



Lori S. White
NASPA Board Chair
Report for the December 2016 Board of Directors Meeting
November 28, 2016

NASPA Board Action Items

Action Item: Seeking a Board motion to approve the Commission on Equity and Inclusion transition to a Division, with the following charge:

Proposed Equity, Inclusion, & Social Justice Division

The Equity, Inclusion, and Social Justice Division works to raise the visibility of issues related to diversity, equity, inclusion, and social justice within the Association and the student affairs profession. The Division provides direction, practical strategies, and input on NASPA professional development opportunities that encourage NASPA members' commitment to, and advancement of, those principles. The Equity, Inclusion, and Social Justice Division (EISJ-D) includes representatives from each of NASPA's identity-based knowledge communities. Together, these representatives work closely with NASPA staff to provide timely, comprehensive expertise to members on social justice and equity issues occurring at the international, national, state, and local levels. The EISJ-D would also help coordinate the NASPActs events at the NASPA Annual Conference and the Association climate survey.

Leadership & Member Engagement

NASPA SERVE Academy: The NASPA SERVE (Supporting, Expanding, and Recruiting Volunteer Excellence) Academy launched officially in September with the selection and orientation of 15 individuals for the inaugural SERVE Academy cohort (46 applied). Those individuals selected for the first SERVE cohort can be found on the NASPA website: <https://www.naspa.org/about/blog/naspas-serve-academy-hits-the-ground-running>

Professional Development & Events

I served as the keynote speaker for the NASPA Western Regional conference in November in Seattle, and co-keynoted the closing session with Kevin Kruger for the first ever joint Region IV-E/IV-W conference in St. Louis, also in November. While at the joint Region IV-E/IV-W joint conference I also

had the chance to participate in the VPSA/AVP institute; the WUSA reception; and the SALT/NUFP Institute.

Additionally, I had the chance to serve as a delegate for the Global Summit, an international student affairs conference held every other year. The 2016 Global Summit was held in South Africa. As part of the Summit, I chaired a panel of students from various countries discussing their respective student experiences and their perspectives on a variety of issues, including student activism.

Optional Other Reports - Advocacy & Scholarship (*not required*)

NASPA Foundation Board Chair, Gene Zdziarski, and I charged a group (comprised of representatives from the Foundation Board and the NASPA Board) to explore the possibility of developing an innovation grant program through the Foundation Board. The committee (*committee members are listed below*) approved the innovation grant program concept and developed a framework for the grant program. The innovation grant program will launch this spring and be initially funded by NASPA. The Foundation Board will consider assuming funding for the program in future years. *The final Innovation Grants description is attached.*

Those serving on this committee included:

Foundation Board Representatives

- Stan Carpenter
- Maggie de la Teja
- Gage Paine

NASPA Board Representatives

- Anthony DeSantis
- Pauline Dobrowski
- Anna Gonzalez

The committee was charged with the following:

Two of the NASPA Guiding Principles include *Inquiry* (supporting research and scholarship to add to the knowledge base of the profession and ensure that data informs practice) and *Innovation* (continuously seeking improvement through new and creative approaches). The NASPA Foundation Board has historically provided research grant opportunities in support of the *Inquiry* principle. Traditionally, the majority of these grants have been awarded, perhaps appropriately so, to individuals (often faculty members and doctoral students) engaged in formal research projects. However, many NASPA members are primarily practitioners. While practitioners value the creation of new knowledge grounded in theory and research to gird their practice, practitioners may also welcome the opportunity to pilot new ideas for rapid implementation in response to emerging campus challenges and issues. How might the Foundation Board also provide support for NASPA's *Innovation* principle? As the NASPA Foundation Board engages in discussion regarding the focus of the work of the foundation, the respective chairs of the NASPA Board and Foundation Board are appointing a committee to explore the possibility of

developing an *Innovation Grant* program through the NASPA Foundation. Such grants would provide seed monies to support the development of an innovative practice or program.

In exploring this idea, the committee should consider the following questions:

- What might an innovation grant program through the NASPA Foundation look like (how would innovation be defined; what amount of money might potentially be awarded; what would an innovation grant proposal look like; what would be the deliverables)? There is at least one Foundation (Lumina) that provides innovation grants and there may be other organizations to look to as models for developing a NASPA Foundation Innovation Grant proposal.
- The NASPA Foundation seeks to generate financial support from the NASPA membership in support of the NASPA Foundation mission, would an innovation grant program align with the NASPA Foundation mission and how might the NASPA membership respond to their donations being used for an innovation grant program?
- What are the challenges and opportunities for a development of a NASPA Foundation Grant program?