



**David A. McKelfresh, Director, Research Division
Report for the March 2011 Board of Directors Meeting**

February 11, 2011

NASPA GOALS

The following is an annual summary of the business and activity of Research Division since the March 2011 Board of Directors meeting.

Goals D: To provide leadership for promoting, assessing, and supporting student learning and successful educational outcomes.

1. Small Grant Research Proposal

Following the March board meeting Dave McKelfresh (NASPA Research Division) worked with Linda Kuk (NASPA Foundation) to develop a “Small Grant Research Proposal” based on the work of the NASPA Faculty Fellows. The draft was reviewed by members of the NASPA Foundation, Faculty Fellows, and Research Division. The completed version of the Small Grant Research Proposal was posted on the NASPA website in June. The introduction to the grant proposal is as follows:

“The NASPA Foundation, in conjunction with the NASPA Faculty Fellows and the NASPA Research Division welcomes proposals for research grants that support the discovery of new knowledge and innovation in the field of student affairs. The maximum award for a project is up to \$5,000.

2. Joint Task Force on Research and Scholarship Agenda

The charge to the joint task force was received from Elizabeth Griego (NASPA) and Susan Salvadore (ACPA) is as follows:

Identify current, and anticipate future, researchable questions for the student affairs profession. Develop a vision and strategy for this research agenda for the student affairs profession.

The Task Force will address the following questions, keeping in mind a 3-5 year time frame:

- What are the pressing issues for students and student affairs; and how can researchers assist in addressing these issues?
- What is an appropriate research agenda?

- How should the research agenda be implemented?
- What collaborations can be identified within the two associations?
- What resources are needed to implement the research agenda? How might these resources be best marshaled for this effort?

The joint task force membership is as follows:

NASPA

- Dave McKelfresh, Executive Director, Assessment and Research, Colorado State University (co-chair)
- Sharyn Slavin Miller, Associate Professor, Department of Leadership and College Student Development, Azusa Pacific University
- Frank Ross, Chief Student Affairs Officer, University of North Texas at Dallas
- Randy Hyman, Associate Professor, University of Minnesota - Duluth

ACPA

- Robert Reason, Associate Professor, Penn State University (co-chair)
- Terrell Strayhorn, Associate Professor, The Ohio State University (and Director of Research & Scholarship for ACPA)
- Maureen Wilson, Associate Professor, Bowling Green State University
- Dawn Johnson, Assistant Professor, Syracuse University

3. Research and Scholarship Agenda Assessment – Professional Competencies: Following the charge to the joint task force an assessment of NASPA and ACPA membership was conducted regarding research priorities related to the professional competencies identified by the Joint Task Force on Professional Competencies. The assessment was administered online during the month of October 2010. Respondents were asked to select from eleven general areas for which “you believe research is most warranted”. Preliminary results are posted in the December 2010 Board Report
4. Research and Scholarship Agenda Assessment – Research Topics in Student Affairs, and State of the Profession: An additional assessment was conducted with NASPA and ACPA members during the latter part of October and early November. This assessment focused on 1) priorities related to research topics in student affairs, and on 2) priorities related to research on the “state of the profession”. Preliminary quantitative results are listed in the December 2010 Board Report.
5. Timeline and Table of Contents for Final Report to both Executive Boards: The table of contents for the final report is list below.

Table of Contents

- Title page: *A Research and Scholarship Agenda for the Student Affairs Profession*, prepared by the ACPA/NASPA Joint Task Force on Research and Scholarship
- Forward (Mike Segawa and Susan Salvador)
- Introduction (David McKelfresh and Robert Reason)
 - Background
 - Charge to task force

- Task force members
 - Acknowledgements
- Agenda Development Process
 - Documents reviewed
 - Assessments conducted
 - Scholars and practitioners consulted
- Research and Scholarship topics (Randy Hyman and Maureen Wilson)
 - Topics and Research Questions
- Student Affairs “State of the Profession” Topics (Frank Ross and Dawn Johnson)
 - Topics and Research Questions
- Professional Competencies (Sharyn Slavin Miller and Terrell Strayhorn)
 - Topics and Research Questions
- References

Timeline:

April 15, 2011: Rough drafts of research agenda and research questions completed

May 15, 2011: Joint Task Force draft document completed

May 15-June 15, 2011: Joint Task Force document reviewed by NASPA and ACPA Boards

July 1, 2011: Joint Task Force document submitted to Executive Boards of both associations

Region III Update from Andy Wilson

- NASPA Region III has continued to support graduate students in their plans to study NASPA membership. By reviewing proposals and helping with logistics, currently three graduate students have ongoing research co-sponsored by NASPA Region III.
- NASPA Region III’s grant recipients also continue to receive mentorship and support. At the regional symposium in June 2011, these recipients will present their findings.

Region IV-West Update from Jerrid Freeman

- Completed the program on publishing at the regional NASPA IV-West conference with Flo Guido(Faculty Liaison), Sara Mata (Knowledge Communities Chair), and myself. I think it was successful and enjoyed by the participants. After the presentation I sent out the power point of the presentation, information on publishing, and how to track publishing and research interests and topics to all the participants. I also used my role with JSARP to help push that and other NASPA publications.
- We submitted another article in the regional newsletter. Flo did a great job with it. We have a regular column where we pick a new theme each quarter.
- I am working on two research projects with folks in the region. One is on the changing role of the CSAO over the last 30 years. I am heading that up and another is on the use of frames and locus of control in Student affairs that I am assisting a colleague of mine.
- We had one major writing submission from a graduate student for assistance from the publication/research assistance we have been offering for anyone throughout the year. We probably need to continue to market that opportunity to folks in the region. I know we pushed it hard before the regional conference and during the conference, but not much since then.