Shana Warkentine Meyer  
NASPA IV-W Regional Director  
Report for the November 2018 Board of Directors Meeting  
Submitted October 30, 2018

**NASPA Board Action Items**

None at this time.

**Leadership & Member Engagement**

**Regional Director – Shana Warkentine Meyer**

The Region IV-West Advisory Board Cabinet has met monthly to discuss expectations, strategic planning, goal setting, and more! The dates and locations were as follows:

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<tr>
<th>Regional Advisory Board Meetings</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>Joint Summer Business / Conference Committee Meeting</td>
<td>May 31-June 1, 2018</td>
<td>Wichita Marriott,</td>
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<td>Monthly Cabinet Call</td>
<td>June 14, 2018</td>
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<td>Monthly Cabinet Call</td>
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<td>Cabinet Meeting</td>
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<td>Fall Regional Board Meeting</td>
<td>October 22-23, 2018</td>
<td>Wichita Marriott,</td>
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In late October 2018, over 300 Region IV-West Student Affairs professionals met in Wichita, Kansas to experience the Mid-Level Institute, Pre-Conference sessions, an SSAO / AVP / Faculty Institute, program
sessions, keynote speakers and more. Prior to the conference, the Regional Advisory Board met. In a snapshot, the Region IV-W Advisory Board:

- Heard a pre-view of the fall regional conference
- Heard reports from all cabinet members. Of note:
  - Careers in Student Affairs Month and Free TPE Registration contest (Membership)
  - New Co-Coordinator for Knowledge Communities, Amy Sellers, with Vince Bowhay being named as the KC Co-Coordinator-Elect (Knowledge Communities)
  - Board member onboarding for 5 new members (Secretary)
- Members of the 2017-18 Regional SERVE Academy presented on their experience and proposal to enhance future Regional SERVE opportunities (more details, below)
- The Board discussed and / or voted on:
  - Travel Assistance Timing & Deadlines (Marsh)—discussion only, change made
  - The Regional Member at Large position (Alvarez)—discussion only, to be further researched
  - Adding a statement on Hotel Points to the Regional Policy & Procedure Manual (PPM) (Marsh)—approved:
    1. *Region IV-West maintains hotel reward numbers to be used for the benefit of the region. The Regional Director, Assistant to the Regional Director and Regional Finance Coordinator will be responsible for providing these numbers to hotels during contract negotiations for conferences. Hotel rewards shall be used to help reduce conference expenses; benefits should follow the same priority listing as comped rooms.*
  - Funding a Spring Critical Conversations event (Breske, Schwaebler)—approved support of two events, details below
  - The pros & cons of hosting a regional MLI & its future (Meyer)—task force named for further discussion: Jenn McDannold (Student Career Development KC Representative; Enrollment Coordinator at Baptist Health College –Little Rock); Laura Anderton (Fraternity & Sorority Affairs KC Representative; Director of Sorority / Fraternity Life & Leadership, University of South Dakota), Kassey Steele (Website Coordinator; Director, Student Life at Tulsa Community College), PJ Martinez (New Professionals & Graduate Students KC Representative; Assistant Director at University of Arkansas), LaDonna McCullough (Socioeconomic & Class Issues in Higher Education KC Representative; Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Officer / Director, Intercultural Engagement at MidAmerica Nazarene University) & Thomas Lane (NUFP Division Rep; Associate Vice President and Dean of Students at Missouri State University).
  - RD Slate processes for the region (Current and Future) (Freeman)—discussion only, to be further researched
  - The 2019 Conference, to be held in Fargo, North Dakota: Forward Thinking, Forward Leading
  - NASPA’s 100 Year Anniversary—the board participated in the handclap!

Dr. Penny Rue, NASPA Board Chair, attended the board meetings & regional conference, as well. She assisted RD Meyer in a Board discussion then a conference session on NASPA’s Strategic Planning process.

**Board Secretary:**
- David Adams (Tulsa Community College) fills the new role of Board Secretary. David takes minutes at Cabinet meetings and Advisor Board meetings, as well as working on new member
orientation. David worked with Jessica Frogge on the New Member Guide, which will help new members to the board understand their roles prior to attending board meetings. Additionally, David updated the New Member Orientation so the Assistant to the Regional Director can introduce the Region IV-W Dashboard to the new members. Five members participated in New Member Board Orientation at the fall conference.

**SERVE Academy:**
- Dr. Brett Bruner (Fort Hays State University) has served as the Region IV-W SERVE Coordinator, modeled after the national Academy, to help in the creation of a pipeline of new leaders for the region, who are connected and informed as to role expectations and unique needs of a Region. We have had great response, with 8 Regional SERVE Academy participants from 5 different states across the Region participating in the inaugural cohort.

The first cohort presented their cohort project proposal to Regional Board members at the fall regional conference. The project proposal was comprised of 3 components:
- A Region IV-West SERVE Academy Retreat
- A New Fundraising Protocol (to raise funds for the retreat) and
- Additional SERVE Academy Mentorship Engagement Opportunities

The 2018-2019 Region IV-West SERVE Cohort has been selected and will begin their program in November 2018. Participants and mentors include the following NASPA members:
- Dr. Evette Allen, Director of the Multicultural Center and Non-Traditional Student Services at Arkansas State University. Dr. Allen will be mentored by Dr. Veronica Riepe, Director of Student Involvement at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.
- Dalton Brasington, Coordinator of Student Engagement for the Mewbourne College of Earth and Energy at the University of Oklahoma. Dalton will be mentored by Ryan Gove, Director of Student Life at the University of Kansas Medical Center.
- Patrick Bussiere, Graduate Assistant for Student Senate at the University of Northern Colorado. Patrick will be mentored by Dr. Thomas Lane, Associate Vice President for Student Affairs/Dean of Students at Missouri State University.
- Josh Doak, Assistant Director of Student Life at Baker University. Josh will be mentored by Joshua Alvarez, Assistant Director of Support and Safety Assessment at Colorado State University.
- Aubrey Holt, Director of Campus Life at Arkansas Tech University. Aubrey will be mentored by Dr. Cassie Gerhardt, Associate Dean of Students at the University of North Dakota.
- Karina Knutson, Associate Director of Wellness Promotion at the University of North Dakota. Karina will be mentored by Mary Alice Serafini, Associate Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs/Executive Director of the Pat Walker Health Center at the University of Arkansas.
- Chris Lord, Assistant Director of Alcohol and Other Drug Programs at the University of Colorado-Boulder. Chris will be mentored by Dr. Brent Marsh, Vice President for Student Affairs at Rogers State University.
- Bradley Luthe, Assistant Director of Residence Life at Pratt Community College. Bradley will be mentored by Richard Monroe, Coordinator of Campus Life and Leadership at Metropolitan Community College-Blue River.
- Finnley Maier, Graduate Assistant for Fraternity & Sorority Life at North Dakota State University. Finnley will be mentored by Dr. Teresa Clounch, Assistant Vice President for Student Affairs/Title IX Coordinator at Fort Hays State University.
• Stephanie Ross, Academic Advisor for the Trulaske College of Business at the University of Missouri-Columbia. Stephanie will be mentored by Dr. Carrie Petr, Vice President for Student Affairs/Dean of Students at Doane University.

• Brian Street, Coordinator of Student Activities at Rogers State University. Brian will be mentored by Charles Keefer, Director of Student and Residence Life at Pratt Community College.

• Dominque Thomas, Student Success Advocate and Experience Facilitator for the Charles W. Donaldson Scholars Program at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock. Dominque will be mentored by Allan Ford, Title IX Coordinator at Northeastern State University.

Retirements:
The following members of the profession are, or have, retired in the past year:
• Lee Bird, Oklahoma State University
• Marsha Novell, University of Arkansas
• Sylvia Scott, University of Arkansas
• Mel Tyler, University of Missouri-Kansas City

Past Regional Director – Jerrid Freeman
The two candidates for the Region IV-West slate have been identified. They will be forwarded to the NASPA national board for approval. Both have had long terms with NASPA IV-West and are well respected in the region.

At the upcoming conference regional board meeting we plan to discuss possibly adjusting the process for selecting the Regional Director slate. Some regions use a committee to review applications and some adjusted model may be warranted rather than the RD solely making the decision, with past RD feedback and guidance.

Communications Coordinator – Shannon Breske
The Communication Team continues to meet once a month to make sure we are meeting the communication needs of the region.
• Monthly newsletters highlight all areas of the NASPA IV-W region. A total of six newsletters were created and sent to 1200+ members each month. With each newsletter, individual blogs are created and posted on our NASPA IV-W region. A total of 60 individual blogs were created for our region.
• Effectively worked with conference committee to ensure timely email, website, and social media timely communication to all regional members. Created a special conference newsletter to advertise and promote regional fall conference.
• Mike Jackson, created another fantastic conference logo for the 2019 Fall conference

Social Media:
• David Murphy, Social Media Coordinator, continues to increase social media outreach for the following platforms:
  o Facebook (925 followers)
  o Twitter (1,262 followers)
  o LinkedIn (58 members)
  o Instagram account (223 followers)
Critical Conversations & Volunteer Coordinator:

- Shannon Schwaebler, Critical Conversations & Volunteer Coordinator, has coordinated two Critical Conversations:
  - Men & the #MeToo Movement (July 2018) 41 Registered
  - Navigating NASPA IV-W Conference (October 2018) 19 Registered

With committee members Joshua Alvarez, Jessica Frogge, Charles Keefer, Sara Mata, Shana Meyer, and Matthew Skoy, the team created a FAQ and process document to provide to volunteer panelists to streamline the process.

Critical Conversations are scheduled to be presented in January, April, July, and October, to compliment the March National Conference, the May Summer Board Meeting, and the November Regional Conference.

Awards:

- Kat Grier, Awards Coordinator, has coordinated another fantastic award season, with a total of 104 applications and awarded 33 total awards. The award honorees are as follows:
  - Dr. Liliana Rodriguez, Vice Chancellor for Campus Life and Inclusive Excellence, at the University of Denver, as the James J. Rhatigan Outstanding Dean Award recipient.
  - Dr. Judy Grimes, Associate Vice President / Dean of Students, at Missouri Western State University for the AVP/Senior Level Award
  - Dr. Diana Doyle, President of Arapahoe Community College for the Presidential Excellence Award
  - Alex Gonzales, University Registrar at the University of New Mexico, for the Distinguished Service Award
  - 2018 Arkansas Rising Stars:
    - Undergraduate Rising Star: Hayley Goodebiddle from the University of Arkansas
    - Graduate Rising Star: Alysha Daley from Arkansas Tech University
    - New Professional Rising Star: Holli Weiss from Arkansas Tech University
  - 2018 Colorado Rising Stars:
    - Graduate Rising Star: Tiantian Li from Colorado State University
    - New Professional Rising Star: James Larcus from the University of Denver
  - 2018 Kansas Rising Stars:
    - Undergraduate Rising Star: Dane Murzyn from Fort Hays State University
    - Graduate Rising Star: Jenna Radtke from Fort Hays State University
    - New Professional Rising Star: Brittney Squire from Fort Hays State University
  - 2018 Missouri Rising Stars:
    - Undergraduate Rising Star: Megan Asbury from Missouri State University
    - Graduate Rising Star: Nat Hilterbrand from Saint Louis University
    - New Professional Rising Star: Devon Wright from Missouri State University
  - 2018 Nebraska Rising Star:
    - Graduate Rising Star: Mac Benavides from the University of Nebraska - Lincoln
  - 2018 North Dakota Rising Stars:
    - Undergraduate Rising Star: Bridget Heiland from the University of North Dakota
    - Graduate Rising Star: Tricia Tauer from North Dakota State University
  - 2018 Oklahoma Rising Stars:
    - Undergraduate Rising Star: Randilyn Thompson from Northeastern State University
Graduate Rising Star: Nikki Jones from Northeastern State University
New Professional Rising Star: Calli Payne from Rogers State University

2018 South Dakota Rising Stars.

Graduate Rising Star: Frae Binder from the University of South Dakota
New Professional Rising Star: Nathan Steussy (Stew-see) from the University of South Dakota

Kijia Homes, Office Manager at North Dakota State College of Science, for the Support Staff Recognition Award
Laura Page, Director of Professional Development & Leadership at the University of Missouri, for the Outstanding Mid-Level Professional Award
Amy Jackson, Director of Student Success at Pratt Community College, for the Community College Professional Award
Dr. Christy Moran Craft, Associate Professor at Kansas State University, Outstanding Faculty Member Award
Stacey Borboa Peterson, Director of Student Diversity and Inclusion at the University of North Dakota, for the Social Justice and Inclusion award
Tiffani Kelly, Assistant Director of the Native American Cultural Center at Colorado State University, NUFP Champion Award
Nick Hayden, Coordinator of Student Life at the University of Kansas Medical Center, for the Outstanding New Professional Award
Dennis Etzel Jr. & Dr. Jericho Hockett from Washburn University for Ichabods Speak Out: Poems in the Age of Me Too for the 2018 NASPA IV-West Outstanding Campus Based Publication
The University of Nebraska-Lincoln for their video series Facts with Francis, for the Outstanding Campus Based Video/Computer Software award
Pitch a Program from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln for the Innovative Program Award.

Coordinator for Regional Finances – Brent Marsh

- The 2018 IV-West conference is tracking well with respect to registration and budget, and it appears the attendance and fiscal goals will be met. Near final conference registration figures include: $69,860 received (335 attendees) through 10-24-18 in registration fees ($96,550 was registration revenue goal, 74% received). Difference between budgeted goal and revenue collected should not be an issue due to fewer meals served and A/V savings. Women’s Words of Wisdom event yielded approx. $800 with around 55 attendees. Thirteen people attended the pre-conference session yielding $360 Pre-Con-13. Eleven individuals attended the Mid-Level Institute garnering $3,650.

Corporate Sponsor Liaison

- Thanks to the efforts of Dr. Teresa Clounch, Corporate Sponsors Liaison, the region made good progress toward its financial goals with respect to corporate partner support of the conference and the Region’s operating budget. Some contributions are in-kind which help offset direct conference costs, while others are cash sponsorships at the various partnership levels offered by the Region. Total sponsorship commitments at this time equal $21,000.

Foundation Ambassadors

- The IV-West Foundation Ambassadors, David Adams and Mary Alice Serafini, have promoted #NASPAgives contributions this fall by offering a limited supply of infused water bottles for
those who make a $25 or more donation to the Foundation. David and Mary Alice have also developed a well-conceived communication plan for the 2018-2019 year which will consistently encourage giving through creative and engaging blog posts. Certain posts will be connected to important timeframes such as Giving Tuesday, calendar year-end, the national conference, and NASPA fiscal-year end.

**Professional Standards** – Keegan Nichols

The Professional Standards Team Members are:

- Ali Moss <Ali.Moss@du.edu>; Graduate Student Representative
- Amy Pennington <apennington@atu.edu>; Research Coordinator
- Dr. Brett Bruner; blbruner@fhsu.edu; Public Policy Division Chair
- Dr. Carrie Petr; carrie.petr@doane.edu; Small Colleges and Universities Chair
- Dr. Jim Williams; jwilliam@emporia.edu; Senior Student Affairs Representative
- Dr. Thomas Lane <ThomasLane@missouristate.edu>; NUFP Chair
- Dr. Michele Smith <MDSmith@missouristate.edu>; Faculty Liaison
- Richard Monroe <Richard.Monroe@mcckc.edu>; Community College Representative
- Emily Cook, ebcook@uark.edu, NUFP Undergraduate Student

NASPA Region IV-W Board positions now have at least one professional competency assigned to the position. Current board members carefully reviewed the competencies and selected the competency skill(s) most likely needed to fulfill that particular role. A small committee reviewed the assigned competencies to ensure accuracy. Each board job description will be posted with the related competencies. NASPA Region IV-W goal is to ask applicants to identify the skills needed to do that position and help our board members articulate how they have grown by being a board member.

Keegan Nichols partnered with the NASPA Region IV-W programs chairs to ensure the competencies are infused in each of the program sessions and the conference. In addition, Keegan hosts a monthly meeting with her board direct reports and discusses how they can use the competencies in their roles. Each of the board members is charged with finding at least one way to use the competencies this upcoming year.

Last, Keegan will write a couple of blogs and apply to present at NASPA Region IV-W and the National conferences. For the National Conference, Nichols proposed a session that will focus on how to tie the professional competencies to positions in your division and help your team write a professional development plan. For the Regional Conference, Nichols collaborated with the conference committee to tie competencies to each of the sessions. Additionally, Fort Hays State University will present how to use the professional competencies in graduate programs.

**Community College Division**

- The Community College Institute didn’t make numbers, so moving to open forum.
- Presenting at Region IV-W Conference: “The Now and Future”
- 22 Community College Representative

**Research**

- The review committee was pleased to receive 10 quality applications for the 2017-18 award, each proposing interesting and important research that will move the knowledge of the profession forward. The selection of the committee was Dr. Vincent Bowhay and Elaine Bryant
for their project titled, The Relationship between Vocational Assessments and First-Semester Undecided Undergraduate Major Selection.

**SSAO**
- Roll off in March
- What is the interface with AVP/Should AVP be own position?
- Presenting SSAO/AVP Institute at the fall regional conference. Regional topics and HLC requirements were presented.

**Small Colleges and Universities**
- Need to revamp the job description to include how the small college national committee responsibility is large.
  - Suggest the national level be the responsibility and represent the national level.
  - Need to fill small college representative

**NUFP**
- There were 14 Region IV-W NUFP applications this cycle.

**Membership Coordinator – Josh Alvarez**

**Member Engagement**
- Updated all Facebook pages’ photos with new NASPA State Logos.
- Implemented a member engagement initiative for Careers in Student Affairs Month. NASPA members that shared their story of how they discovered their passion for student affairs and used hashtags #CSAM4W and #NASPA4W could be randomly chosen for one of four free TPE registrations.
- State Membership Coordinators have collaborated to produce an opinion piece for each monthly regional newsletter.

**Membership**
- Began discussions on Member at Large position, position description, and fit with membership initiatives.
- Completed Institutional Membership renewal phone call and email outreach and promoted membership upgrade.
- Regional Membership Coordinator and State Membership Coordinators brainstormed membership goals as a review of the NASPA IV-West Advisory Board Scorecard.
- Regional Membership Coordinator and State Membership Coordinators meet monthly to provide updates, check-in with each other, and discuss legislation or new ideas to engage members.
- Josh Alvarez worked to fill vacant State Membership Coordinator positions.
- Each month, tracked trends in membership for each state.
  - As of 10/5/2018, Region IV-W has 1,243 total members.
- Award Recognition was provided at the fall regional conference for each member state for the undergraduate, graduate, and new professional rising star awards.

**Knowledge Community Co-Coordinators – Veronica Riepe and Kaitlin Wimmer / Amy Sellers**

**Recruiting/Filling KC Rep positions**
- The second national appointment process training occurred in September. We are hopeful that the KC appointment process will be a bit smoother this year since we are in our second year. We
have reached out to the national chairs of the KCs where we have a vacancy requesting they post the opening on Volunteer Central prior to the regional conference so we can recruit and ideally fill those openings before December.

- We have 9 open spots left to fill and are hoping we can recruit during the KC Mini-Sessions and Trivia Night at the Regional Conference.

**KC Rep Engagement**

- We have created committees within the KC structure led by 2-3 veteran KC Reps
  - Trivia Night committee—Danielle Bristow, chair, Charles Keefer, LaDonna McCullough
  - KC Mini Presentations—Laura Atherton, chair; John Howe, Jenn McDannold
  - KC Professional Development (10-15 minutes on each monthly conference call)—Amy Sellers

- Those listed above were more than happy to volunteer to help and have done lots of small things to help us prepare for our summer meeting in Wichita. Each of them will have time to talk with the Reps during our KC Time in Wichita. They will educate the Reps what they need to do in preparation for the Fall Conference, timelines, and explain the work of their committee as well as recruit additional committee members.

- Monthly KC Rep Zoom conference calls are scheduled for the last Friday of each month. Our first call was Friday, May 25 at 11am to prepare them for our summer meeting in Wichita. Other meetings have been on Friday July 27, Friday August 24, Friday September 28, and Friday October 19, all from 11am

- KC Reps are brainstorming ways to further educate the Regional Membership regarding various KC activities by reaching out to members of their respective KCs in the region to see how the KC Reps can best serve them. Two current activities planned by KC Reps is the Women’s Words of Wisdom event at the regional conference sponsored by the WISA KC and KC Rep Abby Vollmer. Travis Tucker, the Gender and Sexuality KC Rep, started a mentoring program within the region of members that identify as LGBTQ. It was an initiative attempted by the national KC, but it didn’t work so Travis brought it to Region IV-West to get it started.

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**Professional Development & Events**

**Region IV-W Fall Conference: “Reflection Inspires Our Future” & Advisory Board Meeting**

*October 23-25, 2018 | Wichita Marriott, Wichita, KS*

- Total of 335 attendees
  - 89 members of the Kansas Student Affairs Conference (KSAC) joined us
  - 194 first time attendees
  - 13 registered for pre-conference sessions
  - 11 attended the Mid-Level Institute (held regionally every other year)
  - 20 participated in NUFP
  - 16 participated in the SSAO program (to include AVPs and faculty)

- Keynote Speakers (all of whom agreed to be videoed and whose programs were shared on Facebook Live):
  - Local Elder Mark Brown for an Indigenous Peoples Prayer
  - Dr. Jim Rhatigan, Vice President emeritus, Wichita State University
  - Dr. Tim Alvarez, President, Otero Junior College

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- Dr. Kathy Obear, Co-Founder of the Social Justice Training Institute, speaker, author
- Dr. Mamta Accapadi, 2018 Pillar of the Profession, Vice President of Student Affairs at Rollins College

- Programs:
  - 30 traditional 45-minute programs
  - 7 15-minute SA Talks
  - 11 90-minute deep dives
  - 6 Knowledge Community mini sessions

- Conference Successes:
  - Bringing in therapy dogs was a HUGE hit. It is a reminder that our conference attendees have needs similar to our students.
  - Having a closing event with a meal helps retain attendees to the end-brunch on Thursday was a success!
  - The keynote speakers were well received and did a great job of communicating the overall aspects of the conference theme.
  - Partnering with KSAC was a success. We should continue to look for other opportunities for collaboration.

- Things to possibly change:
  - We need to provide meal tickets rather than just ask if people plan to attend specific meals in order to be appropriately prepared and hold people accountable to the information they've provided.
  - We need to ‘tweak’ the schedule... having Words of Wisdom prior to Trivia Night can cause a schedule issue if Words of Wisdom runs long.
  - Along with Words of Wisdom, we need to review the evening programming. Club NASPA/karaoke worked, but perhaps we could swap the night it occurs with the KC Trivia Night.
  - We likely do not need to provide a meal for the SSAO/AVP Institute. Perhaps this is an event that could be altered so it becomes a corporate sponsored event, rather than having an evening SSAO / AVP social.

**Meeting of the Minds / Partners in Prevention; Region IV-W Spring Conference BACCHUS Initiatives of NASPA**

April 4-6, 2018 | Kansas City Airport Hilton, Kansas City, MO

- The Board voted to co-sponsor this spring event by assisting with publicity.
- Conference website is [http://mom.missouri.edu](http://mom.missouri.edu)
- Topics to be addressed include marijuana, mental health, alcohol use, and violence prevention as our main issues during the conference.
- We will also have an inclusion, diversity, and equity track of sessions.
- The conference will be attended by about 400 people with half of those being students and the other half professionals from the campuses in Region IV-W.

**Critical Conversations Spring Drive In Conference, Arkansas Tech University**

TBD | Russellville, AR
• The Board voted to co-sponsor this spring event for $1700.
• Target number of participants: 250
• Tentative Dates: April/May 2019
• As a result of participating in this Critical Conversation Spring Event, participants will:
  o Engage in a dialogue about student persistence and retention programs, event, services, interventions, research, theory, and relevant practice.
• Proposal Overview of Critical Conversation Spring Event:
  • 1-day conference for student affairs and academic affairs administrators with a focus on Student Persistence and Retention. This one-day conference will include a track for both student and academic affairs administrators to discuss research, theory, literature, and best practices in student persistence and retention. This one-day conference will also include a track for first-generation college students focused on providing personal and professional development skills to further their growth and support their own persistence through college.

Finally, Veronica Riepe, Region IV-W Knowledge Community Co-Coordinator, and Misty McDonald, Region III KC Coordinator, presented to the KC National Chairs on October 16 about how the KC National Chairs, Regional Coordinators, and Regional Representatives can all work together to strengthen the KC program and make it a beneficial volunteer experience for all involved.

Optional Other Reports - Advocacy & Scholarship (not required)

The 2018-2019 #NASPAgives goals for IV-West remain the same at $18,000 and 100 donors. Again this year we will designate the first $500 award for research grant(s) and the second $500 for graduate student scholarship to attend the regional conference.