



2017 Conference Leadership Committee Report  
March 2017 Board of Directors Meeting  
Submitted by Nancy P. Crimmin, Conference Chair

*Data current as of February 9, 2017*

## NASPA Board Action Items

None at this time

## Leadership & Member Engagement

Registration Data as of February 8, 2017: 5506; 5809 with Exhibitors

Pre-Con Registration Total: 1568

Largest Percentages of Registrants:

35%	Mid Levels
19%	Senior Level
17%	New Professionals
14%	Graduate Students

## Professional Development & Events

### **New Featured Speaker Confirmed:**

Julián Castro - Mayor of San Antonio (2009-2014), Secretary of Housing and Urban Development under President Obama (2014-2017), and in 2012 he was the first Hispanic to deliver the keynote address at the Democratic National Convention in Charlotte, North Carolina. He was once considered a possible running mate for Hillary Clinton. His twin brother, Joaquin Castro currently serves in the House of Representatives.

### **#NASPActs:**

The Commission for Equity & Inclusion have taken the lead in the #NASPActs activities for the Annual Conference. A Candlelight Walk is planned for Tuesday evening using the distinct symbolism of light as a theme for the event – illuminating important issues such as: legal issues and challenges such as SB6; those who have lost their lives in tragedies such as the Pulse Nightclub shooting; racial and ethnic bias and violence; student activism; and gender identity based violence.

### **Film screening, *Loving***

In addition to having Ken Tanabe (Founder of Loving Day) as a featured speaker, we have received permission for a showing of the film, *Loving*: a 2016 film which tells the story of Richard and Mildred Loving, the plaintiffs in the 1967 U.S. Supreme Court decision *Loving v. Virginia*, which invalidated state laws prohibiting interracial marriage. The Multiracial KC will facilitate this event.

### **Blessing of the Lands**

With respect to the Indigenous Peoples Recognition Protocol, Isaac Alvarez Cardenas will join us at the Opening Session. Isaac is the director of programs at the American Indians in Texas at the Spanish Colonial Missions. He will lead us in acknowledging and appreciating the history, families, and territory where we meeting in San Antonio.

### **Extended Learning Sessions – Salvador Mena, Subcommittee Chair**

The Tuesday extended session is part of a day-long experience that will be packaged and marketed to include three related program sessions, featured speaker, and poster session. Panelists for both sessions are still being confirmed.

- Session I: Monday, 2:30-4:30pm - *Taking Care of the Activist in You*  
Abstract: More than ever before student affairs professionals are being challenged with striking a balance between their personal commitments to addressing social justice issues and serving as institutional agents. The tension between being a social activist and a college administrator is one that can lead to dissonance for student affairs practitioners trying to establish their personal and professional identities, especially for newer professionals. The recent presidential election and continuing racial tensions across the country have further highlighted the unique challenges faced by student affairs professionals as they strive to be responsive to students, their institutions, and to addressing issues of inequality in society. This program session will provide a space to explore this tension and identify ways to “take care of the activist in you.”
- Session II: Tuesday, 2:30-4:30pm - *Forging a Collaborative Path for Inclusion and Change in Higher Education: Responding to Student Activism in an Era of Heighten Uncertainty*  
Abstract: The current landscape for diversity, and inclusion in higher education, calls for collaborative partnerships to enhance the student experience and help foster environments of inclusion for students, faculty, and staff. The last several years have ushered in a new era of social activism on campuses throughout the country raising the stakes for how colleges and universities respond to the needs of historically marginalized communities while preserving learning environments where the free exchange of ideas can occur without censorship. The outcomes of the recent national elections have contributed to a heightened state of uncertainty for institutions of higher education. This daylong program and two-hour extended session will provide institutional leaders with the opportunity to examine critically the state-of-diversity and inclusion in higher education, and to identify strategic collaborative approaches for addressing current and emerging challenges.

### **Subcommittee Reports:**

#### **Local Arrangements – Jan McKinney**

- Community Service Experience planned for the San Antonio Food Bank
  - An incredible facility featuring full warehouse and gardens
- Wellness Activities include daily runs, exercise classes and exhibit hall sessions
  - Exhibit Hall sessions run from 11am – 2pm on Monday and Tuesday and feature Biofeedback, breathing exercises, workplace stretching and destressing with companion animals

- Dogs and their handlers from Delta Pet Partners of San Antonio will be our special guests to allow conference attendees to pet the animals and to speak about the wellness benefits of positive human/animal interactions.
- Opening Reception will be NASPA in Old San Antonio modeled after the historic NIOSA or Night in Old San Antonio
  - NIOSA focuses on vibrant entertainment and colorful décor
  - Entertainment includes a DJ, acoustic guitarist, 80's/90's party band on the main stage a walking drumline dance troupe, and an all-female mariachi group.
  - Each entertainment performance will be in the various rooms of Sunset Station to allow an atmosphere for everyone ranging from relaxing quiet corners to the loud and boisterous main stage.
  - We encourage participants to bring medals, buttons, lapel pins from their institutions to trade and wear on sashes or lanyards. The trading of medals and buttons is a Fiesta-San Antonio tradition.
  - We encourage participants to wear colors traditionally associated with San Antonio festivals: Bright Red, Lime Green, Orange, Turquoise, Fuchsia, and Purple
  - The Local Arrangements team will be working diligently to provide extensive context to the celebration ahead of time so that participants understand that it is reflective of multiple backgrounds and intersecting identities. A hallmark of Fiesta San Antonio is the expression of individuality.
  - The celebration will not include stereotyped versions of local culture but instead will focus on the celebratory atmosphere in San Antonio.
  - For context to the selection: Fiesta San Antonio is a two-week festival of events and parades that has an economic impact of 284 million. In its 125<sup>th</sup> year, the entire proceeds of Fiesta San Antonio events go to non-profit organizations. Hence, the phrase *Party with a Purpose*.
- Army and Air Force ROTC from The University of Texas at San Antonio will provide a presentation of the colors at the Opening Session
- The Hospitality team has gathered information on happy hours, things to do, San Antonio on a budget, restaurants and family activities and are will be staffing a hospitality desk in the Convention Center.
- Team members are preparing information on Accessibility to assist participants in navigating the Riverwalk area. They are planning an accessibility orientation on Sunday.

#### **Engagement – Jennifer Jones & Ricardo Salazar**

- Start heavy recruiting process for on-site volunteers via Volunteer Central
- Submitting blogs on various pre-conference engagement opportunities, including:
  - Institutional Wordles to be used during the opening ceremony.
  - Route 99, wearing school gear to and from the annual conference.
  - Social media challenges.
- Tuesday night event, the NASPA March Madness Lip Sync Contest/Dance Party

#### **Innovation Programming – Eric Grospitch**

- SA Ignite has been scheduled with six speakers. These speakers will have 8-10 minutes to address their topic in one of two sessions. Each session will host three speakers, with the remainder of the sessions being breakouts of the individual topics. This is a new approach this year, and we are hopeful that it will have the bang of SA Speaks, with the connection of a roundtable.

- Registration for the Dissertation Tank has been launched to fill a two-hour block on Tuesday afternoon. During this time, selected doctoral students will be able to talk with a panel of faculty members about their research ideas and get honest feedback. Again, this is a new approach to a program session and am hopeful that it will prove fruitful for participants. We have a team of five faculty members that are giving of their time to make this work.

### SA Speaks – Ann Marie Klotz

- All 15 SA Speaks presenters receive a monthly email with updates and tips from our committee. Each presenter also has a coach to work with to help them with slides and preparing for their talk.
- Every Tuesday and Thursday a new promotional piece goes out on social media advertising a different SA Speaks presenter/topic.
- We have determined three separate tech run-through times and presenters may attend any of those sessions to get a feel for the stage.
- We have created a postcard/ flyer for each of the three sessions that lists the speakers, their social media info, institution, title, and topic. Every attendee will get a copy of this when they come to the session.
- We reviewed the room layout and sponsorship budget with Jill.
- We are currently deciding the emcee format for the event.

#### Monday afternoon:

Teri Bump  
Will Simpkins  
Juan Guardia  
Laci Adams  
Alejandro Covarriubias

#### Tuesday morning:

Romando Nash  
Chelsea Fullerton  
Laura DeVeau  
Juhi Bhatt  
Ana Rosetti

#### Tuesday afternoon:

Tom Krieglstein  
Sonja Ardoin  
David Jones  
Annmarie Vaccaro  
Laura Pasquini

### Scholarly Paper Sessions/Faculty Sessions – Tracy Tambascia

- The final count for Scholarly Papers is 29, which will be scheduled among 11 sessions. We are close to finalizing the faculty discussants who will be facilitating presentations and Q & A at each session.
- The Faculty Institute will give time and space for faculty participants to engage in discussion with peers about how we can best manage difficult discussions in our classes, and how to support and mentor a new generation of professionals who may face not only student activism but also personal conflict with their own roles with supporting university goals and student needs.
- The Institute will start with a panel of 2 to 3 speakers, who will help frame the discussion. Participants will then break out into smaller groups at their tables for facilitated discussion. Questions that may guide conversation include:
  1. *What are some **strategies we can engage to enhance the diversity of students in our academic programs?***
  2. *How do we **identify new professionals for leadership positions and volunteer opportunities in our region?***
  3. *What are current practices that **privilege particular ways of thinking and decision-making in our academic program and in our field;** what are some ideas for ensuring inclusivity of diverse voices and perspectives?*
  4. *How can our **work as faculty reflect the values embodied in NASPA's proposed statement of commitment to equity, inclusion, and social justice?** (we would need to share this proposed statement)*

### **Case Study Competition at the Annual Conference**

- Registration is now open for first and second year teams. The deadline to enroll teams is Feb 24.
- Goal is to sign up 14 teams, with plans for them to compete on Sunday and Monday at the national conference.

### **VPSA Initiatives – Mary Jo Gonzales and James Stascavage**

The following initiatives are slated for VPSAs at the Annual Conference:

- **VPSA Lounge** - VPSAs (and the equivalent) are welcome to visit the VPSA Lounge to gather with colleagues, share information, or just relax. The Lounge will be open during the following times:
  - Saturday, March 11, 12:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
  - Sunday, March 12, 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.
  - Monday, March 13, 7:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.
  - Tuesday, March 14, 7:30 a.m. – 3:30 pm.
- **VPSA Colleague Conversations**  
On Monday and Tuesday, VPSAs will have the chance to engage informally with one another through facilitated discussions in the VPSA Lounge on specific topics:
  - Monday, March 13, 10:30 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.: Student Unrest on Campus (Facilitated by Kevin G. Shollenberger, Johns Hopkins University and TBN partner)
  - Tuesday, March 14, 10:30 a.m. – 11:45 a.m.: Enrollment Management (Facilitated by Ellen Neufeld, Old Dominion University and Mark Allen Poisel, Augusta University)
  - Tuesday, March 14, 2:00 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.: Presidential Transitions (Facilitated by Peggy Jablonski, Bridgewater State University; Barbara LoMonaco, Salve Regina University; Jason Pina, Ohio University; and Tom Shandley, Davidson College)
- **Exploring the Presidency (pre-conference workshop)**  
Saturday, March 11, 1:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.  
Exploring the Presidency will bring together executive search experts, sitting college presidents, and VPSAs who aspire to (or are undecided about) the presidency for some informative and frank discussion about what it takes to become and how to be successful as the campus CEO. Presenters include:
- **NASPA Vice Presidents for Student Affairs Institute**  
Sunday, March 12, 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.  
During this pre-conference workshop, vice presidents for student affairs (or the equivalent) will participate in interactive sessions focused on the changing higher education environment, innovations in the careers enterprise on campus, effective relationships with governing bodies, and the dramatic increase of student unrest on college campuses. Guest speakers and guided open discussions will allow participants to discuss high-level topics with colleagues who are managing similar issues on their campuses.
- **Navigating the NASPA Annual Conference as a VPSA**  
Sunday, March 12, 4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.  
Are you a VPSA who is attending the NASPA Annual Conference for the first time or a seasoned attendee who is attending for the first time as a VPSA? If so, attend this informal session designed to help you get the most out of your conference experience. Facilitators: Pauline Dobrowski, Stonehill College and Levester Johnson, Illinois State University
- **Penn GSE-NASPA Institute for Higher Education's Future Cohort Meeting**  
Monday, March 13, 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.  
Grand Hyatt, Crockett D  
The inaugural cohort of this new NASPA initiative will convene during the conference.

- **2016 NASPA Institute for New VPSAs Follow-Up Session (by invitation only)**  
Monday, March 13, 10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.  
Marriott Riverwalk, Alamo Ballroom Salon F
- **LGBT SSAOs Networking Meeting (VPSAs and AVPs only)**  
Monday, March 13, 1:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.  
Grand Hyatt, Bonham D
- **Institutional Type VPSA Roundtables**  
Monday, March 13, 3:30 p.m. – 4:45 p.m.  
Student unrest, increased racial tensions, FLSA challenges, heightened public scrutiny and accountability – the list goes on and on. Join fellow VPSAs from similar type institutions to discuss the latest student trends and problem-solve with your peers. These discussions will be framed by the data from the latest NASPA VPSA Census and facilitated by a colleague who will help keep the conversations focused. After the roundtable, continue the conversations during an Annual Conference tradition: the VPSA and Voting Delegate Reception, which immediately follows.
- **VPSA and Voting Delegate Reception**  
Monday, March 13, 4:45 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.
- **Institute for New VPSAs Reunion**  
Monday, March 13, 8:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.  
NASPA welcomes all past participants of the Institute for New VPSAs/CSAOs/SSAOs to join us for this reception and get re-connected with your institute cohort and institute faculty.

**Virtual Ticket – Scott Peska**

- 79 programs selected for the Virtual Ticket.
- Registration is live, 388 registered

**Knowledge Community Involvement:**

We have engaged the leadership of the Veteran's, Undocumented Students, Indigenous People, Gender and Sexuality, Multiracial, and all the identity based KCs in various aspects of the conference planning process.