



NASPA[®]

Public Policy Division

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Public Policy Division Director

Report for the March 2019 Board of Directors Meeting

February 11, 2019

NASPA Board Action Items

None at this time.

Leadership & Member Engagement

CHAIR'S REPORT

February 2019

PPD remains committed to increasing members' involvement and interest in policy-related professional development. As well, the division has been focused on preparations for the PPD sponsored sessions at annual conference as well as on transitional issues in anticipation of changes in the chair and the expiration of members' terms. Specific highlights include:

- On November 15th, we held a successful virtual town hall meeting, "What will the mid-term elections mean for Student Affairs professionals?", which offered expert post mid-term election analysis from Dr. Erin O'Brien, Associate Professor of Political Science at UMass Boston.
- Community Colleges liaison, Holly Swart, contributed a blog post featuring an interview with the dean of government relations at her home institution, Wake Technical Community College in North Carolina.
- Chair-elect Brent Marsh has reappointed representatives from Regions II, IV-E, and V and also secured the appointment of Dr. Denny Bubrig from the University of Southern Mississippi as Knowledge Communities liaison to the PPD.
- Outgoing chair has recommended a new approach to managing the division with specific roles (rather than general) and responsibilities for members of the leaderships (e.g. blog editorial team, coordination of town halls/conference programming, social media/communications management, etc.)

November 2018

PPD has been focused on professional development and engagement activities. The leadership team supported a successful inaugural Hill Days program, offered input to the strategic planning process, authored blogs, has identified public policy related session for regional conference, annual conference, and scheduled another virtual town hall for mid-November. Specific highlights include:

- Published 4 monthly blog entries on public interest topics including, get out the vote campaigns (K. Saleet); finding common ground through listening (L. Ward); NASPA Hill Days (L. DeVeau), critical infrastructure investment (J. Mastrodicasa)

- Exploring potential collaboration and joint learning agreement with the Kettering Foundation for 2019; potential topics for consideration include: Controversial Speakers/Intellectual Diversity: Balancing Student Safety, Equity, and Free Speech
- A Virtual Town Hall meeting is scheduled for November 15th and will feature a discussion of the results of the mid-term elections

July 2018

The “spring term” within the division has focused on expanding methods and levels of engagement around public policy and advocacy within the association. In particular, PPD members have presented policy updates at regional/annual conferences, developed virtual town hall sessions, authored blogs, and contributed to policy related discussions on campus and various other venues. Highlights include:

- Published 3 new monthly blog entries on public interest topics including, grassroots mobilization (B. Marsh); gun violence (S. Peska); student lobbyist training (M. Rodriguez).
- Hosted a quarterly virtual town hall meeting, Campus Safety and Guns on Campus, in May 2018. Roughly 30 people participated in the session, which featured Jeff Allison, Director of Government and External Relations, International Association of Campus Law Enforcement Administrators (IACLEA), and Kevin Kraft, Director of Community Standards, Tufts University and Secretary, Association of Threat Assessment Professionals – New England.
- Sponsored 4 sessions during the 2018 annual conference including “weaponizing” free speech on campus, public policy town hall, engaging newer professionals in policy advocacy, and FERPA update.
- Promoted upcoming NASPA Hill Days and Student Affairs National Day of Action as additional platforms to engage young people and student affairs professionals in issues of public policy.

MONTHLY PUBLIC POLICY DIVISION CALLS

- February 20, 2019
- January 16, 2019
- December 19, 2018
- November 15, 2018
- October 17, 2018
- September 19, 2018
- August 15, 2018
- July 18, 2018
- June 20, 2018
- May 16, 2018
- April 18, 2018
- March 4, 2018

PPD LEADERSHIP

Region I, Beth Devonshire – Consultant

Co-planned and co-facilitated the PPD quarterly town hall on Gun Policies/Gun Violence on college and university campuses with Jill Creighton, Region V PPD Representative

- Participated in regular Region I Board conference calls
- Participated in monthly Public Policy Division conference calls

- Monitoring H. 4159 “Climate Survey” and S. 2203 “An Act relative to sexual violence on higher education campuses “as both will impact the higher education landscape in MA if passed. Have spoken to National Office about bills

Region II, Krista Saleet – Cornell University

- Wrote September PPD Blog post that was elevated to the main NASPA blog, *The Rise of Get Out the Vote Campaigns on College Campuses*; Published on October 4, 2018.
- Participated in regular Region II Board conference calls
- Participated in monthly PPD conference calls
- Published monthly Region II Public Policy newsletters tracking state-level policy

Region III, Heidi Leming - Tennessee Board of Regents

- Distributed Region III Public Policy Month Newsletter: November/December 2018; December 2018/January 2019; February 2019
- Attended NASPA Region III Board Meetings
- Served on panel focused on the role of student affairs in the community college context
- Participated in Region III Advisory Board Meeting, NASPA National Conference, March 2018, and monthly Region III Public Policy Newsletter (January – May 2018)

Region IV East, Scott Peska - Waubensee Community College

- In November 2018, led the Region IV-E Public Policy Division Update at the Regional conference in Milwaukee, WI
- Participated monthly in both regional IV-E board conference calls and Public Policy Division conference calls
- Published a blog post for the Public Policy Division on March 23, 2018 titled, “When Hashtags Follow Gun Violence”
- Participated in the Virtual Town Hall May 2018 on Campus Safety and Guns on Campus
- Created a region IV-E Public Policy Newsletter for June, 2018

Region IV West, Brett Bruner – Arkansas Tech University

- Participated monthly in both regional IV-West professional competencies workgroup conference calls representing the Public Policy Division and Public Policy Division conference calls
- Submitted a blog post for region IV-west for January 2019
- Presented the Public Policy Division update session at the region IV-west conference on October 23 in Wichita, Kansas with Public Policy Division Director-Elect Brent Marsh
- Maintained a list of region IV-west members interested in receiving monthly public policy updates

Region V, Jill Creighton – Washington State University

- Reviewed NASPA Annual Conference session proposals for PPD sponsorship
- Co-planned and co-facilitated the PPD quarterly town hall on Gun Policies/Gun Violence on college and university campuses with Beth Devonshire, Region I PPD Representative
- Participated in regular Region V Board conference calls
- Participated in monthly Public Policy Division conference calls
- Co-planned Public Policy session for Western Regional conference

Region VI, Marcus Rodriguez – California State University, Los Angeles

- Participated in regular Region VI Advisory Board conference calls
- Participated in monthly PPD conference calls
- Published monthly Region VI Public Policy reports with state-level policy updates and PPD resources
- Participated in Region VI CLDE KC conference calls

Small Colleges and Universities Division, Brent Marsh – Rogers State University

- NASPA Staff (Stephanie King and Teri Hinds) attended two meetings as part of the Kettering Foundation's September Research Exchange: *Developing Materials for Public Deliberation* and the *Student Affairs Professionals Fostering Democratic Practices*, September 25-28, 2018. Brent Marsh, SCU Division Representative and incoming PPD director, joined for the former session. A Joint Learning Agreement is under consideration between the Kettering Foundation and NASPA.
- Brent Marsh, SCU Division Representative, and Brett Bruner, Region IV-West Representative, co-presented *Higher education policy update: Federal and state priorities for student affairs* at the 2018 IV-West Region Conference held October 23-25 in Wichita, Kansas. The presentation content was compiled by NASPA staff Diana Ali and Teri Lynn Hinds.
- Small Colleges & Universities (SCU) Division Representative has shared monthly Public Policy Division (PPD) leadership team minutes with SCU Division advisory board members. Chalk full of valuable law and policies resources and links, SCU Division leadership has found them to be a tremendously valuable resource.
- Marsh authored a blog for the PPD in May entitled "Grassroots Mobilization & Associational Influence: Observations from the Oklahoma Teacher Walk-Out" which highlighted the roles of individual advocacy and associational influence in light of K-12 teacher strikes in numerous states.
- The SCU Division sponsored NASPA M. Ben Hogan Small Colleges and Universities Institute held June 23-26 will feature a panel presentation entitled "Speaking Freely about Free Speech" which will tackle a critical and timely public policy topic that has also been a focal point for the Public Policy Division.

Knowledge Communities, Shawn DeVeau

- I submitted updates for the monthly conference calls with the Knowledge Communities (KC) leadership and participated in the Public Policy Division calls.
- I have also continued to connect with those Knowledge Community Leadership teams that have specific committee members who are designated as Public Policy Liaisons.
- I have submitted the initial draft of my article for the Knowledge Community online publication entitled "Do Free College Tuition Programs mean college is free?"
- Attended the NASPA National Conference in Indianapolis and attended all Knowledge Community Leadership meetings, as requested, and attended Public Policy Division meetings and presentations, as requested.
- In the past quarter, focused more on providing more in depth information to the KC Leadership via links and websites and using the time on the monthly conference call to impart more broad-based information. I have also broken down the information into more categories to allow for easier review. Categories include: Executive Branch, Congress, Judiciary, State issues, Campus and NASPA information.

Professional Development & Events

CHAIR'S REPORT:

2019 NASPA Annual Conference in Los Angeles, CA

The PPD will sponsor or highlight the following sessions:

1. **Higher Education Policy Update: Federal and State Priorities for Student Affairs Professionals** -- Many of the issues occupying the minds of public policymakers around the country are directly related to the day to day work of student affairs professionals. This session will provide a broad overview of the federal and state policy landscape with a special focus on issues that align to the NASPA Public Policy Agenda. It is expected that the session will cover financial aid, costs, and student debt; sexual assault prevention and response; equity and inclusion for Trans students, immigrants, and veterans; guns on campus; and campus free speech.
2. **Modeling Civic Engagement as Student Affairs Professionals** -- Part of a student affairs professional's role is to encourage students' civic leadership and democratic engagement. Why, then, do we not also practice this important behavior? The session's panelists will focus on their experiences as leaders mirroring civic engagement as part of the 2018 NASPA Hill Days event in Washington, DC. Presenters will additionally discuss ways that practitioners can promote advocacy and activism on a city, state and national level.
3. **Lessons from the Frontlines: Organizing for Sanctuary in Liberal Arts Colleges** -- This roundtable will focus on the obstacles and successes of organizing for sanctuary in predominantly white liberal arts institutions. Panelists, including students, faculty, and administrators, will explore complexities of mobilizing students across 5 different colleges, while dealing with the challenges of distinct institutional policy surrounding undocumented students and various complex family dynamics. The panel will highlight the importance of developing intercollegiate working groups to brainstorm strategies, emphasize critical questions concerning sustainable policies, support, and student success practices for current and future undocumented students, workers and community at The Claremont Colleges.
4. **Public Policy Town Hall** -- An open forum for those interested in public policy, legislative affairs, and or issues that related to the public interest. The town hall also represents an excellent forum for a "just in time" conversation about a breaking policy related issue that is relevant to members. We also plan to coordinate with colleagues in the EISJ division and look at an issue through multiple lens.

ADDITIONAL REGIONAL ACTIVITY

Region III

- Southeast Regional Technical and Community College Symposium; October 26, 2018 in Chattanooga, TN; H. Leming served as Symposium Chair and Symposium Host Institution
- SACSA Conference; November 2-5, 2018 in Myrtle Beach, SC; H. Leming Served on panel focused on the role of student affairs in the community college context

Region VI (M. Rodriguez)

- Membership: LA Census 2020: Higher Education Sub-Committee: Under the direction of the LA Mayor's Office of Budget and Innovation, the Census 2020 Initiative was developed in conjunction with local stakeholders and the California Complete Count Office. From that effort, the LA Census 2020: Higher Education Sub-Committee was formed to organize local colleges and universities to ensure students are counted accurately. The Sub-Committee, consisting of representatives from higher education institutions across the region, has developed a plan and strategies that are now being shared in partnership with student government associations and community organizers.

- Submitted a proposal to the 2019 Civic Learning and Democratic Engagement Meeting: When the City and County of Los Angeles joined the California Attorney General’s lawsuit against the Trump Administration over the addition of a citizenship question to the 2020 Census, a concerted effort to educate stakeholders was made in the form of Town Halls and community briefings. From that initiative, the LA Census 2020: Higher Education Sub-Committee came together to identify the best ways to reach students and encourage their participation in the 2020 Census.
- Panel Discussion: Public Policy in Student Affairs; Saturday, November 10 from 9:30 to 10:20 a.m. California State Capitol -- WRC is hosting a session at the State Capitol which features a panel conversation with NASPA leaders advocating for students and the student affairs profession. These special guests will discuss the NASPA Public Policy Agenda and efforts being made on behalf of the membership.
- NASPA Policy Update; Sunday, November 11 from 9:30 to 10:20 a.m. Bataglieri Room, Sheraton Grand Sacramento -- Region VI Public Policy Division Representative leads an interactive session to review and discuss the NASPA Policy Agenda, as well as guiding principles, current “hot topics,” and advocacy efforts on behalf of students and institutions.
- Pat Brown Institute Annual Conference: Election 2018; Thursday, November 15 from 8:15 a.m. to 1:45 p.m. Golden Eagle Ballrooms, 3rd Floor, Golden Eagle Building -- The Pat Brown Institute’s elections conference provides students with the opportunity to understand what happened during the midterms, why it happened, and what it means going forward. Distinguished speakers and panelists, including Ronald Brownstein of The Atlantic and CNN, will address the outcome of local and state elections and issues such as voter turnout, the gas tax, and public health.
- 2018 Civic Learning and Democratic Engagement Meeting - ADP, TDC, and NASPA; June 6-9 in Anaheim, CA; Panel Moderator: *The Student Government Activist: Facilitating Real Democratic Engagement*
- 2018 Western Regional Conference – NASPA Regions V and VI; November 8-11 in Sacramento, CA;
- Member: City of Los Angeles – Los Feliz Neighborhood Council Governing Board, Community Interest Representative – Education | Education Committee Chair

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

MONTHLY PPD BLOGPOSTS

January 2019

[A Community College’s “Policy Whisperer” Keeps the College in the Political Conversation](#), by Holly Swart, Wake Technical Community College

Community Colleges Division Liaison, Holly Swart, interviews the Dean of Government Relations and Strategic Partnerships at Wake Technical Community College in North Carolina.

October 2018

[The Rise of Get Out the Vote Campaigns on College Campuses](#), by Krista Saleet, Cornell University
Region II representative, Krista Saleet, examines the role of young people and vote mobilization efforts on college campuses ahead of the most consequential mid-term elections in a generation.

August 2018

[Learning to Listen in Public Policy and Advocacy](#), by Lawrence P. Ward, Babson College

An essay on the importance of finding common ground in legislative policy as well as in critical campus discussions on equity and social justice.

July 2018

[Inaugural Hill Days: Lessons from the Steamy Streets](#), by Laura DeVeau

Guest blogger, Laura DeVeau offers her perspective on lessons learned while participating in NASPA's Hill Days program in Washington, DC.

June 2019

[Budget Priorities in Tight Times: Who Will Take Care of Infrastructure?](#), by Jeanna Mastrodicasa, University of Florida

In contrast to brand new athletic facilities or excessive lazy rivers, this essay examines the critical need for investment in common but often overlooked infrastructure projects like roof replacements, IT upgrades, and HVAC systems.

May 2018

[Grassroots Mobilization & Associational Influence: Observations from the Oklahoma Teacher Walk-Out](#), by Brent Marsh, Rogers State University

Dr. Brent Marsh, Small Colleges and Universities Division Representative to NASPA's Public Policy Division shares observations and lessons from the field from his perspective in a small, rural community during the Oklahoma Teacher Walk-Out.

April 2018

[Public Policy and Professional Competencies: Student Lobbyist Training](#), by Marcus Rodriguez, California State University Los Angeles

In this post, Public Policy Division Region VI Representative, Marcus Rodriguez, explores civic engagement and activism in higher education and its increasing impact on students and student affairs.

March 2018

[When Hashtags Follow Gun Violence](#), by Scott Peska, Waubonsee Community College

As students around the country have joined with the peers for *March for Our Lives* events, Dr. Scott Peska, reflects on the last 10 years and offers suggestions for moving beyond hashtags to support our current and future students.

February 2018

[The Prosper Act and Trio Students](#), by Kim Grieve and John Howe, University of South Dakota

The "Promoting Real Opportunity, Success, and Prosperity" Act (PROSPER Act), the HEA reauthorization bill proposed by the House Education and Workforce Committee would impact negatively TRIO and other low-income students. Kimberly Grieve and John Howe offer their perspective.