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## NEWS FROM YOUR REGIONAL DIRECTOR

I hope the start of your semester and new year has been a good one. While I truly hope that is the case, I also assume that you are as shocked and unsure of things happening across our institutions, states, country, society, and world as I am. While I believe that differing value systems are a major reason for the divide we are seeing in decisions and issues across the United States, I am still disheartened by all that is occurring. [For rest of Blog, click here.](#)



## LIFE AS A STUDENT AFFAIRS PROFESSIONAL

Much of the work that we do in student affairs is reflected in the lives we lead as students, parents, leaders, administrators and human beings. The influence our individual lives play in our work is vital to the power and effectiveness in our daily work with students. [For rest of Blog, click here.](#)



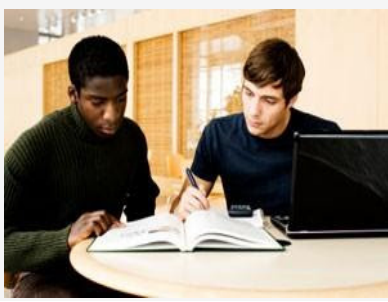
## KC SPOTLIGHT - WOMEN IN STUDENT AFFAIRS

At the 2016 IV-WE Regional Conference, I had the great honor and privilege of helping to facilitate the first “Women’s Words of Wisdom” reception. The “grain of sand” for this event came from a meaningful and challenging conversation between the event founder and another female colleague. That conversation inspired the creation of an event that would provide a similar type of genuine dialogue and exchange of ideas. We wanted to assemble a powerful panel of femi-leaders in student affairs to share their herstory—their journeys, their lessons learned, their pearls of wisdom. We aspired to create a space where women in our field and their allies could come together in community to build new relationships and grow our support networks. [For rest of Blog, click here.](#)



## GRADUATE STUDENT SPOTLIGHT - KIMMY BRAKE

Name: Kimmy Brake Hometown: Osage Beach, MO Graduate Institution: Missouri State University Degree you are working towards: Master of Science in Student Affairs in Higher Education Undergraduate Institution: Missouri State University [For rest of Blog, click here.](#)



## KC SPOTLIGHT - MEN AND MASCULINITIES

When I first joined NASPA as a graduate student, I remember being overwhelmed by the number of Knowledge Community opportunities available, while at the same time being excited to soak up what each group had to offer. I immediately jumped to areas of focus I felt I was in need of growth in, but at the time was unsure as to what the Men and Masculinities Knowledge Community could offer. That changed as a new professional. [For rest of Blog, click here.](#)

## KC SPOTLIGHT - ASSESSMENT, RESEARCH & EVALUATION



As student affairs professionals, we know it is our role to develop students outside of the classroom. Holistic student development occurs through services and activities offered at our institutions. I know we have all been very busy this year providing co-curricular learning opportunities for students. As a result of all of those activities, we have collected vast amounts of data on student learning just waiting to be analyzed and evaluated. Some may think analysis and evaluation are the final steps in assessing co-curricular activities. We are not able to cross the finish line just yet; we have few more steps to go! Reporting the results should be the next step in the assessment cycle. [For rest of Blog, click here.](#)



**NASPA**  
Professional  
Standards Division

## NEWS FROM THE PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS DIVISION

The Professional Standards Division has been busy and is excited to provide our IV-W family with the following updates/information from our area. Advancing the Profession of Student Affairs - Read more about Advancing the Profession: Professional Competency Areas for Student Affairs in this month's NASPA James E Scott Academy BLOG: <https://www.naspa.org/constituent-groups/posts/advancing-the-profession-professional-competency-areas-for-student-affairs>.

[For rest of Blog, click here.](#)



## ARE YOU CALLED TO SERVE NASPA IV-W? CHECK OUT THESE GREAT OPPORTUNITIES!

Calling all members in New Mexico, North Dakota, South Dakota, Wyoming, Manitoba and Saskatchewan! Join the NASPA Region IV-W family as a membership coordinator! There are also other great opportunities within our knowledge communities. [For rest of Blog, click here.](#)



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