

NASPA IV-WEST



As I head into my sophomore year of regional director of NASPA IV-West, I am humbled and honored to work with such dedicated and creative student affairs professionals. During our summer board retreat, I challenged the board to consider unique professional development opportunities and to advance imaginative methods in which we could invest in our members. And of course, they responded admirably. You will notice some of these concepts in Hot Springs and throughout the year.

Speaking of the regional conference, last year when I asked Dan Mabery and Sara Mata to co-chair the 2013 regional conference, little did I know that this may be one of the most distinctive professional development programs during my time in the region – for the first time, we are offering a pre-conference for NUFP fellows and SSAOs; a “Ted Talk” like session on Thursday; we will have more educational sessions (a record number of program proposal were submitted) than ever before; and three outstanding keynote speakers. Lastly, the New Professionals Institute will have a large and diverse group of participants. If you have not done so already, do not

forget to register for the conference. An ad hoc committee reviewed our mission statement and goals to ensure they are aligned with the national agenda. I hope to approve them this fall. Another ad-hoc committee is exploring the possibility of a joint conference with NASPA Region IV-East and is considering a proposal for either 2016 (100 year anniversary of NASPA) or 2017 (the 50 anniversary of the NASPA Region IV split). We will share more with you soon.

Nationally, we are healthy fiscally and our membership has grown to the largest ever. This will be an exciting year for NASPA and Region IV-West. I invite you to join us on the journey. I look forward to reconnecting with all of you in Hot Springs.



Tim Alvarez

Regional Regional Director NASPA IV-W
University of Nebraska - Lincoln

REFLECTIONS OF LEADERSHIP

Would you like to see how your “reflections of leadership” could impact your campus? We encourage you to participate in this year’s NASPA IV-West Case Study Competition at our annual conference in Hot Springs, Arkansas.

Each participant must register for the conference and team information must be submitted by **November 5th**. There will be a brief orientation on the evening of Tuesday, November 5th to distribute the case study and provide a general overview of the competition. Case study presentations will occur on Wednesday, November 6th. Teams will make a 15-minute presentation followed by a 10-minute question and answer period with the judges. After a 5-minute break, teams will have 10-minutes to address any feedback provided by the judges. Questions? Please contact Dr. Teresa L. Clouch 785-594-8473 (w) or teresa.clouch@bakeru.edu; Precious Porras 785-864-4350 (w) or pporras@ku.edu

Teresa Clouch
Associate Dean of Students/Director of Multicultural Affairs
Baker University

Precious Porras
Associate Director of Diversity Education and Social Justice Programs
University of Kansas

HURRY! EARLY BIRD DEADLINE IS OCTOBER 4



2013 REGIONAL CONFERENCE

November 5 - 7

Hot Springs, Arkansas

Conference Co-Chairs: Dan Mabery and Sara Mata

[Registration](#)

[Hotel Information](#)

MEET THE NEW MISSOURI MEMBERSHIP COORDINATOR

Greetings from Missouri!

I am pleased to introduce myself as the new NASPA IV-West Missouri Membership Coordinator. After attending my first NASPA IV-West conference last fall in Rapid City, South Dakota, I was thrilled by the warm welcome I received from so many attendees. From that experience, I knew NASPA IV-West was going to be a great region to learn from and give back to.

Some biographical information--I currently serve as the Assistant Vice

President for Student Life and Director of the Plaster Student Union at

Missouri State University in Springfield, MO, and provide supervisory oversight for the Plaster Student Union; Campus Recreation; and Residence Life, Housing, and Dining Services. I have worked in

student affairs since 1993, holding positions at Illinois State University, Minnesota State University-Moorhead, and Missouri State University. I am a past president of the Association of College Unions International and also currently serve as an adjunct faculty member in Missouri State University's Higher Education and Student Affairs program. I hold a B. S. Degree in Communications from Illinois State University (1991); M.S. Ed. (College Student Personnel Sequence) from Illinois State University (1995); and an Ed.D. in Educational and Leadership Policy Analysis from the University of Missouri-Columbia (2010).

I look forward to meeting our Missouri members at the upcoming NASPA IV-West conference in November and learning more about how I can add value to your membership. Please don't hesitate to contact me at ThomasLane@missouristate.edu or 417-836-5886 should I be able to be of assistance. See you soon in Hot Springs, Arkansas!



Thomas Lane
Assistant Vice President for Student Life and
Director of the Plaster Student Union
Missouri State University



SEXUAL HARASSMENT TRAINING FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

Because of the April 4, 2011, DoE Dear Colleague Letter, training related to sexual harassment is receiving increased attention. Training of international students is of particular concern. Sexual mores, expectations, laws, etc. vary widely across national and ethnic boundaries. Helping international students to adjust to United States expectations can present challenges, complicated by the fact that in many countries conversations related to sex are not held in mixed company.

The University of Nebraska Medical Center, UNMC, hosts a separate orientation program for international students. During the orientation we discuss issues well understood by US students and issues that require more time to explain when English is a second language. Sexual harassment is one such topic.

Our presentation starts with the same slide set that is used at general orientation. However, the discussion is in greater detail and provides more examples. We specifically asked for questions after each slide to see if more explanation was needed.

After the presentation we separate out the group by gender. The groups meet with a leader of the same sex to discuss four different case studies. One addresses a persistent suitor who will not stop asking for a date or sending unwanted gifts, the second addresses domestic violence involving two married students, and the third and fourth scenarios address situations at a party where students are drinking to the point of intoxication.

Previously, situational issues were only presented and allowed for only a few questions from students. In contrast, creating single gender small groups increased conversation. The women groups in particular were able to ask potentially embarrassing questions. False conclusions (she was drunk so it was her fault) could be dispelled more gently. An additional advantage for the women was the creation of a relationship with the Title IX Coordinator and her deputy.

In summary, the use of small, single gendered group was an effective tool for reinforcing concepts related to sexual harassment for international students.

Cheryl Bagley Thompson
Associate Professor College of Nursing, Assistant Vice Chanc. Stud. Affairs
University of Nebraska Medical Center

Carmen Sirizzotti
Division Director Compensation and Staffing
University of Nebraska Medical Center

IV-WEST REGIONAL CONFERENCE

SPEAKERS

JOIN US NOVEMBER 5-7

The 2013 Regional Conference Planning committee is excited about the speakers we will hear from at this year's conference in Hot Springs, Arkansas. As the Major Speaker's Chair I wanted to take the conference theme, "Reflections on Leadership" and make sure that each time someone spoke, we were doing just that, reflecting, but we were doing it through a different lens each time reflecting on the past, present, and the future of our profession.

In addition, we are excited to begin a new contest for Graduate Students to introduce our speakers. Interested Graduate Students should make a short video (no more than five minutes) about why you would like the opportunity to spend time with and introduce one of the three conference speakers. Videos are due by **Friday, October 25th at noon**. Submissions and questions can be sent to Ryan Gove at rgove@kumc.edu.

Carlotta Walls LaNier

In 1957, fourteen-year-old Carlotta Walls was the youngest member to integrate Central High School in Little Rock, Arkansas working her way into history as one of the Little Rock Nine. She and eight other black students faced angry mobs, racist elected officials, and intervention by President Dwight D. Eisenhower, who was forced to send in the 101st Airborne to escort the Nine into the building. Little did she realize that day that this was the beginning of a journey that would challenge prevailing attitudes, break down barriers, and forever change the landscape of America.



After graduating from Little Rock Central High School in 1960, Carlotta Walls attended Michigan State University and graduated from Colorado State College—now the University of Northern Colorado, which has awarded her an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters and on whose board of trustees she sits. She worked for the YWCA, and then pursued a successful career as a real estate broker in Engelwood, Colorado, where she lives with her husband Ira LaNier. They have a grown son and daughter.

Overcoming her initial need to forget her turbulent past, Carlotta Walls LaNier has told her dramatic story for the first time in *A Mighty Long Way: My Journey to Justice at Little Rock Central High School*. The Associated Press said, "LaNier tells her story with eloquence, dignity, and a riveting sense of urgency," and Congressman John Lewis calls the book "a marvelous personal account that describes a moving period in the transformative struggle for civil rights and social justice in America." President Bill Clinton, in his Foreword to the book, writes, "A Mighty Long Way will make you ashamed and proud, angry and hopeful, heartsick and happy...[it is] a story we all need to know."

In addition to receiving the Congressional Gold Medal and the NAACP's Spingam Medal, awarded to her as a member of the Little Rock Nine, Carlotta Walls LaNier is an inductee in the Colorado Women's Hall of Fame and the Girl Scouts Women of Distinction. She serves as president of the Little Rock Nine Foundation, created to promote equality of opportunity for all, particularly in the field of education.

CONFERENCE SPEAKERS CONT.

Bunky Echo-Hawk

Bunky Echo-Hawk is a multi-talented artist whose work spans both media and lifestyle. A graduate of the Institute of American Indian Arts, he is a fine artist, graphic designer, photographer, writer and a non-profit professional. Bunky is a traditional singer and dancer of the Pawnee Nation and an enrolled member of the Yakama Nation.

Throughout his career, he has merged traditional values with his lifestyle and art. He has exhibited in major exhibitions throughout the United States and internationally, including in NYC, Chicago, Denver, Santa Fe, and Frankfurt, Germany, to name a few. His poetry has been published in magazines and anthologies, and his plays have been performed and produced across the nation.



In 2006, Bunky co-founded NVision, a non-profit collective of Native American artists, musicians, community organizers, and non-profit professionals who focus on Native American youth empowerment through multimedia arts. As an advocate and an educator, Bunky travels extensively, speaking, teaching, and creating live works of art to raise money for non-profit organizations.

Vernon Wall

“Dynamic!” “Current!” “Inspiring!” These are just a few words that have been used to describe Vernon and his presentations. Vernon has accumulated over 25 years of professional student affairs experience at Iowa State University, the University of Georgia, UNC-Charlotte and UNC-Chapel Hill. He has experience in Greek life, new student orientation, student activities, leadership development, global education and university housing. Vernon currently lives in Washington, D.C., where he serves as the Director for Business Development for LeaderShape, Inc. Prior to this position, Vernon served as the Senior Director for Professional Development, Research & Scholarship for the American College Personnel Association (ACPA - College Student Educators International).

Vernon has received numerous awards for his contributions to the quality of student life, is a nationally known speaker in the areas of social justice and leadership styles and is one of the founders and facilitators of the Social Justice Training Institute. Vernon has written several articles and has co-edited two books on issues of inclusion on today’s college campus. His award-winning programs and presentations have been seen by thousands of students, faculty, and staff on campuses across the country and have been described as being “a learning experience - with a touch of wildness.”



Ryan Gove
Director of Student Life
University of Kansas Medical Center

CONFERENCE EXPERIENCE

The conference experience is more than just attending modules and participating in an occasional social. The Region IV-West conferences, in particular, are opportunities to network with colleagues, mentor others, and strengthen leadership. Time and time again, we've heard stories about the welcoming environment that Region IV-West provides and the connections forged over a cup of coffee or a shared meal. Someone recently stated it was a homecoming of sorts, and she looked forward to seeing her expansive student affairs family each fall.



We understand attending a conference can be challenging – at the very least, there are often financial hurdles to overcome and work obligations to juggle. So, why are our Region IV-West members so passionate about their conference experience?


I remember being extremely nervous when I first attended a regional conference. I was a new professional - a NASPA member for two months and an introvert who would prefer to recharge her batteries in the hotel room than attend any networking dinners or gatherings. Who was I going to talk to? Where was I going to sit during meals? I had a lot of questions, but, more predominantly, I had a lot of apprehension. I had no clue what I was about to experience.

Who was I going to talk to? Apparently, everyone who said hello. Where was I going to sit during meals? Apparently, anywhere I was invited. I was overwhelmed, not by my nerves, but by the kind and welcoming nature of the conference participants. Everywhere I went, folks introduced themselves, shook my hand, or asked how I was enjoying the conference. I didn't feel alone; rather, I felt supported and appreciated. Once I returned to my home campus, I vowed to make regional conferences a priority.

That's why I'm so passionate about my conference experience, and I have a feeling I'm not alone in my sentiment. In fact, while spinning on article ideas, I asked a few regional members why they enjoyed conferencing. One comment, from my friend and colleague Mauricio Gómez Montoya, stood out. He said, "Every year I look forward to the NASPA IV-West conference. As a new professional, it has allowed me to establish strong relationships with colleagues around the region. It was because of NASPA IV-West that I had the opportunity to attend the New Professionals Institute (NPI) and to receive the Kansas Rising Star- New Professional Award, both great professional experiences. I value this region's commitment to developing and connecting professionals of all levels as well as students. I'm grateful to have the opportunity to attend the conference, connect with new and old friends and return to my campus refreshed, motivated and inspired. NASPA IV-West feels like home."

So, come home. See you at the conference.

Katie Garey
Associate Director
University of Missouri - Kansas City



Are you ready for the regional conference? Have some words to motivate others to come to the conference? Has a new networking opportunity become available, and you would like to share with the region? Let everyone know by submitting your article to the Region IV-West newsletter by emailing submissions to Richard Monroe at monroeri@umkc.edu

Feel free to contact Richard via email at monroeri@umkc.edu, by phone 417-529-9324, on Facebook <http://www.facebook.com/richardlmonroe>, or on Twitter [@Richard_Monroe](https://twitter.com/Richard_Monroe)

From The Editor

Richard Monroe- Coordinator of Student Organizations, University of Missouri - Kansas City

“It doesn’t matter where you are, you are nowhere compared to where you can go” - Bob Proctor

Everyone reading this newsletter holds so much potential. Some are undergraduates looking towards the goal of graduating, some are new professionals trying to figure out their next step, others are mid-level professionals learning all they can, and some are senior officers who are setting standards for others. It is truly what you do with that potential that will make a difference.



As student affairs professionals we strive to provide the best learning opportunities and service to our students, faculty, colleagues and administrators. We have the opportunity to teach our students how to see the potential they can hone to be successful and reach for their goals. Life has many opportunities which may pass you by if you are not willing to change, so move forward and hop on for a ride.

We are all facing the same opportunities at each of our institutions: how to do more with less, in what way can we reach more students, and how can higher education strive to be viable in a changing environment? With just these few questions we can see how unleashing the potential within yourself can add to the whole and make a difference. Right now we are facing challenges, and we will always face challenges with changing environments, but it is what we can do today that will start the future of tomorrow. Go to your position today, tomorrow, and week after week with the confidence that you can, do, and will make a difference if you are willing to recognize your potential. Where we are now is only part of the story, it is where we can go that will make the difference.

I personally have a chance to begin making these changes, as I am now the Coordinator for Student Organizations at the University of Missouri - Kansas City. Getting a chance to reveal and use the education I have received to finally have the opportunity to make an impact on students. I tell you this with excitement as I am finally in the field of student affairs as a new professional and ready to help others and myself to reach for their next step. See where you can go, today.

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NASPA Region IV-W, Fall 2013 Newsletter



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A special thanks to Kristen Abell & Tim Alvarez for their help in editing the newsletter.

Thanks to all those who submitted an article for this issue of the NASPA IV-W newsletter.