



**Sharyn Slavin Miller, Director, Research Division
Report for the July 2011 Board of Directors Meeting**

June 19, 2011

NASPA GOALS

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

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

1. Transition of Research Division Membership

Following the March board meeting Sharyn Slavin Miller reviewed the list of members for the Research division and sought new appointments for those regional members who had rotated off the Division. Currently, our new Research Division regional representatives include Alicia Caudill from Region III, Jessica White from Region V and Cedric Hackett from Region VI. There was also some confusion in the regional representation from Region IV E in that their current regional representative is also the KC Coordinator for Assessment, Evaluation and Research. The regional vice-president will be notifying me soon of their Region IV E appointment.

2. Joint Task Force on Research and Scholarship

Following the vote on consolidation, the ACPA Board decided to suspend their activity on the Joint Task Force on Research and Scholarship. Gwen Dungy and Patricia Telles-Irvin wished for NASPA to continue finishing up our work on the Research and Scholarship agenda since it was so close to completion. NASPA made the decision to move ahead, but to gather their own data from NASPA membership since the prior information had been gathered from both NASPA and ACPA membership. The surveys have just been completed and the results have been distributed to the NASPA Task Force on Research and Scholarship. The Task Force will also be working closely with the NASPA Faculty Fellows, specifically with Darnell Cole who has been asked to work on this project.

The NASPA task force membership is as follows:

- Dave McKelfresh, Executive Director, Assessment and Research, Colorado State University (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

Region III Update from Andy Wilson

- issued three research grants during the NASPA Region III Summer Symposium in Savannah
- the grants will support knowledge creation and dissemination that will not only add to literature but also inform student affairs practices.
- \$1000 Grant Recipient:
 - Researchers: Wade Livingston, Karen D. Boyd, Tony W. Cawthon, Bryan Rush, Teresa Fishman, Dena Kniess
 - Institution: Clemson University
 - Project: The Nature of the Student-Institution Relationship and Desired Student Behavioral Outcomes: An Exploration of the Association between Relational Quality Outcomes, Alcohol Use, and Academic Honesty
- \$500 Grant Recipients:
 - Researchers: Michael Brown and T.J. Jourian
 - Institution: Vanderbilt University
 - Project: LGBTQI Student Leaders: Navigating Stress, Finding Support
 - Researchers: Allison Crume and Ladanya Ramirez Surmeir
 - Institution: Florida State University
 - Project: Building Professional Competency through Assessment Training

Region IV-West Update from Jerrid Freeman

The NASPA IV-West Research Coordinator and Faculty Liaison have teamed up to make research and publishing a major emphasis in the region. These efforts have been directed at trying to encourage, facilitate, and mentor regional members in the pursuit of research and publication. Some of the initiatives that have been undertaken are:

- An article in every Region IV-West newsletter that educates and encourages those to publish and do research. We want to highlight the national grant opportunities along with the major areas identified by the profession in need of research.
- Present a program at the regional conference for those wishing to publish and conduct research. Collaboration with the Research KC Chair, Research Coordinator, and Faculty Liaison.
- Development of a mentor/mentee writing program throughout the year. Main contacts will be the Research Coordinator and the Faculty Liaison. Need to elicit more mentors for the program along with marketing the program to members through the regional conference, newsletter, and other marketing venues throughout the year. More development and buy-in throughout the Region needs to occur here for this program to be successful.
- Alteration of the Master's Case Study Competition to a writing/research submission process. Where each submission is paired with a faculty or seasoned writer/practitioner to develop the

publication. All promising submissions will be assigned a mentor to help the participant get their manuscript published. Need to decide how to make this program more exciting and enticing to members (e.g., Master's students, practitioners).

- There was discussion with all the Research Coordinator's at the 2011 national NASPA conference about the purpose of the role. Was it to help drive writing/research in each region or was it to actually conduct research. I do think it is a neat idea to have the position embark on one research project per term or each year that the region feels meets the overall NASPA research and regional interest.
- We would also like to propose the development of 2-3 research grants of \$500 for Region IV-West members. A committee would be developed to evaluate the grants along with criteria to evaluate the submissions. Committee would consist of the Faculty Liaison, Research Coordinator, Awards Chair, Graduate Representative, a KC rep, and an at-large member. Guidelines to monitor the successful completion of the grants can be developed from following the lead of the national grant awarding process. Each recipient would then need to submit a brief summary of their research to the Region IV-West newsletter the following year and a future hopeful publication of the research.

Region VI Update from Sharyn Slavin Miller

- The recipients of the Region VI research grants from last year are scheduled to present on their work at the Region V/VI regional conference in San Diego in November.
- The call for research proposals will go out to Region VI membership during the month of July.