



NASPA

Adult Learners and
Students with
Children KC

February 25, 2017

Crossroads

**Adult Learner and Students with Children
KC Newsletter**

Quarterly Update

Volume 4, Issue 3
Winter 2017



Dr. Green with student parents from Endicott College - Boston.

Research

Meet Dr. Autumn Green presenting at NASPA in San Antonio this year. Dr. Green is the recipient of the Adult Learners and Students with Children Knowledge Community first research grant for her research study: *Student Parents on Campus: History and Best Practices from Baby Boomers to Millennials*. We look forward to sharing Dr. Green’s research when complete, and know that it will provide rich support for future professionals working with our population.” You can see Dr. Green’s presentation on some of the preliminary findings from this project at **NASPA on March 14th at 10am Room 006-B in the Convention Center.**

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**James Stewart is
Director of The
Adult, Veteran and
Commuter Student
Services at DePaul
University, Chicago
IL.**

Letter from the Chair

It is hard to believe that it is already Spring, another NASPA Annual Conference is upon us, and I am one year into my position as Chair of the Knowledge Community.

Certainly, our country and world is in a turbulent time. We must remember that in supporting our students, who already may encounter barriers different from others, we must support our own well-being. I encourage all to pause for a bit as nature springs new and to take due time for yourself. We are the best advocates for our students with children and adult students when we are at our best selves too.

The Knowledge Community accomplished some great things this last year. We continued our traditions of producing great newsletters, and we have wonderful sponsored sessions at the upcoming conference. We added a new award, our Research Grant. You can read about that winner in this issue, and we can all look forward to the results of that research and more from our grant winners in the future. We began executing our “Open Calls” each quarter. While our leadership calls each month are always open to all, these calls don’t have the business of the KC on agenda, but instead are open conversations on topics

relevant to our work. I am excited to say these have brought great new participation to our KC.

We have great things planned for the year ahead including two wonderful webinar modules in the works. Stay tuned for more on that. Also, a wonderful congratulations to our Chair-Elect, Martha Harper. Martha has been active in the KC for years, most recently serving as an exemplary chair of Communications and Technology. She will bring even more exciting talent and wisdom to the KC as she assumes the new role of Chair-Elect and becomes Chair in 2018.

Most of all, to those that will be at NASPA, I hope to see you at our events, sessions, or reception. To those that can’t, please always feel free to reach out.

Thanks for all you do for our students across the nation,
James Stewart



Open Call Forums: An Informative Success

Last year as part of our monthly leadership team meetings, we began to ask ourselves who might be these 480+ people that receive our emails, this newsletter and other KC business direct to their inbox, and how can we serve them? We realized if they are anything like the leaders on our team, they are very cognizant of the intersection of student lives. Therefore, they join multiple knowledge communities hoping to have a quick reliable source of best practices as they cope with the diversity of experience and student challenges across the spectrum of college campuses. For those members, we created the **Quarterly Open Forum** call where instead of business, we really do talk about our best student practices! We decide the topic in the preceding leadership team call and this year, we had some lively conversations!

On May 6th, our first meeting, approximately 15 people phoned in to join the conversation. It was really exciting to hear the range of our colleagues and the situations in which they support nontraditional learners. Topical to August 5th, our next forum was a sharing-of-ideas and discussion around how we on-board adult learners and students with children. Many of our colleagues work in departments that provide them little opportunity to collaborate with first year transitions staff to reach nontraditional students. The importance of awareness, advocacy and outreach at orientation events was followed by a lively discussion of possible presentation topics at NASPA, and the topic of our November 4th forum, “children on campus and how to cope with their ever growing presence, as nontraditional students become the new-traditional landscape.” Liability issues aside, the experience of having a parent in college can be very inspiring, and as a KC, we want to encourage the modeling of college for our student’s children as much as possible. The discussion was lively in all the ways we provide opportunities for those “future students” to be among us. Finally, on February 2nd, we took topics and suggestions for a 2018 Online Learning Module Topic(s). Hopefully, you will join us for one of these.

May 5th, 2017
August 4th, 2017
November 3th, 2017
February 2nd, 2018

**At Meeting time, 12 Noon Central, call
712-432-1212. Follow the prompts for the
Meeting ID and enter 520-858-503**

Lets Get Ready to NASPA

It's that time of year and we are so excited to meet everyone at NASPA. Our KC is proud to sponsor three sessions this year as well as hold our annual leadership team meeting and reception for our award winning programs.

Education Sessions:

Monday, March 13th	Venue/Room
1:15pm to 2:05pm	
Is Your Campus Family Friendly?: A New Toolkit to Help Support Student Parents	Convention Center / 006B
3:40pm to 4:30pm	
Parents Professionals and PhD: Navigating BIG identities to Survive and Flourish	Convention Center / 006B
Tuesday, March 14th	Venue/Room
10:00am to 10:50am	
Babies, Binkies, Books and Backpacks: Student Parents in College from Baby Boomers to Millennials and the Programs that Support Them	Convention Center / 006B

The Leadership Team Meeting will be Sunday March 12th from 1 to 3pm. All who are members of our KC are invited to attend and observe this annual business meeting. After the meeting, learn how to get involved. Grand Hyatt Bonham A

2nd Annual Outstanding Program Awards

*You are cordially invited to join our annual KC Reception at
NASPA 2017,
Tuesday March 12th, 4:00 to 6:00pm Grand Hyatt, Bonham D
We are excited to celebrate another successful year and our
amazing award and research grant winners.*

The Outstanding
Undergraduate Adult Learner Pro-
gram Award goes to

Non-Traditional Student Services
(NTSS) at Southern
Illinois Univ. at Carbondale

The Outstanding
Undergraduate Student Parent Pro-
gram Award goes to

The Resource Center for
Students with Children at
Portland State University

The First Annual ALSC KC
Research Grant
Award goes to

Autumn Green, Student
Parents on Campus: History and
Best Practices from Baby Boomers
to Millenials

California State University, Fullerton

2017 Runner Up

Outstanding Undergraduate Student Parent Program Applicant

The Adult Reentry and Parenting Students program at CSUF is dedicated to the success of non-traditional students. Our mission is to provide reentry and parenting support services, leadership opportunities and programs to enhance academic and personal development. We serve as a resource in providing an engaging environment for adult learners to thrive and achieve within the university setting.

Our services include pre-admission advising to students who have previously attended CSUF or adult students wanting to finish a degree program. We do monthly verification for our CalWORK's students to ensure their continued financial support service for childcare through the State of California. In addition we schedule students, faculty and staff accommodations to any of our 6 lactation spaces.

We offer many opportunities for our students to get involved within our center and connect with one another. We have two recognized student organizations: Alpha Sigma Lambda (a national honor society) and AWARE (Adults Who are Returning to Education), that both provide leadership opportunities and family friendly events. We collaborate with campus and community partners to provide student success workshops for our students on a variety of topics from scholarship writing, graduate school admission processes, to panels with parenting and adult learners to share their experiences.

Chalea Forgues submitted an amazing package showing the strides Cal State Fullerton is making to support Students with Children, including reservable lactation spaces on campus.



LIFE

Tuffy's Closet helping CSUF students dress for success

Oct. 24, 2016 | Updated 7:44 p.m.

The 2017 Winner of the Outstanding Undergraduate Student Parent Program will receive their award at the NASPA ALSC KC Reception Tuesday March 12th 4-6pm Grand Hyatt/ Bonham D

Cal State Fullerton graduate student Jose Contreras Jr. and Chalea Forgues, Adult Reentry and Parenting Student coordinator, are launching Tuffy's Career Closet. The closet provides career clothes for students who can browse online and pick up the donated items between 3 and 7 p.m. Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays in Room 205 of University Hall.

By ANGIE MARCOS / STAFF WRITER
ANA VENEGAS, STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

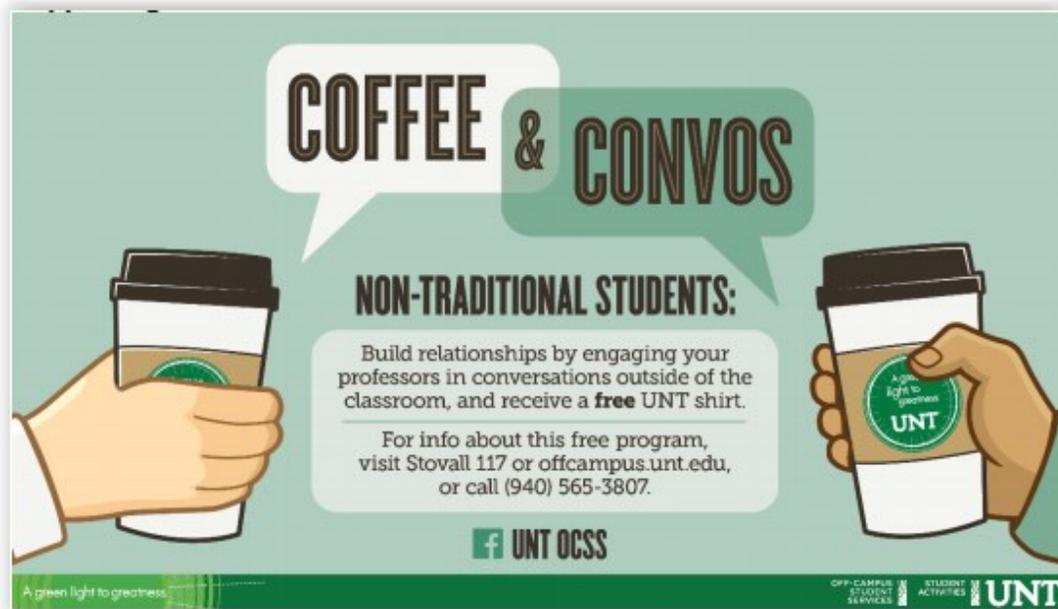


University of North Texas – Denton

Courtney Newsome coordinates Off Campus Student Services at the University of North Texas, Denton, and she submitted one of her student engagement programs called Coffee & Convos. This program invites nontraditional students to apply to take a faculty member out for coffee. In the process of application, the student is pre-assessed and the data is used to measure student engagement by comparing it to a post-assessment. Courtney says, “By reviewing the responses of non-traditional students involved in this program, we will identify their positive outcomes as a result of participating in this program. This data can support why academics and extra-curricular activities contribute to the retention and developmental growth of students.

2017 Runner Up

Outstanding
Undergraduate
Adult Learner
Program
Applicant



Summary of Assessment

Students are asked questions such as:

- Generally speaking, I have absolutely no hesitation approaching THIS professor in class or in his/her office.
- Generally speaking, I have absolutely no hesitation seeking ACADEMIC advice from THIS professor.
- Generally speaking, I have absolutely no hesitation seeking CAREER advice from THIS professor.
- I believe that having relationships with professors can help me reach my academic and/or career goals.
- Currently, I feel engaged with or connected to UNT (i.e., I feel like I am a part of the UNT community).
- I am proud to be a student at UNT.
- What, if any, concerns do you have after taking your professor for coffee?
- I feel more engaged with or connected to UNT.

Listen to the Participants:

Coffee and Convos is an innovative program that does an excellent job of connecting students with professors, outside of the classroom, in a relaxed environment where both persons can open up. The voucher they receive covers the cost of the coffee and the conversation is up to them. So the next time someone asks me “Hey, where did you get that shirt?” I will smile and tell them all about it!

Barrett Lafferty-Reside, non-traditional student

This is awesome! I am new to UNT and I really like that the UNT community has been so thoughtful to have such a program. Every day I find yet one more aspect of UNT that reinforces that I made the best decision in my life to come here! I look forward to meeting the student or students.

Rose Baker, Assistant Professor

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New Feature! Student Spotlight

Meet Timothy Steen

Timothy is the first recipient of the Off-Campus Student Services Non-Traditional Student Scholarship at University of Arkansas

Do you know a nontraditional student with a unique perspective like Timothy? Encourage the student to share their story and we will select compelling ones for publication here and on our social media.

Timothy Steen is one year away from graduating with his bachelor's degree in Human Nutrition & Hospital Innovation Dietetics at the University of Arkansas. For Timothy and his wife, this achievement has been something they planned for and they spent several years saving in order to help him reach this goal of being a Registered Dietician or RD. With a Human Nutrition degree in hand, Timothy will only be one internship and a pass examination away from his title.

About being a nontraditional student, Timothy says that managing his time has been one of the biggest challenges. To overcome this, he is careful to carve out time at the beginning of each week to map his schedule in a visual way that will help him stay on top of responsibilities. Timothy's orientation to college came primarily from other students, both peers and traditional students, who reached out and helped him by answering questions whenever he had them.

"I believe the number one issue deterring adult learners is finding the funding for education. Loans are readily available, but not everyone is willing to take on that burden. Lowering the cost of attendance, or aiding in associated costs, such as books, would go a long way in lowering barriers." -Timothy Steen



It was in Nancy Buckley's course, Principles of Food, that Timothy realized nutrition is not just a technical science but also a creative outlet where it can be fun for his clients as well as educational.

What Timothy loves most about being a college student is the daily opportunity to be immersed in a culture of learning and knowledge. He advises other students to finish what they start. Don't give up because the details will figure themselves out as you go, keep your eyes on the end goal.

Timothy is a regular user of Off Campus Student Services at the University of Arkansas, and OCSS is the first winner of the ALSC KC Outstanding Adult Learner Student Program award

[Student Spotlight Form.](#)

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