOR

March is upon us! March signifies so many things: midterms, spring break, NASPA national conference, rain and warmth returning, prepping for various end of the year events, and transitions. I am beyond excited for the national conference. This has been a stressful academic year on my campus and I know many share this experience as well. But I am looking forward to focusing on NASPA and stepping away from my campus for a short time. I cannot wait to see old colleagues, interview excited professionals at TPE, attend multiple events, present to my peers, and learn and challenge myself in my current professional journey. I feel blessed to work with some great people at NSU but while I am excited about all we are doing, I am always looking to what and where we need to head next. I hope we get to spend some quality time socializing or just hanging out at the national conference. [For rest of Blog, click here.](#)



JUST A STUDENT LOOKING FOR A LITTLE DIRECTION

We all know those students who step on to our campuses looking for a little direction. As educators and student affairs professionals, I am confident that each of you have reached out and provided that much needed direction. In fact, I would be willing to bet you can identify those students right now. I'm sure you can recall the countless students, conversations, emotions, and pure enjoyment. Thank you for taking the time to serve that student. You made a difference and will always be remembered for your contagious passion to elevate the success of students. [For rest of Blog, click here.](#)



CHANGING THE NARRATIVE ON "WINNING THE RACE"

When I graduated from college, I thought I had won the race. I literally "jumped for joy" when I crossed the stage: I screamed, I shouted, and I even did a little happy dance. And somewhere between my happy dance and glancing back at the graduating class, I realized that I was alone. You see, many of the students—whom I had befriended along the way (that I had met at new student orientation, in my freshmen general education courses, or in the dorms)—were not with me. While running the race, I seemed to have forgotten that while winning the race (getting across the finish line first) was important, it was not more important than making sure that others in the race gets to the finish line as well. [For rest of Blog, click here.](#)



GRADUATE STUDENT SPOTLIGHT - JOSHUA JOHNSON

Name: Joshua Johnson Hometown: Fairbury, NE Graduate Institution: University of Nebraska Degree you are working towards: Master's in Educational Administrations specializing in Student Affairs [For rest of Blog, click here.](#)



ASIAN PACIFIC ISLANDERS KC SPOTLIGHT

The NASPA – Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education Annual Conference is upon us. In less than a week, people from all across the United States and world will be gathering in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania to attend the annual meeting. This year's conference is set to be a special one as NASPA will be celebrating its 100th anniversary as an association and the Asian Pacific Islanders Knowledge Community will be celebrating its 20th anniversary of existence! [For rest of Blog, click here.](#)



NASPA FOUNDATION UPDATE

Since the beginning of the NASPA Foundation Ambassadors in 2013, Region IV-W members have generously supported by giving over \$61,000! I am thrilled to have witnessed reaching the donor and dollar goals set by the Foundation almost every year and know we are on the road to achieving our goals for 2017-2018. [For rest of Blog, click here.](#)

WE LOVE OUR
VOLUNTEERS



VOLUNTEER WITH NASPA IV-W TODAY!

Who is ready for Philly?!?! Attending the conference will be a great opportunity to look at all the opportunities to get involved! There are Knowledge Community (KC) positions as well as state membership positions, and many more ready for you to apply! [For rest of Blog, click here.](#)



IMPACT SUMMIT College Student Mental Health Conference

IMPACT SUMMIT: COLLEGE STUDENT MENTAL HEALTH CONFERENCE

Join your NASPA IV-West colleagues on May 2, 2018 at Missouri State University for the Impact Summit: College Student Mental Health Conference. The summit has been selected as our region's spring Critical Conversation. With three national keynoters and over 30 educational sessions on a wide array of topics surrounding mental health and college students, the Summit will be a meaningful opportunity to engage with others interested in reducing stigma and increasing knowledge. [For rest of Blog, click here.](#)



Meeting of the Minds Region IV-W Spring Conference BACCHUS Initiatives of NASPA

MEETING OF THE MINDS CONFERENCE - APRIL 5-7

The schedule for the Meeting of the Minds conference, including all breakout sessions, poster sessions, and special events is now online at <http://mom.missouri.edu/schedule.html>. [For rest of Blog, click here.](#)



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