



OCPA News

Spring 2004
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OCPA RECEIVES ACPA MEMBER RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION AWARD

The **Ohio College Personnel Association** (OCPA) recently received the ACPA Member Recruitment and Retention Award, one of four national awards presented to State/International Divisions, at the American College Personnel Association (ACPA) Convention held in early April 2004 in Philadelphia, PA. OCPA President, **John Berry** along with **Amy Lahmers**, OCPA President-Elect accepted the award at the annual ACPA Awards Luncheon.

The goal of this ACPA award is to recognize the State/International (S/I) Division that has demonstrated outstanding membership recruitment and retention efforts during the S/I Division's past membership year. The following criteria was used for selection: 1) membership numbers: specifically, number of members, number of new members, percentage increase of new members, number of members retained, and percentage of members retained and 2) recruitment and retention efforts: specifically a detailed description of S/I Division recruitment and retention efforts and how the S/I division has actively engaged new members.

To date OCPA has 376 members in its membership database. Member recruitment/retention program highlights for the past year included: a January annual conference sponsored jointly with the Ohio Association of Student Personnel Administrators (OASPA), the Robert A. Dubick Case Study Competition and a Diversity Workshop held in conjunction with the annual conference, the Fall Careers in Student Affairs Conference targeting graduate and undergraduate students interested in a career in student affairs, and the annual Spring Support Staff Conference. OCPA also provided its members quarterly newsletters and an up-to-date web site with information about executive board meetings, the OCPA membership application, government relations updates, OCPA award winners, calendar of programs, diversity information, information on Ohio student affairs graduate programs, and job postings. Each year OCPA recognizes outstanding programmatic and individual member achievements through OCPA Awards presented at the annual conference. To further engage members of underrepresented populations and to generate interest in OCPA activities and membership, significant efforts were made to reach out to professionals working in the area of multicultural student affairs including a Diversity Listserv as well as a Diversity Guide.

Thank you to Executive Board members, **Robin Gagnow**, **Michelle Ocepek**, and **Michelle Gaffney** for their hard work in preparing the award nomination and congratulations OCPA!

By Amy Lahmers

OCPA Mission

The Ohio College Personnel Association is a comprehensive student affairs organization dedicated to providing quality professional development opportunities that enhance student learning, foster an appreciation of diversity, and encourage collaborative partnerships among student affairs professionals in Ohio.

OCPA Vision

OCPA will maintain a proactive leadership role as an inclusive organization committed to initiating, influencing, and addressing issues and trends in higher education that assist in enhancing student learning and development.

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President's Pen

Greetings All! What an exciting time it has been for OCPA. Since the last newsletter, we have: 1) Successfully organized a comprehensive professional development conference, 2) Enhanced our members understanding and appreciation of diversity and related issues, 3) Represented the great state of Ohio at the annual ACPA conference and, 4) Won a national award for excellence in membership recruitment and retention! A special thanks to all of you who continue to support the mission of OCPA and who contribute daily to student development and service provision. Without you as our membership, we would not have the capacity to produce a myriad of programs and services.

We would like to highlight one upcoming event. The Support Staff Conference will be held on the Ohio State University-Newark and Central Ohio Technical College Campus on Friday, June 18. This year's event promises to be another rewarding experience for support staff from any and all campus departments. Don't forget to mark your calendars and please feel free to share this opportunity with your colleagues.

Finally, I would be remiss if I did not take this opportunity to thank all of the OCPA Board members for their tireless devotion to our organization. Each member provides so much time and energy to the organization and rarely receives the praise they so rightfully deserve. As this is my last President's Pen, it is my pleasure to provide such acknowledgement. Thank you all for your support and dedication. You have been a pleasure and I am proud to call you colleagues.

John M. Berry, OCPA President 2003 - 2004

OCPA 2003-2004 Executive Board

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Community Service
Residence Hall Director
Otterbein College

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Dwayne Todd
Director of Student Affairs
Columbus College of Art & Design

Careers in Student Affairs Conference

Kim Ferguson
Director of Student Affairs
OSU-Marion

Workshops

Michael Griest
Residence Coordinator
Wittenberg University

Support Staff Conference

Kristan Hausman
Residence Hall Director
Ohio State University – Newark

Annual Conference

Tracy Benner
Assistant Director of
Residence Life
Otterbein College

Awards

Kathy Morris
Assistant Vice President for
Student Affairs & Enrollment
Wright State University

Recapping exciting events...

On January 28, 2004, OCPA held its first Diversity Workshop, "Educating Ourselves to Understand Our Differences" as a pre-conference workshop to the Annual Conference. Program sessions included: "Will the Battle for Equal Educational Access Ever Be Over?" "Understanding Our Differences: Perceptions of Undergraduate and Graduate Students of Color," and "Ready, Fire, Aim: Diversity Education Strategies." Approximately 40 student affairs educators attended the Diversity Workshop. Overall evaluations were very positive and suggested we should make this an annual event.

On January 29-30, OCPA collaborated with the Ohio Association of Student Personnel Administrators (OASPA) to host "The Spirit of Education" Conference. The keynote speaker was Dr. Judy Rogers, Associate Professor in the Department of Educational Leadership at Miami University. Dr. Rogers' keynote address set the tone for the remainder of the conference, focusing on spirituality in student affairs work. Nearly 50 educational sessions were presented and over 235 student affairs educators attended the conference, making this year's conference the largest in terms of attendance in recent years. Conference evaluations were very positive and plans are already being made to work with OASPA on another joint conference in 2005.

By Amy Lahmers



Keynote Speaker , Dr. Judy Rogers and Conference Chair, Tracy Benner

A Long Way From Home

by Jeremy Reed, KSU Class of 2004

"OCPA?" To a graduate student new to Ohio and Kent State University's Higher Education Administration and Student Personnel program, this sounded like another troublesome acronym to absorb. Were it not for the encouragement of a highly involved fellow student and veteran OCPA member, I would have likely missed out on an incredible opportunity for involvement and professional networking. From serving on an awards and registration committee, to attending and eventually presenting a session with a veteran member of OCPA, my small investment in student membership fees has truly paid off. I came to the student affairs profession in Ohio as a stranger, but two state conferences, a drive-in graduate student workshop, many sessions, a case study competition, and countless handshakes later, I leave having made some incredible contacts and friends. I'd like to thank the many dedicated individuals who make OCPA such an incredibly welcoming and well-run organization. Keep up the great work!



OCPA Presenters Jeremy Reed and Robin Gagnow

Congratulations...

OCPA has a proud tradition of honoring individuals and programs in Ohio colleges and universities who make a difference. Please take the time to congratulate the 2003 OCPA Award winners.

The Undergraduate Student Leader of the Year
Kelly Naples, Baldwin-Wallace College

The Graduate Student of the Year
Jennifer Gilbride-Brown, The Ohio State University

The Innovative Program of the Year
The New Diversity Initiative, Baldwin-Wallace College

The Cultural Diversity Award
The Tunnel of Oppression, Wright State University

The Mark G. Noffsinger New Professional Award
Jason Bowser, Columbus College of Art & Design

The Gerald L. Saddlemire Mentor Award
Joyce Jadwin, Otterbein College

The Phillip A. Tripp Distinguished Service Award
Dr. Louise A. Douce, The Ohio State University



Robert A. Dubick Case Study Competition Winners



First Place Winners (left)
Betsy Bishop and Amanda Gage
Bowling Green State University

Second Place Winners
Mike Taylor and Krista Bailey
The Ohio State University

Third Place Winners
Jamie Kunihara and Teniell Trolan
Bowling Green State University

INTERESTED IN SUBMITTING INFORMATION TO THE OCPA NEWSLETTER?
SUBMISSIONS, QUESTIONS, OR COMMENTS CAN BE ADDRESSED TO:

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Ohio Board of Regents Offers Helpful Resources By Erica Lee, Government Relations Representative



The Ohio Board of Regents is an eleven member coordinating board created in 1963 by the General Assembly of the State of Ohio. The Board has a direct, non-governing relationship with all colleges and universities in the state of Ohio. It authorizes new degree programs, recommends how the state's budget will be allocated, develops and advocates for policy changes, and works in partnership with the Ohio higher education community.

Additionally, the Board's website provides helpful information including:

Links and maps of Ohio's public and private colleges and universities with provides links to websites at colleges and universities throughout Ohio, a list of campus presidents, college associations and councils, an Ohio map of campuses, and diploma schools of nursing in the state.

http://www.regents.state.oh.us/visit_campuses.htm

United States 2000 Census Data which provides national, state, and county information.

<http://www.regents.state.oh.us/mainpages/2000census.html>

Programs of the Ohio Board of Regents including information about degree programs, grants, awards, and college readiness programs. Additionally, this site provides links to data for statewide higher education initiatives, research links, and non-profit programs in Ohio.

<http://www.regents.state.oh.us/mainpages/programs.html>

The Ohio Board of Regents website (<http://www.regents.state.oh.us>) consistently updates its data to reflect changes and provide more accurate information to consumers. Check out future issues of *OCPA News* for more resources from the web.

OCPA a Winning Team at ACPA Carnival

OCPA debuted as a "winning team" at the Convention Carnival at the recent ACPA Convention in Philadelphia, PA. This year's Carnival was focused on a "sports team" theme. OCPA provided membership information, 2005 OCPA/OASPA conference information, and information on www.OCPAonline.org, along with some fun giveaways including leather Wilson football key chains and Wilson football posters focusing on the Super Bowl footballs (made in Ada, Ohio) and Pro Football Hall of Fame information.

Thank you to all Ohioans who stopped by to say hello! We enjoyed seeing you!



Are you looking for a position in Ohio? Check out the OCPA Job Listing page!

[http://www.ocpaonline.org/Job Postings/job_postings.html](http://www.ocpaonline.org/Job_Postings/job_postings.html)

If you would like a job posting listed on our website (**for free!**), please email the posting, and the date it should be taken off the site, to Janice Gerda, OCPA Technology Chair at jgerda@kent.edu

Featured posting:

Assistant Director of Residence Life John Carroll University

Details available at www.ocpaonline.org

Are you interested in having your College or University positions featured **FREE** in the quarterly newsletter?

Contact Amber Prekler at aprekler@hotmail.com.

Mark Your Calendars...

The 2004 OCPA Careers In Student Affairs Conference will be held on Saturday, October 23 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on the beautiful campus of Ashland University. The Careers in Student Affairs workshop is designed for undergraduate and graduate students who are aspiring to leadership positions in Student Affairs.

This dynamic workshop will provide opportunities to:

- Explore Ohio graduate schools and learn about the admission and financial aid processes
- Examine the various career tracks in Student Affairs
- Discover how to market your undergraduate leadership skills and experience
- Learn how to chart your course for a senior Student Affairs position

The first part of the 2004 Careers in Student Affairs Conference will be dedicated to graduate school recruitment, admissions and financial aid processes as requested by our undergraduate and graduate student attendees from last year's successful conference. In addition, we will have outstanding faculty, staff and practitioners from Ohio graduate school programs leading our awesome conference/workshop sessions. The fee for this year's program will remain at \$30 for all participants. Ashland University has a beautiful campus with great conference facilities and other amenities. More importantly, the campus has an award winning catering/food and hospitality program that will be providing service for our conference.

Mark your calendars now and plan to join us! If you are interested in helping with the planning of this dynamic conference, please contact Kimberly M. Ferguson at 740.389.6786, extension 6389 or e-mail ferguson.308@osu.edu