

News Release

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Stacy Ackerlind honored for commitment to assessment

Awarded Mid-Level Student Affairs Professional Award from NASPA

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Each year, NASPA - Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education, recognizes members who are doing outstanding work in the student affairs profession. Stacy Ackerlind, special assistant to the Vice President of Student Affairs at the University of Utah, was selected as the recipient of the 2014 NASPA Mid-Level Student Affairs Professional Award.

This national award recognizes individuals who demonstrate an outstanding commitment to the student affairs profession by creating environments that promote student learning and personal development. Ackerlind was hired at the University of Utah in 2006 as the Student Affairs Director of Assessment, Evaluation and Research. Her colleagues are amazed by how she has implemented so many innovations since then.

She started what she called Assessment Coffee Hours, where staff could meet, share ideas and present information. Later she developed a program called Action Coalitions where small groups of students and student affairs professionals review all the data collected on a campus around a common topic. Then, the group makes recommendations stemming from the analysis. The Action Coalitions have taken on the topics of diversity, health and wellness, and student programming.

Her work has also reflected well on the university. During last year's university-wide accreditation, assessment within the Division of Student Affairs was singled out as an area of excellence for the university.

“Stacy is a fantastic colleague, a caring and concerned professional and a true advocate for students,” says Kari Ellingson, assistant vice president for Student Development.

Ackerlind and the other National Award winners will be honored in March at the 2014 NASPA Annual Conference in Baltimore, Md.

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