

#CSAM14: Why #SAPros Make Great Peer Education Advisors: The BACCHUS Initiatives of NASPA

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Everything you need to know about what's going on in NASPA Region I

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CONSIDER A CAREER IN STUDENT AFFAIRS

MARLIN NABORS

ASSOCIATE DEAN OF STUDENTS
SOUTHERN NEW HAMPSHIRE
UNIVERSITY



UNDERGRADUATE INSTITUTION
CENTRAL MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

GRADUATE INSTITUTION
SYRACUSE UNIVERSITY

WHY STUDENT AFFAIRS?

“Why did I choose a career in Student Affairs?
I was an involvement geek in undergrad. As a minority within a minority at a predominately white institution, I longed for someplace to belong. Student involvement and ultimately student affairs became the lifelong club that I chose to join and I haven't regretted one second of it.

Why do I continue working in Student Affairs?
I have always been insanely curious about people - who they are and what influenced the person they've become today. When I found Student Affairs and college student development, it was a perfect fit for my natural interest in shaping the growth and development of others. As a person who's always on a path of self-improvement, engaging with others about their evolution has always been fascinating and rewarding. #CSAM



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I love working for NASPA because of the people I meet. The connections I have made through my role have shown my how truly diverse and amazingly talented our profession truly is. I've also made some great friends along the way...like Region 1's own Alex Cabal!

Daniel Anzuento

Assistant Director of Member Engagement and Regional Initiatives, NASPA National Office

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Great resource for LGBTQ individuals going through the job search process by the **GLBT Knowledge Community**

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During my time as an undergrad I was involved in numerous leadership roles on my campus, but I always had a full time staff member to serve as my mentor. I quickly realized that this is the kind of work i'd like to do because not only does working with college age students energize me, but I can also impact the lives of those students by enhancing the learning opportunities that take place outside of the classroom

Chris Winn

Graduate Assistant/Resident Director, Becker College

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SALT Conference Alumnus Reflection

Brandon Sousa, Undergraduate Student, University of Rhode Island

SALT Conference: 2013

Undergraduate Institution: University of Rhode Island

Graduate Institution: TBD

My experience at SALT was really the final experience that solidified my deep interest in the field of student affairs and higher education. Meeting so many people with such a similar energy and passion for learning to help others was such a rewarding experience. From the resume workshops to the presentations where we learned about how to effectively market ourselves through social media and a handful of other useful information, the conference was a great time to network with others!

I would highly recommend SALT for anyone who has any interest in student affairs because at this conference you have so many opportunities to explore and have your questions regarding the field answered. One of the most helpful sessions we had during this conference was during the graduate program fair where the majority of graduate programs in the Northeast had representatives (professionals and current graduate students) present so that we could ask them questions regarding the programs. Through communicating with undergraduate students who are in the same situation as you are, graduate students who are currently in their respective programs, and professionals who have been in the field for many years, you are able to get a full 360 view on what the field of student affairs and higher education has to offer!

Some small bits of advice that I would offer are to make sure that you have your resume up to par and bring multiple copies so that you can have it critiqued by professionals! Also, if you still have the time to do so, be sure to go online and order some business cards! These will be very helpful in exchanging contact information with all of the wonderful people that you connect with! Lastly, do some research regarding all of the programs that will be in attendance at the graduate program fair ahead of time! Having some background knowledge of each of the programs that you are interested in will allow for a smooth flow of conversation. Doing this research will also allow you to have the chance to speak to all of the programs that you are interested in because you will definitely be so excited and caught up in conversation that before you know it the fair will be over!

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All *Careers in Student Affairs Month* Webinars are **FREE** to both members and non-members of NASPA. We that you will join us Monday, October 6, 2014 from 3:00pm-4:00pm

Click on the link above to register!

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Here are a three reasons why **Alex Cabal** (Assistant Director of Student Activities and Leadership, Babson College) enjoys working in Student Affairs.

1. The opportunity to work with colleagues and friends who are as passionate and dedicated as you are about students' success.
2. Meeting students who are creating positive changes on their campus through their involvement in various aspects of their institution.
3. Working in a field that brings you something different each day you go into the office. There is constant learning happening throughout each day.

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I love working with the students, helping them to create relationships outside of the classroom, and seeing them grow as individuals. Plus, I get paid to have fun!

Samantha Goldberg

Co-curricular Transcript Program, Student Involvement, Rockland Community College

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SALT Alumnus Reflection

Michelle Scali, Graduate Student, University of Connecticut

SALT Conference: 2013

Undergraduate Institution: Bryant University
Graduate Institution: UConn

SALT was a great networking experience and gave me a chance to meet so many students entering graduate programs! I helped me focus my application process and opened my eyes to different programs and options.

I would recommend SALT to those who are unsure of what area of student affairs they want to focus on or if they've been sure for a few years now, there is something that you can learn here. There is so much information available!

One piece I would give those considering Student Affairs as a career is to know that their undergraduate institution does things differently than other schools and that if they have an open mind, learning how other institutions do things is so interesting!

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RECOGNITION

"As a new to Wentworth employee, I've had the chance to meet many new staff members. Dean Annamaria Wenner truly cares about the wellbeing of the Institute and its members. She's spent a significant amount of time working here and developing the culture of Wentworth. She is accessible to students and constantly seeks to better her students through her role."

Christopher Scanlon

Assistant Director of Campus Life, Wentworth Institute of Technology

"We asked members of Region 1 to "Thank someone publicly for what they do to better the lives of students on your campus." We will be posting their responses as they are submitted.

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SALT Alumnus Reflection

Ashlee Givins, Assistant Director, First Year Programs, Framingham State University

SALT Conference: 2008

Undergraduate Institution: Nichols College

Graduate Institution: Suffolk University

Five years ago as a senior in college, I decided that my career path would be one in Student Affairs. However, I found myself slightly lost on how to go about making my career goal a reality. I was fortunate to have a mentor, Brian McCoy, who was willing to guide me in beginning the process. He introduced me to the Student Affairs Leaders of Tomorrow (S.A.L.T.) conference not knowing that this conference would have a huge impact on my career in Student Affairs.

S.A.L.T. was the first time I was introduced to other college students who had similar career aspirations. As many Student Affairs professional know this is not something you come by easily or often. Most of your college peers have no inclination of what Student Affairs means or how it could possibly be a career choice. In other words, to be around a group of likeminded students was refreshing and inspiring. As a group we were able to talk about our passions, who are mentors were and what our plan was for the future.

Personally, these conversations sparked something inside of me I didn't know was there. I remember feeling excited throughout the conference. It was an undeniable feeling of confirmation and joy. Without a doubt, I knew that I had made the right choice in Student Affairs as a career.

Not only did this amazing conference introduce me to people who are still my friends today, it gave me the information I needed to start my journey. Prior to attending, I had no idea what schools offered a graduate degree in Higher Education. There was a portion dedicated to meeting chairs, faculty members and/or alumni from various institutions and speaking with them about their institution and admissions process. It was during this session I decided where I wanted to apply. As many of us know, not knowing where or what you're going to do after college can cause an enormous amount of panic. After attending S.A.L.T. those feeling disappeared. I still remember the conversation I had with my mother that night, "MOM, MOM! I KNOW WHAT I'M GOING TO DO WITH THE REST OF MY LIFE AND HOW TO DO IT!" I still hold the memory of that excited 21 year old, for those difficult days we all have working in Student Affairs.

I encourage all junior and senior college students thinking about Higher Education to apply to the Student Affairs Leaders of Tomorrow (S.A.L.T.) conference. It will inspire you in ways you don't even know. It will shed light on the first, second and third step of your Student Affairs journey. It will introduce you to some of the most amazing people. Some will be your future employers and some, more importantly, will be your lifelong friends. This is a great opportunity, one that should not be overlooked. This conference shaped the professional I am today and I hope it will do the same for

all those attending next month.

To apply for S.A.LT, please click [here](#)

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NANCY CRIMMIN

VICE PRESIDENT OF
STUDENT AFFAIRS
BECKER COLLEGE



UNDERGRADUATE INSTITUTION

STONEHILL COLLEGE

GRADUATE INSTITUTION

SPRINGFIELD COLLEGE

WHY STUDENT AFFAIRS?

“ I was clearly undecided during my first two years of undergrad. Nothing really excited me in the classroom. I was, however, passionate about what I was doing outside the classroom in student government and activities. When I told my advisor how happy I was with my co-curricular life he suggested we work to create a couple internships around campus. And that, as they say, was that.

Decision made - I wanted to work with college students. My masters program opened a new door academically for me; I was excited and eager to learn. It all made sense to me in a way other classes never did.

The work has changed [but] the excitement of working with college students is still there. It's challenging, rewarding, and at times frustrating - all in the course of one hour at times. The personal connections with students who become colleagues and friends is so important to me. It is so exciting working with students who are interested in the field.



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Lessons Learned

These are some of the most important lessons **Alison Black** (Assistant Dean of Student Life, Franklin W. Olin College of Engineering) has learned in her 20+ year as a Student Affairs professional.

1. **Get involved** in whatever way/shape/form you can. Submit an article to a newsletter, apply to be a conference intern, attend as many workshops/conferences as you can, volunteer for committees, etc. You never know who you will meet and where that may lead. When I was in graduate school I applied to be a Symposium Associate at the National Leadership Symposium and I got to work with some of the top leadership educators in the country. It was an amazing experience and I got to do it for two years (it was a summer Symposium). I also submitted a paper to a Prize Papers competition that NACA was sponsoring and ended up winning 2nd place and got my article published. You never know where these things can lead!!! Even if you don't "win" or get published, your name gets out there and people get to know you.
2. **Always** be careful about what you say and to whom you say it. During my first job out of grad school I was speaking to the administrative assistant in our department about the negative things I'd heard about Facilities, and it turns out that her husband was a supervisor in Facilities. FOOT IN MOUTH!! Also, never talk about confidential information in public places, including elevators, restaurants, and bathrooms. You never know who is behind the stall.
3. **Practical experience** in grad school is key so find a program that offers lots of opportunities for internships, practicums, etc. And diversify those experiences. While it's great to become an "expert" in a certain area, it's also great to have a variety of skills and experiences in different areas. This will help expand the number of jobs for which you are eligible.
4. **Talk** to the mentors and staff leaders at your institution, and find out how they got to where they are. I did that as an undergrad and got great tips about strong grad school programs.

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My favorite part of my job is helping to make the unknown a little less scary. As an undergraduate, I had great mentors who supported me as I adjusted to new roommates, narrowed down my (too many) academic interests, and decided to work before attending graduate school. Now that I'm on the other side, I love journeying with students as they navigate the "big questions", whether it's through choosing classes, exploring a different career path, or reflecting on community service.

Elizabeth Teurlay

Program Advisor, Brandeis University

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Bridgewater State University hosted a panel last year for students during this month to celebrate and promote CSAM.

Enjoy!

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