



**Mike Vetter, Small Colleges & Universities Division Chair**  
**Board of Directors Meeting**  
**February 11, 2011**

**Discussion Items**

1. 2012 Small Colleges and Universities Summer Institute
2. Mid-Level Leaders Institute, Preconference Workshop
3. NCAA Division III and the Small Colleges and Universities Division

**Action Items** - none

**Goal A – To provide professional development to our members through the creation and dissemination of high quality experiences, information and exemplary models of practice**

1. The 8<sup>th</sup> Small Colleges and Universities Summer Institute, June 2010: Cathy Kramer, Dean of Students, Warren Wilson College and Anne Lundquist, Dean of Students, Wells College co-chaired our biennial institute, June 26-28, 2010 at the University of Redlands in Southern California. Char Burgess, SSAO, and Raja Bhattar, a member of the Redlands staff, were gracious hosts and made our stay very enjoyable. Presenters/speakers at the institute included Jim Appleton (President of Redlands and past NASPA president), Marilee Bresciani, Gwen Dungy, Elizabeth Griego, Eileen Hulme (Executive Director of the Noel Academy for Strengths-Based Leadership and Education), John Lowery, Rachel Reiser (author of the book, Millennials on Board: The Impact of the Rising Generation on the Workplace), Mike Segawa, and Perri Strawn (with the Advisory Board Company). As reported on the evaluation all of the participants indicated they would both recommend the institute to a colleague and attend a future institute.
2. The 9<sup>th</sup> Small Colleges and Universities Summer Institute, 2012: The co-chairs for the 2012 Institute are Bob Gatti, Otterbein College and Betsy Newman, Babson College. The Institute selection committee was pleased that ten institutions submitted proposals to host the institute. After a two-tiered review process Butler University in Indianapolis was chosen as the site for the 2012 Institute, June 23-26, 2012, with Levester Johnson as the host chair.
3. Annual NASPA Conference - division presence/ programs – Philadelphia, March 2011:

Mid-Manager Pre-conference workshop: The third Small Colleges and Universities Mid-Level Leaders Institute will be held as a pre-conference workshop in Philadelphia. The mid-manager focus complements the SSAO summer institute in order to create a forum for mid-level staff at small

colleges, both for professional development and for networking. The ACPA/NASPA Professional Competencies document will be used to develop the content of the workshop. Kathy Cavins-Tull, Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students at Illinois Wesleyan University is the coordinator and the faculty will include Tim Millerick, Vice President for Student Affairs, Austin College (TX) and Ann Highum, Vice President and Dean for Student Life, Luther College (IA), and John Lowery, Associate Professor, Indiana University of Pennsylvania.

Conference Sessions: The Division will sponsor three programs at the Annual Conference: the SSAO Small Colleges and Universities Roundtable, The Small Colleges and Universities Open Roundtable focusing on mid-level and entry-level staff, and NCAA Division III athletics with presenters from the NCAA staff. Several other programs that were developed from conversations at the summer institute will be presented at the annual conference.

4. NCAA Division III and the Small Colleges and Universities Division: Initial discussion has taken place for the purpose of planning future collaborative initiatives between the NASPA Small Colleges and Universities Division and the NCAA Region III council/staff. Several members involved in the Small College Division attended the NCAA 2011 Convention and met with representatives from the NCAA office. The topic of conversation was how to further serve the needs of SSAOs since many now have oversight responsibility for athletics (currently over 80% of the Division III colleges have athletics reporting to a VP, usually the SSAO). Further conversations will be held at the 2011 NASPA Conference with representatives from the Division and the NCAA. Topics will include identifying the educational needs of SSAOs regarding athletic supervision as well as possible education venues such as a NASPA pre-conference workshop or a separate institute.

**Goal B – To provide leadership in higher education through policy development and advocacy for students on important international, national, state, and local issues.**

No report

**Goal C – To advance pluralism, diversity, and internationalism in NASPA and the profession**

No report

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

1. Assessment/benchmarking and data collection to ensure high-quality student learning environments and inclusive NASPA programming for small institutions.

The first two years of the Student Voice Benchmarking Project for the 20 plus small colleges have been very successful. The assessments for the third year will include new student orientation, residence life, Greek life, and civic engagement. Jim Thorius, Simpson College (IA), and Huston Dougharty, Grinnell College (IA), are coordinating the small college consortium.

**Goal E – To maintain, evaluate, and develop a high quality association structure and national office to meet current needs, anticipate future trends, and promote growth**

1. NASPA/ACPA Consolidation: The Small Colleges and Universities Division has been very involved in the conversation about unification. The following activities summarize the efforts of the Division:
  - a. At the Division meetings at the 2010 NASPA Conference in Chicago a commitment was made to write a position statement of important values for a new association. In April, 2010 The Small Colleges and Universities Leadership Team authored a NASPA/ACPA Position Statement that was sent to the executive committees of NASPA and ACPA as well as to all the working subcommittees of consolidation. This document served the Division well as a vision statement for subsequent conversations throughout the year.
  - b. Two sessions, one for the entire group and the other as a small group conversation, were held on the topic of consolidation at the 2010 June Institute. Mike Segawa led the sessions and engaged the participants in a lively discussion on the important issues for small college and university SSAOs.
  - c. The regional representatives conducted a conference call in October prior to the fall conferences and again in November after the conferences to discuss the NASPA/ACPA Consolidation Proposal especially the governance section. Most Leadership Team members also participated in the SSAO Town Hall teleconferences on consolidation. After the December NASPA Board meeting information was again shared with the regional representatives for further discussions in the regions.

### **Closing Comments**

It was a pleasure serving on the Board of Directors the past two years. Thank you to Mike and Elizabeth for your support personally to me and to our Division. My job was made much easier with the work of Kevin, Stephanie, Nathan and Tiki and others from the NASPA Office...Thank you. A special thanks to Gwen for her encouraging phone calls and conversations! I accepted this position two year ago knowing I had an appreciation for the work of small colleges and for NASPA. However, I did not expect to leave the position with such a strong commitment to our Division, NASPA and our profession. At this stage in my career I am grateful for this. I will treasure the time spent with all the Board members...I believe we served NASPA well!

Please welcome Maggie Balistreri-Clarke from Edgewood College in Madison Wisconsin, the new chair of the Small Colleges and Universities Division. She is well respected in the small college community and I know she will be a contributing member of the Board.