



**Jason Pina, 2019 Conference Chair**  
**Board of Directors Report**  
**Winter 2018**

The Conference Leadership Committee has been hard at work planning the 2019 NASPA Annual Conference. The CLC met at the NASPA headquarters in early October 2018 to select programs for the 2019 event.

1529 total proposals were submitted for review. The acceptance rate for concurrent sessions this year was 44%. Regarding acceptances:

- Pre-conference Workshops: 19 Full Day, 35 Half Days
- General Interest Concurrent Session Accepts: 472
- KC, Division, and Group Sponsored Programs Accepts: 177
- Scholarly Papers Accepts: 35
- Poster Session Accepts: 29
- SA Speaks Accepts: 12

For the 2019 NASPA Annual Conference, Innovative Programming is taking a new approach. This year, Innovative Programs will focus on three main themes:

- Afrofuturism and Black Excellence in Student Affairs
- Centering Indigenous Communities in Higher Education
- Gen Z, Student Isolation, Mental Health, and Wellness on Campus

The Innovative Programs track will allow teams to apply to participate in a culminating showcase competition, wherein participants will utilize lessons learned from nine breakout sessions within the track (3 sessions per theme) to tackle a problem facing higher education. Teams will compete against one another as well as a team of invited Senior Student Affairs Officers in an attempt to “Beat the Bosses.”

The opening reception will take place outside at the Microsoft Theater Square and Chick Hearn Court with a theme of LA Neighborhoods. The Local Arrangements Committee is working hard to give participants a flavor of LA and the surrounding neighborhoods to share that LA is more than just Hollywood.

Featured speakers for the 2019 NASPA Annual Conference include:

- Kal Penn, Actor and former White House Staffer
- Amanda Nguyen, Founder of RISE and sexual violence prevention activist

- Janet Napolitano, President of the University of California
- Shaun Harper, Clifford and Betty Allen Chair in Urban Leadership, Provost Professor, [Rossier School of Education](#) and [Marshall School of Business](#), Founder and Executive Director, [USC Race and Equity Center](#), University of Southern California

This year, the conference will include the traditional NASPA Leadership Dinner which will be held at the Grammy Museum as one of the last opportunities to celebrate the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Association with current and past NASPA leaders.

The 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Association will also be well-represented during the event. With several educational sessions, a walk of stars, various displays from each of the seven regions, and an interactive “family tree” connections experience, the 2019 NASPA Annual Conference will be a fitting tribute to the end of the year-long celebration.

We are also trying something different this year for the lounges for the event. We will have a large engagement lounge and a “NASPA Commons” area that will allow for a place for individuals to meet, engage, and learn about NASPA. The Foundation Booth and the NASPA Bookstore will be located in this space as well. We hope to engage the nearly 1/3 of the conference who are first-time attendees.