

**2014 NASPA Annual CONFERENCE  
PLANNING COMMITTEE**



The 2014 NASPA Conference Planning Committee has met and had several telephone conversations under the leadership of Laura Wankel (NASPA Board of Directors Chair) and Frank Lamas (Conference Chairperson) and NASPA Executive staff. We have appointed the steering committee with a few more additions to come, (attached). Per recent Board approval, the committee structure and model for this year has changed. We are working closely with Arlene Kidwell, Stephanie Gordon, Kevin Kruger and Jennifer Vaseleck as well as other NASPA staff. The Committee is focused on the big picture with NASPA staff intricately involved in execution of the logistics. This is our first attempt to separate out what's most appropriate for committee involvement and where to let talented NASPA staff lead. Our fall 2012 meeting in Baltimore, Maryland was cancelled due to Hurricane Sandy, but met on June 14-16, 2013 in Baltimore and October 4-6, 2013 in Washington, DC.

The theme for the conference is Lead Innovate Transform. We are taking a fresh, innovative approach to the NASPA Annual Conference that will hopefully surpass your expectations for a professional development experience. By harnessing the tremendous advances that have taken place in higher education over the past five years and super-charging with the latest technological innovations, we will shatter the previous models and transform the conference educational experience. We will debut new, highly interactive, session formats that use: TED Talk "like" video presentations, collaborative learning labs, and crowd-sourced educational sessions to amplify interactivity and learning!

The 2014 NASPA Annual Conference theme addresses these challenges by inviting individual and collective exploration of how student affairs professionals will lead, innovate, transform and define learning, and examine the nature of our work as we move rapidly into the next phase of higher education. The 2014 Conference Leadership Committee is seeking innovative and engaging program proposals on the following topics:

- Accountability
- Changing Demographics
- Citizenship & Civility
- Learning and Community in a Digital Age
- Public Policy & Advocacy
- Student Success & Persistence
- Student Affairs Profession

The new model for the committee is working well and NASPA office staff have been wonderful to work with. Special kudos to Stephanie, Kevin, Arlene, and Jen our wonderful NASPA teammates. A few of our recent accomplishments include:

- A new conference website with lots of “wowzy wowzy” debuted in June, 2013 which I believe is the slickest conference website to date.
- Conference registrations for 2014 to date are 1016 and hotels are booking on pace for large numbers in Baltimore.
- A record number, 1,500 programs were submitted and reviewed. Approximately 450 selected.
- We have toured the convention center and local Baltimore area and we have a spectacular location with wonderful hotels all nestled in the Baltimore Harbor area.
- The General Session and keynote speakers were confirmed: Wes Moore, Writer, *“The Other Wes Moore,”* will be the opening speaker. Closing the conference will be Jon Lovett, former speech writer for President Obama. The remaining speakers for Monday and Tuesday will be Freeman Hrabowski, President, University of Maryland-Baltimore County; George Siemens, Founding Member and President, Society for Learning Analytics Research; a Panel on the Future of Student Affairs Graduate Preparation Programs moderated by Larry Roper, Vice Provost for Student Affairs at Oregon State University and Pat Whitely, Vice President for Student Affairs at University of Miami; Louis Soares, Vice President for Policy, Research, and Strategy; Debra Humphreys, Vice President for Policy and Engagement, AAC&U; and Elisabeth Mason, Founder and CEO, SingleStopUSA.
- In June 2013, we had a very successful meeting with a variety of Vice Presidents for Student Affairs from the Baltimore region to get them involved and engaged.
- Our local arrangements committee is up and running with many creative ideas. The committee has structured low cost dining, entertainment options for all but particularly for our graduate students and young professionals.
- On October 4-6<sup>th</sup>, 2013 our committee convened in Washington DC at NASPA office. We added four new members to the committee Jen Day Shaw University of Florida, Eric Gropitch, University of Missouri-Kansas City, Kathy Guthrie, Florida State University and Shamika Johnson, Miami University of Ohio, to assist with program reviews, SA Speaks, Innovation Labs, and Member Choice sessions, as well as a variety of other details to get ready for March.
- In lieu of a traditional opening reception that immediately follows the opening session, we have confirmed Power Plant Live for an “Opening Celebration.” The celebration will begin at 9:00 p.m. until 12:00 midnight. This should provide a more exciting first night with a variety of music and food options available to our members.
- The opening session is also being refreshed for 2014.
- We have solicited program presenters for senior track and all conference theme areas to fill any gaps in our program.
- Members of the planning team will make use of social media (Facebook, Twitter, blogging) to promote interest, engage members and generate involvement.

- We are also investigating the possibility of technology to broadcast selected segments of the conference back home.

	2014	2013	2012	2011
Location	Baltimore, MD	Orlando, FL	Phoenix, AZ	Philadelphia, PA
Conference Registrants	1016	1233	907	980
Positions	28	43	30	29
Standard Tables	69	73	65	60
Premium Tables	13	13	9	6
Candidates	119	106	85	114
	<i>As of November 6, 2013</i>	<i>On or About 11/6/12</i>	<i>On or About 11/6/11</i>	<i>On or About 11/6/10</i>

We look forward to seeing you and your colleagues in Baltimore. We need your energy to synthesize the 2014 NASPA Annual Conference into an unprecedented and exceptional experience!

We are all very excited to be a part of planning the 2014 conference! Hopefully, weather will be nice in March 2014; what a great city for our experience!