



NASPA™

Public Policy Division

Penny Rue

Public Policy Division Chair

Report for the July 2015 Board of Directors Meeting

June 25, 2015

NASPA Board Action Items

None at this time

Leadership & Member Engagement

- Helped select incoming KC Representative, At-large member, Region I and Region III representatives in alignment with PPD agenda, discussed the opportunity with candidates and promoted vacancy to PPD contacts, collaborated with Regional Director or Division leader as appropriate
- The PPD held the monthly calls in April, May and June. The regional representatives and Knowledge Community liaison also participated in monthly calls with their Regional Advisory Boards.
- Chair Rue along with President Kruger and other NASPA leaders attended a half day meeting at American Council on Education with Department of Education Undersecretary for Higher Education Ted Mitchell to discuss campus conduct procedures, with an emphasis on Title IX. Set stage for future meeting with DOE OCR leadership to discuss alignment with mission and goals. Washington, DC, 4/14/15

KC Liaison Shawn DeVeau

- Submitted updates for the monthly conference calls with the Knowledge Communities (KC) leadership and participated in the Public Policy Division calls.
- Attended the PPD meetings at the national conference.
- Is gathering items of interest over a broad scope and plans to develop more of a relationship with the KC Leadership in coming months to determine what topics they believe are of importance to their constituents.

- A few items of hot topics in public policy include the beginning of the Higher Education Reauthorization Act process, the varied federal and state actions around sexual violence and “Open Carry Laws” around handguns on campuses.
- In April 2014, DeVea participated with the KC Leadership on a telephone call about the Indiana Religious Freedom Restoration Act (RFRA) that had been passed by the state legislature as it pertained to the National Conference scheduled for March 2016 in Indianapolis.

Region II Representative Krista Saleet reports

- Attended Region II Advisory Board Meetings and Conference in Washington DC, June 5-9
- Provided public policy update to Region II Advisory Board, including promotion of national conference session proposals and brainstorming on how to engage more constituents in policy feedback process
- Working with other Region II Division Representatives to put together webinars/conference calls or meeting opportunities for sub-regional groups on key PPD focus areas
- Professional Standards representative would like to work together to share resources with Higher Education programs in the Region on how NASPA engages in political affairs and how to teach political engagement to new professionals
- Would like to help propose/coordinate national conference sessions on what NASPA is doing to engage in the political process and how student affairs professionals can engage in the process; updates on current hot topics in higher ed; Title IX roundtable for small colleges and one for community colleges

Region IVW Representative Kim Grieve

- Participate in monthly conference calls with Professional Standards division for NASPA IV-W where I provide updates verbally and by written report (started this month)

Region V Representative Amy Johnson has communicated with the regional community regarding major policy issues/updates, including (but not limited to):

- Report of the Task Force on Federal Regulation of Higher Education, outlining problems with accreditation and consumer/safety/financial aid info.
- NASPA’s partnership with other higher education associations to recommend changes on tax policy and institutional risk sharing, as well as a letter to share concerns with pending bills before numerous state legislatures.
- Annual HEA reporting requirements calendar.
- Education Commission of the States and USA Funds’ collaboration on a state financial aid redesign project.
- Injunction on immigration and restrictions to higher ed access.
- NASPA staff hires/transitions in VP for Research and Policy and National PPD Chair.

Work continues the implementation of the “CQ Roll Call Tool,” providing members an efficient way to get policy feedback to Congressional and other governmental leaders. The implementation is expected to be completed by the end of the year.

We have begun exploring a relationship with the Education Commission of the States through Brian Sponsler, who leads their higher education practice. Sharing legislative updates by region and participating in Regional Conferences are two examples of potential collaborations, and a shared Western Regional conference proposal has already been submitted. ECS would value input from NASPA members on legislative priorities.

Professional Development & Events

NASPA National Conference

March 22-25, New Orleans, LA

- **Student Affairs Meets Public Policy: Intersections in Professional Practice (Attendance =~40)**
This session offered connections between public policy and student affairs practice for those who were considering a career shift or just wanted to know how to become more active in higher education on their campuses.
- **Public Policy Town Hall: Forum on Campus-based Sexual Assault and Title IX Compliance (Attendance =~150)**
The session included a discussion of recently issued resources, opinions, and findings and responded to the current political and legal environment around this important issue.
- **Climate Assessments and Sexual Assault: The Technical, the Functional, and the Relevance to Student Affairs Practice (Attendance =~130)**
Speakers engaged participants in a discussion seminar and training about the technical and functional aspects about survey development and implementation, including sound assessment measures and examples. Speakers also talked about how survey data can help leaders navigate a Department of Education Title IX Investigation and deliver promising practices in sexual misconduct adjudication.
- **FERPA Update and Overview (Attendance =~75)**
The presentation focused on FERPA as well as recently issued resources, opinions, and findings issued by the Family Compliance Office from the U.S. Department of Education.
- **Public Policy Division Breakfast (Attendance =~75)**
Low-income Students, the Equity Gap in Completion, and Restoring Higher Education's Social Compact: The Vital Role of Student Affairs Professionals
Join your colleagues for a panel discussion among leading professionals to discuss the important issue of supporting low-income student success in higher education.
- **Federal Policy Update (Attendance =~100)**
This policy briefing provided an overview of the recent legislative activity relevant to the work of student affairs professionals.

- A. Johnson will present a general NASPA public policy update at the Inland NW Student Affairs Colloquium at North Idaho College on July 28, 2015.
- With PPD colleagues in Region VI, A. Johnson will co-present two public policy presentations during the Western Regional Conference in Nov. 2015: a general NASPA public policy update and a presentation regarding emerging, state-based policy.
- Jeanna Mastrodicasa (Member at large) will be updating the presentation about sexual assault campus climate surveys and giving it as a webinar through Campus Labs at the end of June. Jeanna will be the lead presenter, along with Nancy Cantalupo and with input from Felicia McGinty.
- Our NASPA liaison, Andrew Morse, has developed a comprehensive Public Policy presentation that can be adapted by any member for use with Regional or topical conferences.

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

- The Summer 2015 issue of the Region VI e-newsletter will include an article on the role of Hispanic Serving Institutions (a federal designation) in serving the Latino student population and an article with an update on recent developments with the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) policies as implemented by the White House, but now held up by judicial action at the federal court level.
- Set monthly schedule for PPD Blog Posts for 2015-2016.