Public Policy Division
Rebecca Mills, Chair
Report for the 2011 December Board of Directors Meeting
November 7, 2011

Discussion Items

Public Policy Agenda (session at the Phoenix conference)

Concealed Carry (would the board like to consider a statement about this issue?)

Action Items

I have no matters for this meeting that will require action (unless the board wants to vote on whether to have a concealed carry statement).

NASPA GOALS & GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Under each NASPA Goal, please report on your Regional/Division/KC activities that fall under these goals.

1. Build the capacity to create knowledge and use data to provide evidence that will support excellence in practice.

2. Lead advocacy efforts that shape the changing landscape of higher education.

Members of the Public Policy Division have agreed to publish a public policy update in regional newsletters (if applicable), to present comparable presentations at regional conferences, and to share information about NASPA’s strategic plan related to public policy with their regional board colleagues and regional membership. Toward that end, Kaaryn Keller (NASPA staff) and I have prepared a powerpoint presentation that will be used at regional conferences this fall.

At the national conference, we will present three sessions (a town hall discussion of a public policy division in addition to our two “standard” sessions for the public policy breakfast and a national issues update).
We have structured our columns for Leadership Exchange this year so that all four submissions will build on one another to “build capacity among members” about public policy and advocacy.

We added a position to the division with responsibility for communication with membership; we are updating the public policy website and begun “tweeting” to interested members about these issues.

We have engaged in discussions on our monthly conference calls about issues raised by members and/or the board including concealed carry on campuses, FERPA, and the “Dear Colleague” letter.

3. Launch an initiative to collaborate with student affairs worldwide.

The public policy division, by its current structure, is not internationally focused. We have undertaken no activities that support this goal.

4. To provide leadership for promoting, assessing, and supporting student learning and successful educational outcomes.

5. Strengthen NASPA by making it a more responsive, vital and sustainable organization.

Integrity – Committed to high moral principles exhibiting authentic, honest, just and ethical behavior.

Innovation – Continuously seeking improvement through new and creative approaches.

Inclusion – Seeking ways to ensure access, voice, acknowledgement, opportunity, and participation at all levels.

Inquiry – Supporting research and scholarship to add to the knowledge base of the profession and ensure that data informs practice.

We are trying to structure our work in the regions to enhance access to information and to focus on ways members can participate in public policy decisions at all levels.

DIVISION REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

Regional representatives include:

Region I  Catherine Cocks
Region II  Erik Kneubehl
Region III  Terisa Riley
Region IV-E Lisa Erwin
Region IV-W Lois Flagstad
Region V Rebecca Mills
Region VI  Kandy Mink-Salas

Rather than work individually within our regions, we have focused our divisional work this year on coordinating our efforts so that membership across the country is receiving comparable information particularly as we are sharing information about the new strategic plan and public policy goals. That said, regional representatives share updates with their regional boards and members as called for by their regional structure.