

News Release

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NASPA[®]

Student Affairs Administrators
in Higher Education

NASPA Foundation announces the 2016 Pillars of the Profession

Awards honor outstanding members of student affairs community

WASHINGTON, D.C. —The NASPA Foundation is pleased to recognize outstanding members of the student affairs and higher education community through the Pillars of the Profession. The Pillars award is designed to honor individuals who have served as teachers, leaders, and scholars in the field who:

- Sustained professional distinction in the higher education field, as defined by donors and supporters;
- Served in leadership roles in NASPA, either regionally or nationally;
- Are recognized or remembered by colleagues, friends, students, or student organizations for extraordinary service; and
- Have made significant lifetime contributions to the higher education field.

“The women and men being recognized are true pillars upon whose work many have benefited,” says Foundation Board Chair Frank Ardaiolo from Winthrop University. “They have all served above and beyond in the growing global world of student affairs and higher education.”

The NASPA Foundation Board of Directors is honored to designate each of the following as a 2016 Pillar of the Profession:

- Peggy Burke, Associate Vice President for Student Development, DePaul University
- Les Cook, Vice President for Student Affairs and Advancement, Michigan Technological University
- Jody Donovan, Assistant Vice President for Student Affairs/Dean of Students, Colorado State University
- Berenecea Johnson Eanes, Vice President for Student Affairs, California State University Fullerton
- Lisa Erwin, Vice Chancellor for Student Life and Dean of Students, University of Minnesota Duluth
- Charles Fey, Vice President for Academic Support and Student Affairs, New Jersey Institute of Technology
- Lori Ideta, Interim Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs, University of Hawaii at Manoa
- Ken Kelly, Interim Executive Director of Housing, Residential Life, and Auxiliary, California State University, Long Beach

- Tisa Mason, President, Valley City State University
Anna Ortiz, Professor, California State University, Long Beach
- Bridgette O. Pregliasco, Assistant Professor, University of Louisville
- Greg Sawyer, Vice President for Student Affairs, California State University, Channel Islands
- Marc Wais, Senior Vice President for Student Affairs, New York University
- Richard Walker, Vice Chancellor/Vice President for Student Affairs and Enrollment Services, University of Houston

In addition to the Pillars of the Profession, the Foundation also awards the John L. Blackburn Distinguished Pillar award. This award is the NASPA Foundation's highest honor and awarded in conjunction with the Pillars of the Profession. The award honors a previous Pillar of the Profession who has continued to contribute the field. For 2016, the Foundation recognizes:

- David Ambler, Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs Emeritus, University of Kansas
- Judith Chambers, Special Assistant to the Vice President, University of the Pacific

This new class of Pillars will be honored at the 2016 NASPA Annual Conference in Indianapolis, Ind. As part of the Pillars program, the NASPA Foundation accepts gifts in the name of each honoree. These gifts come back to the student affairs profession as scholarships, research grants and awards.

Please help us celebrate the 2016 Pillars with a donation in his or her honor to the NASPA Foundation. Your gifts ensure the advancement, health, and sustainability of the student affairs profession and help answer the challenges we face as educators. You may donate [online](#) and learn more about the Foundation's Pillar class [online](#).

Note to media: All winners have been notified, so feel free to reach out to them directly. They will be officially honored by the Foundation during the 2016 NASPA Annual Conference March 12-16 in Indianapolis, Ind.

NASPA is the leading association for the advancement, health, and sustainability of the student affairs profession. Our work provides high-quality professional development, advocacy, and research for 15,000 members in all 50 states, 25 countries, and 8 U.S. territories.