

JCC Connexions

Quarterly Newsletter About the *Journal of College and Character*

Vol. 2, No. 2, May 2016



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Jackson Shares “Reflections on a Life and Career in Student Affairs “

In the May 2016 issue of the *JCC*, **Michael L. Jackson**, vice president emeritus and professor of higher education at the University of Southern California, and former NASPA president, shares with readers his [“Reflections on a Life and Career in Student Affairs: Guideposts and Structure.”](#)

Michael, who is a featured focus author for the current issue of *Connexions*, also serves as executive director of USC’s International Advancement, where he explores new fundraising models while developing international collaborations that support entrepreneurial approaches to education.

Michael’s expertise in fundraising for worthy projects has been vital to USC’s mission to serve all students. For example he led fundraising efforts to generate \$10.5M in April 2010 to establish the Kortschak Center for Learning and Creativity to provide support for students with dyslexia, ADHD, and other learning differences. He also served as chief financial officer and member of the board of directors of USC’s Good Neighbors Program, a 501c3 organization designed to support programs that put children on the pathway to college, make streets safer for families, and offer activities and programs aimed at improving the health and well being of residents in the neighborhoods surrounding USC’s campuses.



Under his leadership, the student affairs division established the Office of Student Support and Advocacy and the Trojans Care for Trojans program to support students in crisis; the Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender Resource Center; Transfer and Veteran Student Programs;

(cont. on page 2)

Jackson Shares Reflections (cont. from page 1)

Fraternity and Sorority Leadership Development; the Office for Parent Programs; and the Hong Kong Parents Association.

Michael's philosophy of education underscores the crucial difference that student affairs professionals can make in the lives of students. He writes in his article:

There is no "end" when it comes to helping students who are struggling with a personal crises or self-doubt.

Sometimes that help means allowing a student to take some time away from campus to sort out problems, but the goal is to help them evolve and live a life of usefulness, purpose, prosperity, and in community with others in mutually supportive environments. There is great meaning in serving others and knowing that if you approach all persons with an open heart and mind about making a real human connection

with them, no matter how fleeting, they and you will thrive.

He admits that working in the student affairs profession means there is always another crisis that must be dealt with just "around the corner." However great joy "comes from knowing that you gave heart and soul to the task of supporting others and helping them get or stay on the right track."

His words of wisdom will also be highlighted as one of 11 articles included in an open access special collection on the topic of practical wisdom, which features such writers as **Alexander Astin and Art Chickering**. The special collection will be published in July 2016. Join the conversation about Michael's article at his blog post on the rewards and challenges of student affairs work.

John Kolligian Leads Princeton University's Student Health Service

John Kolligian strongly believes that college health programs occupy a unique niche and offer a special opportunity to improve students' lives in and beyond the classroom. As the first psychologist to lead Princeton University's student health service, he has focused on building a service that champions the interdependence of medical and mental health problems. He also knows that a dynamic university health program, like any complex system at the heart of student life, requires compassionate underpinnings and relies on evidence-informed strategies to improve care for all students, including strategic outreach to those students who might be disinclined to seek care.

For example, Princeton's health service has launched a comprehensive campus health initiative called **UMatter** aimed at empowering students, faculty, and staff to promote a healthier and safer university community. **UMatter** unites health, well-being and safety efforts across campus, allowing individuals in the university community to easily find re-

sources and learn skills to better care for themselves and others.

The initiative focuses on preventing and addressing health and safety issues common to college campuses: high-risk drinking ("limits matter"); interpersonal violence ("respect matters"); and mental health distress ("connecting matters"). It is one of several initiatives that have emerged from John's health service's continual cycles of organization-wide self-study and strategic planning. Such efforts proactively seek to devise and assess ways to realize fully both student and organizational capacities.

John received a Ph.D. in clinical psychology from Yale University, a M.B.A. from Columbia University, a M.A. in education and child study from Tufts University, and a B.A. in psychology from Stanford University. He serves on the *JCC* Editorial Review Board.



Actively caring for yourself and others.



“Selfies of Life” Provide Authors With Research on Student Values

Hsin-Yu Chen’s first-hand experience with cultural differences continues to enrich and broaden her interest in leisure studies. Her current research focus is on ways cultural values relate to the daily lives of individuals, particularly in regard to leisure participation and health implications. In addition, she is interested in issues surrounding social organization within cultures, the influence that cultural norms have upon leisure intra-culturally and cross-culturally, and ways that leisure impacts culture.



Originally from Taiwan, she came to the US to earn a master of science degree in recreation and leisure services administration at Florida State University. While in Tallahassee, she was involved in event planning and marketing at the Tallahassee Museum and the City of Tallahassee’s Parks and Recreation Department. As a doctoral candidate in recreation, park, and tourism management at Penn State, she has participated in a variety of research projects that examine college students’ rationales behind daily decisions in relation to free time use, lifestyles, out-of-class experiences, and personal development. Research in this vein has helped her to maintain a solid connection between research and practice.

A current *JCC Connexions* Focus Author, Hsin-Yu’s [article](#) (with co-authors Careen Yarnal, John T.P. Hustad, and Damon Sims) is “Take a Selfie of Life: A Qualitative Exploration of College Students’ Self-Reflections on Free Time Use and Personal Values,” which explores college students’ self-reflections on free time use and personal values. The findings suggest that leisure education may empower students with fundamental knowledge about positive and negative aspects of free time and the importance of choices, decisions, and priorities. The knowledge learned in class, coupled with a three-phase time diary project, prompted self-reflection on life choices and time management. For some students, this reflection inspired them to engage in more meaningful activities, such as volunteering and civic engagement.

Careen Yarnal is Hsin-Yu’s advisor as well as a co-author of “Take a Selfie of Life.” Careen has made a personal commitment to connect her teaching and research by exploring the relationship between college students’ use of leisure time in general, excess alcohol consumption in particular, and how using academic approaches, such as a leisure education intervention, might be of some help in addressing excess alcohol consumption among college students. Through this work, her understanding of the importance of connecting in-class learning with out-of-class experience has grown.



She co-chairs the Council on Engaged Scholarship (CoES) at Penn State, which is a university-wide effort to provide every undergraduate student with at least one engaged scholarship experience (i.e., out-of-class experience that complements in-class learning). Vice presidents from Undergraduate Education, Student Affairs, and Outreach sponsor the CoES, which has university-wide student, faculty, staff, and administrator representation. As associate professor of recreation, park, and tourism management at Penn State, her research interests include positive emotions and stress and leisure coping, play, healthy aging, and the role of leisure across the lifespan.

To engage in conversation with others about their *JCC* article, please go to their [blog post](#).

Clare Cady & JCC Ambassadors Build Online Community Highlighting Research & Practices

Meet our JCC Ambassadors, who are developing an online learning community dedicated to scholarship and practices that relate to the moral and civic development and behaviors of college students. Clare Cady, associate editor for social media, leads this group of dynamic leaders who research—and lead conversations relating to—articles and blog posts authored by JCC scholars.

Sarah Nichter

Sarah Nichter's passion is leading programs and practices that can make higher education better at what it does. Her current focus as a teacher of composition, literature, and student success skills is to help students succeed in their coursework as well as realize their goals beyond the classroom. Over the years, she has been involved in many programs whose goal is to support college students in their efforts to realize their best potential. An associate professor at Sullivan University, she is currently working on her PhD in leadership in higher education at Bellarmine University.



Sable Manson

In 2014, the University of Southern California's Center for Religion and Civic Culture and the Interreligious Council of Southern California identified **Sable Manson** as one of the Future50 Faith leaders in Los Angeles. It is easy to see why Sable is deserving of the title "faith leader"! As program director of USC's [Souljourners](#), she works with USC students who are involved in interfaith experience through co-curricular projects, initiatives, and activities, as well as weekly written reflection. She currently serves as the co-chair for research for NASPA's Spirituality and Religion in Higher Education Knowledge Community and also contributes to Patheos's blog series [Spirituality Itself](#).

Aaron Morrison

To his role as JCC Ambassador, **Aaron Morrison** brings his enthusiasm about being a scholar/practitioner of higher education, specializing in leadership development, spiritual formation among college students, history of higher education, and church/university relationships. He currently serves as residential education coordinator for the Department of Residential Education at Nebraska Wesleyan University in Lincoln, NE. Aaron earned his M.A. in higher education administration from Taylor University and a B.S. from Indiana Wesleyan University.



Kevin Wright

Kevin Wright's aspiration to be a college president is grounded in his devoted advocacy for more affordability and accessibility for students wanting to pursue a higher education degree. Kevin, a first-generation graduate student from Las Vegas, is pursuing his master's degree in student affairs administration at Lewis & Clark. He studied communication studies with a minor in sociology at Northern Arizona University. His hobbies include traveling and networking—while finding time to attend concerts and view movies.

Catherine WoodBrooks Develops Assessment of SOPHIA

Catherine WoodBrooks directs her interests and energy to contribute to the success of a range of programs at Assumption College. One such program is **SOPHIA** (Sophomore Initiative at Assumption), which began in fall 2013 and is funded in part through a grant by the Lilly Endowment. SOPHIA's mission is to foster the culture of vocational exploration at the college while enhancing the educational mission of the **Augustinians of the Assumption**, which sponsors this Catholic institution.

Designed with a balance of curricular and co-curricular components, SOPHIA draws upon the heart of an Assumptionist education, which is the rich and productive community between teacher and student. The program's mission is to foster the culture of vocational exploration at the college while guiding students to recognize that one's *vocation* lasts a lifetime.

As vice president for student affairs, Catherine is developing a formal assessment that will evaluate students' understanding of vocation and their personal discernment progress to determine what particular components of the SOPHIA program may have enhanced that understanding. The SOPHIA program consists of a rich array of opportunities

for assessment, such as retreats, reflection papers, and class discussions.

The assessment includes a rubric to evaluate students' responses to a set of prompts during different stages of the year-long program, which measures progress in students' vocational discernment. Especially useful for the assessment project are the fall and spring retreats because they represent metaphorical bookends of the SOPHIA experience.

While serving on the JCC Editorial Board, Catherine brings to the journal her focus on moral, ethical, and spiritual development as well as her rich leadership experience. A former president of the Maine College Personnel Association, she is a recipient of the NASPA Region I Regional Award for Institutional Leadership. She earned her bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of Maine and a Ph.D. from The Ohio State University.



Jon C. Dalton Institute on College Student Values

In February 2016, higher education administrators, faculty, and graduate students came together to discuss student activism and advocacy at the



Keynote Jamie Washington

26th annual Jon C. Dalton Institute on College Student Values. Keynote addresses from **George Kuh, Jamie Washington, Penny Rue, and Atira Charles** highlighted a schedule that included a panel discussion hosted by the *Character Clearinghouse*, a film screening and follow-up dialogue on John Singleton's *Higher Learning*, as well as concurrent sessions presenting research and practices relating to the conference theme.

Plans are underway for the **2017 Institute**, which will take place **February 2-4** in Tallahassee, FL. Information about next year's theme and schedule will be made available this summer. To learn more about the Dalton Institute, write to values@admin.fsu.edu or visit their website at <http://studentvalues.fsu.edu>.



"Cultivating Practical Wisdom: Senior Student Affairs and Higher Education Leaders Reflect on Their Personal Journeys in College and University Work"

A Special Collection in the Journal of College & Character

Coming in July 2016

There is an important dimension of leadership that is difficult to define or measure and so is often neglected. This facet of leadership can be called "practical wisdom" or "life learning." Practical wisdom is the expertise gained through accumulated life experiences and the knowledge and insights derived from personal reflection on these experiences. Practical wisdom is important in leadership roles because it combines both dimensions of sound knowledge and good judgment.

This special collection of the *Journal of College and Character* focuses on the practical wisdom of eleven senior student affairs and higher education leaders. In these articles the authors reflect on their leadership journeys and share their practical wisdom gleaned from the values, experiences, and insights of a lifetime of work in higher education offer reflections and stories on the values, experiences, and insights that guided them and gave them the most meaning and fulfillment.

- "Reflections on a Life and a Career in Student Affairs," Michael Jackson
- "Trustworthy Leadership," Diana C. Walsh
- "Spirituality and Leadership," Susan Komives
- "From Here to Clare: Yearnings of a Scholar-Turned-Dad," Carney Strange
- "Learning to Lead, Learning to Love: A Personal Journey Toward Wholeness," Shirley H. Showalter
- "Authenticity and Spirituality in Higher Education: My Orientation," Arthur W. Chickering
- "Pilgrimage to My Roots: Exploring Student Affairs and Spirituality in Ireland," Margaret Jablonski
- "Some Personal Reflections After 42 Years in Student Affairs," Arthur Sandeen
- "You Can't Rock the Boat if You're Rowing It: And Other Observations About Life as a Student Affairs Administrator," Gregory S. Blimling
- "A Daufuskie Island Lad in an Academic Community: An Extraordinary Journey of Personal Transformation," J. Herman Blake & Ervin R. Simmons

Don't Miss It! Associate Editor for Social Media Clare Cady writes about [food insecurity of college students](#) in the *Chronicle of Higher Education*.

Character Clearinghouse Update: Read What's New in CC

Spring 2016 Resource Highlights

- [Study Abroad](#) as a Character Development Opportunity
- [Michelle Sterk Barrett](#), Dalton 2016 Dissertation of the Year
- [Luckyday Scholars](#) Program, Dalton 2016 Good Practice Award
- Program Highlight: [Multicultural Leadership Summit](#)
- Rev. Dr. [Jamie Washington](#) Interview



The #DaltonSpotlight's Recent Posts

- [Tulane University's Lavin-Bernick Center](#)
- [Noles Professional Institute](#)

Find out how you can [submit your program](#) to be included in the #DaltonSpotlight



For more information about these publications, email Pam Crosby, co-editor, at jcc@naspa.org

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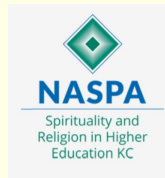
NASPA – Student Affairs
Administrators in
Higher Education

Spirituality, Secular, & Religious News in Student Affairs and Higher Education

Spirituality & Religion in Higher Education Knowledge Community

As individuals prepare their exciting workshops, interactive symposia, and research papers for the 2017 NASPA: Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education Annual Conference, the Spirituality and Religion in Higher Education Knowledge Community (SRHE KC) would like to encourage everyone to consider KC sponsorship when submitting a proposal application. Each year, SRHE KC sponsors three sessions that engage issues related to religion, secularism, spirituality, and meaning-making in higher education. For example, at the NASPA conference last March in Indianapolis our sponsored sessions included “Addressing Challenges Related to Religious Dialogue on Campus,” “Navigating Conflicts Related to Religious Identity & Diversity on Campus,” and “What Chaplains and Student Affairs Professionals Can Learn from Each Other.” SRHE KC strives to select a diversity of programs for sponsorship so they encourage persons to consider previously sponsored sessions when completing their applications.

To learn more about the SRHE KC, visit their [blog](#), [Twitter](#), and [Facebook](#) pages.



Expert in Residence for Religious, Secular and Spiritual Initiatives

The recent [blog post](#) “Exploring Old Definitions With New Lenses” by **Cody Nielsen**, NASPA’s expert in residence for religious, secular, and spiritual initiatives, discusses the importance of words and their definitions, particularly, the meaning of such terms as *religious*, *secular*, *spiritual*, *atheist*, *humanist*, and *non-theist* as they relate to young people and their experiences in the higher education setting.



For a fascinating discussion on this topic and the role of humanism and its increasing attraction to college students, listen to the [dialogue](#) between Cody and **Chris Stedman**, humanist chaplain at Yale, and one of the leading voices in the humanist community in the United States. They discuss what it means to be humanist in the US and on our campuses. See other contributions by Cody: [“Islam in America and on our Campuses: Reducing Stigma, Increasing Support”](#) and [“Should It Be in the Classroom? Religious, Secular, and Spiritual Values.”](#)

Journal of College and Character

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Michael L. Jackson

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“Take a Selfie of Life: A Qualitative Exploration of College Students’ Self-Reflections on Free Time Use & Personal Values”

Hsin-Yu Chen, Careen Yarnal, John T. P. Hustad and Damon Sims

“An Examination of University Student-Athletes’ Motivations to Contribute”

Colin Jeffery Deal and Martin Camiré

“The Boys Club: Borrowing a Feminist Lens to Critique Men-Only Groups in the Fight Against Gender Oppression”

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Reviewed by David Eberhardt

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