

News Release

For Release: March 26, 2014

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Beyond the Americans with Disabilities Act book released *NASPA publishes primer and guide on ADA for student affairs professionals*

WASHINGTON, D.C. — NASPA - Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education published its latest book “Beyond the Americans with Disabilities Act: Inclusive Policy and Practice for Higher Education” March 17, 2014. Edited by Mary Lee Vance, Neal Lipsitz, and Kaela Parks, the book is an excellent primer and quick reference guide for higher education professionals who work with students with disabilities, both apparent and hidden.

“The time is long overdue to change how we go about accommodating students with disabilities. We have an ethical responsibility to go beyond the ADA,” says Mary Lee Vance, lead editor of the book. “Student affairs personnel must be current with the legal impact of the recent changes to the ADA. Failure to interpret accurately the intent of the law could result in lost federal support to the institution. In brief, there are four words that best sum up moving beyond the ADA, ethics, collaboration and Universal Design. To think and act beyond the ADA is to strive to do what is ethical. To do this, collaboration is key. And, Universal Design can help get us there.”

With recent legislative and regulatory revisions to the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, student affairs professionals must understand the new rules in order to facilitate success for students with disabilities. Colleges and universities must go beyond meeting the minimum requirements of the law in order to create educational environments that achieve universal access and full inclusion.

Since the ADA was enacted, there have been clarifications on the interpretation of the law, as well as a reauthorization act. In particular, the rules governing who is an individual with a disability and what forms of accommodation should be provided to these individuals have undergone profound updates. Student affairs professionals must stay current with the legal impact of these changes as the ADA concerns numerous aspects of student affairs, including technology, housing and residence life, career services, student activities, counseling, study abroad opportunities, student conduct and more.

The book is available on the [NASPA website](http://www.naspa.org) and retails for \$39.95. Available in print, eBook and PDF - anyone having problems accessing any version of this text should directly contact Melissa Dahne, NASPA Senior Director of Publication, MDahne@naspa.org.

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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 13,000 members in all 50 states, 25 countries, and 8 U.S. territories.