



OCPA News

Winter 2004
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OCPA/OASPA CONFERENCE

LEARNING PARTNERSHIPS: GREAT COMPANY AND CONVERSATIONS

FEBRUARY 2 - 4, 2005

Make sure that you have marked your calendar for Ohio's Conference for Student Affairs! The OCPA and OASPA conference committee members are looking forward to hosting our annual gathering, and hope that you will join us in Columbus at the Radisson Hotel - Worthington.

Our theme, "**Learning Partnerships: Great Company and Conversations,**" reflects the wealth of talent and experiences to be shared among our presenters and conference attendees, beginning with the Pre-conference Workshop on Wednesday, February 2, 2004. OCPA's contribution will once again feature the topic of diversity, and promises to build on the success of the previous year.

We are also pleased to announce that **Dr. Peter Magolda**, Associate Professor in the Department of Educational Leadership at Miami University, will kick-off the conference with his keynote presentation entitled, "**Uncommon Wisdom about Student Affairs Partnerships.**"

Registration materials are accessible via the OCPA web site at www.ocpaonline.org. This conference promises something for everyone from graduate students to senior student affairs professionals and faculty.

SAVE THE DATE!

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

By Amy Lahmers



I hope that your autumn semester/quarter is going well! It is hard to believe that November is here, the term is more than halfway finished, and winter break is just around the corner. The fall season on campus is always one of my favorite times of year, with the energy and enthusiasm of a new first-year class, a fresh start to a new academic year, student activities in full swing, etc.

Each fall OCPA plans and organizes the Careers in Student Affairs Conference, which targets undergraduate and graduate students who are interested in learning more about a career in student affairs. This year's conference was held on Saturday, October 23 at Ashland University. It was quite successful with 137 attendees, including graduate and undergraduate student leaders, 12 graduate school representatives from Ohio and our neighboring states (and a number of others who just sent material for the Graduate School Fair), a number of current OCPA Executive Council Members, and 6 OCPA Past Presidents! Sue Caudill Heimann, Vice President for Student Affairs at Ashland University and OCPA Past President, provided a thoughtful keynote address and also served as our gracious host.

On my drive back to Columbus after the conference, I had the opportunity to reflect upon the day's proceedings. First and foremost, the interaction with the students was energizing. I am optimistic about the future of our profession, given the bright young leaders who are currently enrolled or will be entering the student affairs graduate preparation programs. I was also inspired by the student affairs professionals and faculty members who led sessions. OCPA is fortunate to have many wonderful leaders and mentors who are so devoted to the profession. At the end of the day, I was left with a subtle reminder of the reason that many of us have chosen the field of student affairs: *the joy of our everyday work in serving college students.*

I am also reminded of the *joy* in our work each time I read the following poem that was given to me by a student affairs mentor when I was an undergraduate student.

I do not walk down a brick-paved street to my labors; I come into a beautiful green park. Flowers bloom in the spring time – though not necessarily because I have trod there! I see the colors of the Autumn leaves. I have watched the sunsets (if not the sunrises!). There is no more beautiful place than our campus in all the country.

There is tremendous compensation that comes from association with these fine young men and women who crowd the campus and the classrooms, a wave of young life that comes sweeping in every fall with new ideas and new emotions, and it sometimes seems to me that I have had the pleasantest of lots and that I would not want to exchange with anyone, and the things I have gained in these years cannot be weighed in the scale nor computed with an adding machine.

By: Professor William L. Graves, The Ohio State University

Today this poem remains in a frame on the wall near my desk. It is amazing that this somewhat crinkled, typewritten sheet of paper survived the numerous moves that I made as an undergraduate student, graduate student, and even several moves since then!

In the midst of the flurry of activities present on your campus, I hope you will take a moment to enjoy the beauty of the Fall season, "soak up" the intrinsic rewards of our work in serving college students, and consider the opportunities you have to promote student learning and development on your campus during the coming year. Seize the Day!

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

AMBER PREKLER
NEWSLETTER EDITOR
aprekler@kent.edu

ACPA Summer Leadership Meeting University of Maryland-Baltimore County

Submitted by: Michelle G. Ocepek, President-Elect

This past July, I had the pleasure of representing OCPA at the ACPA Summer Leadership Meeting. All levels of ACPA leadership were in attendance, including representatives of ACPA's Executive Council, Core Councils, Standing Committees, Commissions, and State and International Divisions. It was quite a gathering!

The meeting began by giving an overview of the ACPA Governance Structure and an overall introduction to ACPA. The President, Jeanne Steffes, and the Executive Director, Greg Roberts, of the Association welcomed us. They reviewed the ACPA Strategic Plan and the 2004-2005 Themes and Goals for ACPA (found on p. 8 of this newsletter). In addition, we reviewed the Statement of Ethical Principles and Standards, which should be guiding the work we do.

We learned that ACPA is building a new image and we reviewed the Visual Identity Standards developed for the Association. The goal is to firmly establish the ACPA identity and personality in the minds of student affairs educators everywhere and to solidify and enhance our image and reputation. The primary elements of our visual identity are: the ACPA logo, the use of a curved graphic element that mimics the curve of the "C" in our unique logotype, a special palette of accepted colors, a defined family of type fonts, and people-oriented visual treatments that add depth and personality to the ACPA brand. These standards are meant to help member volunteers and staff effectively apply the ACPA brand. These guidelines, when properly followed, will help ACPA stand out in a crowded field of acronyms and associations.

The 2005 Nashville Convention was highlighted, as preparations are well under way. It will be April 2-6, 2005 in Nashville, TN at Opryland. Please note that registration began 11/15/2004. We discussed the pros and cons of a National Certification of Student Affairs and you will likely learn more about that at the Convention. Greg Blimling will put together a task force over the next year to consider this direction for our field.

Traveling to Washington D.C., One Dupont Circle, which is the location for the National Center for Higher Education, was a treat. The ACPA National Office and staff are located there and this visit was to give us a better understanding of where the office is located and who the staff are and how they can assist us. The staff is very small, but I was impressed at their approachability and the work they accomplish. The program for the day included a session on assessment and ACPA's focus on lobbying. We also heard from two different panels: senior student affairs officers talking about current issues and a panel of students discussing issues.

Another day was devoted to group meetings, so I met with the other representatives from the State and International Divisions (S/I divisions). Our group discussed common issues and questions, plus learned of our roles and responsibilities within ACPA. We also learned about the services provided to OCPA by ACPA including professional/leadership development, grants, S/I division budgets, the Educational Leadership Foundation, membership labels, co-sponsorship of programs with other states/commissions/standing committees, semi-annual meetings at the National Convention and the Summer Leadership Meeting, hosting S/I Division websites and information on taxes, liability, etc. There is a wealth of information on the ACPA website for our reference and usage. We spent a large part of our time discussing how our S/I division functions and what we offer each year. This was helpful to get a perspective of where our S/I division fits amongst the others. OCPA is a very strong S/I division and we function pretty independently of ACPA.

Overall, this was an excellent introduction to ACPA and how OCPA fits within that structure. It gave me a better understanding of the Association, its staff, the resources available to us, and the tremendous number of member volunteers who are working to better the Association and available for consultation and assistance. Thank you for the opportunity to attend on behalf of OCPA!

*Unless otherwise noted, items discussed in this article may be found at www.myacpa.org. If you have not yet done so, check out this new website, which was rolled out on 9/1/2004 to go along with the new image of the Association.

GRASPP - Graduate Organizations in Action

By Carrie Wissinger, GRASPP President

Kent State University's Graduate Association of Student Personnel Practitioners does its best to promote social involvement, professional development, and personal growth for students in the Higher Education Administration program at Kent State by sponsoring numerous activities throughout the academic year. It is our belief that the friends we make now will be our friends for life – familiar faces at national conferences, networks for job searching, maybe even guests at our weddings!



Fall 2004 Canoe Trip

This year there has already been a number of different activities for GRASPPers. As a fundraiser, we have worked in a concession stand at Kent State football games. Who knew we had so many grill masters in our midst! Thanks to the dedication of many of our members, we have earned over \$500. During October, a few of our braver members and alumni gathered in Canfield for the haunted house and hayride at the "Scaregrounds."

In November, we celebrated the annual GRASPPgiving – a gathering of our students (past & present), friends, and loved ones. This month we also launched the first GRASPP t-shirt. How do you know you're a member of GRASPP? Just ask one of us who "Special K" is. It's a GRASPP thing.

We try to balance our social activities with professional development opportunities. As an effort to appeal to the growing number of students in our program, we are hosting a series of Professional Development Workshops. These one-hour workshops will cover topics such as tools and tips for a student affairs job search, making the transition from graduate student to professional, experiencing different types of universities, and forming collaborative partnerships with faculty, just to name just a few. Our first workshop has our program's very own Amber Prekler as an alumni presenter – Amber will be sharing tips on organizing a job search. Furthermore, GRASPP is always proud to co-sponsoring the Case Study Competition at the annual OCPA/OASPA Conference. We are pleased to play a part in gathering great prizes for the talented graduate students who participate in the case study.

See you in February!

EXECUTIVE BOARD ROSTER 2004 - 2005

Contact Information Available at http://www.ocpaonline.org/About_Us/People/people.html

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Awards
Holly Reynolds
Wittenberg University

DIVERSITY PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOP: DEVELOPING DIVERSE COMPANY FOR GLOBAL CONVERSATIONS

The pre-conference workshop will be **Wednesday, February 2, 2005** at the **Radisson Hotel in Worthington, Ohio**. Registration for the event begins at 11:00AM. This will be an excellent opportunity to engage friends and colleagues in conversation about the many facets of institutional diversity through interactive topical lunches and dynamic panel discussions.

The following panel discussions will be available to pre-conference registrants:

- ◆ Peer Mentoring Programs as a Retention Tool
- ◆ Current Issues in International Student Affairs
- ◆ Admission Trends in Diverse Populations
- ◆ The Island of Multicultural/Minority Student Affairs

Also, the Keynote Speaker for the Diversity Pre-Conference will be Dr. Tyrone Bledsoe, Special Assistant to the President for Diversity Affairs at the University of Toledo. Dr. Bledsoe will be speaking about the complexities of diversity beyond black and white issues.

For detailed information, please visit the OCPA website at www.ocpaonline.org and follow the diversity links.

WE NEED YOUR HELP

Currently OCPA is looking to fill several campus liaison positions at our two-year institutions. The campus liaisons serve as a link between the organization and individual campus constituencies. These individuals pass on important information about OCPA and solicit feedback from their campus about topics they feel are important for the organization to know or address such as best practices used, new professionals recently hired, and topics for professional development.

If you are a student affairs practitioner at a two year institution and are interested in serving as your campus liaison, please contact Janet McDermott at 614-287-2631 or jmcdermo@csc.edu .
Thank you for considering this wonderful professional experience!

WOULD YOU LIKE TO GET MORE INVOLVED IN OCPA? BECOME A VOLUNTEER!

Volunteers will be needed for a variety of OCPA programs including the February annual conference.

Contact Donna Lamb at lamb.3@osu.edu to volunteer or to get more information on being an OCPA volunteer.



Looking for a way to recognize someone for their hard work and dedication?

OCPA is currently accepting nominations for the following awards:

Phillip A. Tripp Distinguished Service Award
Gerald A. Saddlemire Mentor Award
Mark G. Noffsinger New Professional Award
Innovative Program Award
Fayette Paulsen Accomplished Leader Award
Cultural Diversity Award
Graduate Student of the Year Award
Undergraduate Student Leader Award

Nominations are due by **November 30, 2004** by mail, e-mail, or fax to:

Holly Reynolds, OCPA Awards Chair
Wittenberg University, Student Development
P.O. Box 720
Springfield, OH 45501
FAX: (937) 327-6170

Please direct all questions to Holly at 937-327-7804 or hreynolds@wittenberg.edu

Recipients of the awards will be announced at the OCPA/OASPA Annual Conference, February 3 - 4, 2005.

Details about each award and what documentation is needed to accompany each nomination are available on the OCPA website, http://www.ocpaonline.org/What_s_New/Awards/awards.html.

www.ocpaonline.org
For all of your OCPA Questions!

Updates...

Interested in having your campus update featured in the OCPA News? Contact Amber Prekler at aprekler@kent.edu

Otterbein College Welcomes New Hall Directors

Brad Burton was hired this summer as the new Otterbein College Assistant Director of Student Activities/Residence Hall Director. He comes to Otterbein from The Ohio State University where he served as a Hearing Officer. Brad received his B.S. in Communication from Ohio University, a M.A. of Business Administration from Capital University, and a M.A. of Higher Education and Student Affairs from The Ohio State University.

Assistant Director of the Center for Community Engagement/Residence Hall Director **Angela Gude** comes to Otterbein College from Ohio Wesleyan University where she served as Residential Life Coordinator. She earned her Bachelors of Arts in Child Development and Family Relations from Kentucky State University and a Master of Public Administration, specializing in Human Resource Management, from Kentucky State University.

Baldwin-Wallace College

Jim Nolan, Director of Health & Counseling Services, presented a program at Lake Tahoe for the Association of University and College Counseling Center Directors (AUCCCD) on "Responding to Threats: Assessing, defusing, and responding to threats and intimidation - from manipulative students/parents to risks of violence" with a panel of 5 professionals. NASPA has requested that Baldwin-Wallace present their related program on "The New Diversity" at their January conference. The New Diversity Initiative is a comprehensive program for addressing the increasing mental health problems on campus. Finally, the Journal of College Counseling has accepted (provisionally) an article by **Drs. Nolan, Stephanie J. Ford, Victoria White Kress and Renee Anderson** for a special volume on the topic of mental health problems on campus.

Baldwin-Wallace College New Student-Athletes Swarm into College Life!

This summer marked the second overnight orientation for new student-athletes in addition to a one-day event for all new fall sport participants. Sessions held included: sport psychology and nutrition, social responsibility, study skills, career services, team-building, leadership, and stress and time management. Approximately 90 students attended the overnight event, with over 100 additional fall student-athletes attending the seminars. After settling in, new students and guests had a pizza party with coaches and Swarm Leaders (current B-W student-athletes leading the events).

The goals of the camp were: (1) to enable student-athletes to meet others who are and have been in their shoes, (2) to learn about campus life and resources, (3) to attend sessions that will encourage personal and academic development, (4) to increase unity within and between teams, and (5) to meet fellow student-athletes and coaches.

Overall, the event was successful and well-received by all student-athletes. An amazing 80 were in attendance at this year's first open SAAC meeting, the largest ever, consisting of mostly first-year and sophomore student-athletes. We attribute this to orientation: (1) enabling students' leadership skills and involvement and (2) introducing our staff and services immediately, and (3) building relationships with students and staff before school began.



Careers in Student Affairs Conference is a Success!

By Kimberly Ferguson

The **2004 Careers in Student Affairs Conference** held at Ashland University on Saturday, October 23, 2004 hosted 137 students, faculty and staff representing 29 colleges and universities. Undergraduate, post-baccalaureate, graduate students and professionals represented several institutions in Ohio and Pennsylvania.

In addition, we hosted a number of current OCPA Executive Council Members and 6 OCPA Past Presidents! WOW!!!!

The conference provided undergraduate students the opportunity to network with representatives from over 15 Student Affairs/Student Personnel Graduate Programs and obtain information about admission requirements/deadlines, financial aid, and graduate/teaching assistantships. On behalf of the Ohio College Personnel Association, I would like to express my sincere appreciation to all of the colleges and universities that helped make the 2004 Graduate Recruitment Fair a success.

The afternoon was off to a great start with **Sue Caudill Heimann**, Vice-President of Student Affairs and Dean of Students at Ashland University, who served as our luncheon Keynote Speaker! As always, Sue did an absolutely fabulous job! The afternoon conference sessions included topics such as:

- Everything You Wanted to Know About a Career in Student Affairs, But Were Afraid to Ask
- Advancing Through the Profession: Balancing Personal, Professional, and Educational Goals
- Maximizing Your Potential: Practical Advice from a 20-Something Dean
- Paths to the Professorate
- Careers in Student Affairs: A Focus on International Education Career Path
- Making the Most of On-Line Learning

Participants came to the conference feeling completely undecided about the future, but left feeling as though the conference had provided them with a sense of focus and direction. Students referred to conference presenters as having optimistic and engaging perspectives that reaffirmed their belief about their desire to enter the student affairs field.

I want to extend special thanks to each of the Executive Council members who helped make this event a success. In addition, I want to thank Sue Caudill Heimann, Linda Crone, Christie Wilkerson, the Ashland University Conference and Catering Services Staff and all of the Ashland University undergraduate and graduate students that volunteered their time to help us successfully execute very successful Careers in Student Affairs Conference.

I can honestly say that participants left the Careers in Student Affairs Conference feeling excited about OCPA and looking ahead with enthusiasm to a Career in Student Affairs!

ACPA Strategic Plan:

...continued from p. 3

Goal 1—ACPA will advance its commitment to student learning and development as an essential mission of higher education.

Goal 2—ACPA will be the leading source of applied scholarship and research on students as well as issues of concern to student affairs professionals and the higher education community.

Goal 3—ACPA will continue to be preeminent in the education and advocacy of issues relating to diversity and multicultural competence.

Goal 4—ACPA will continue to engage in outreach and advocacy, emphasizing issues of social justice and human dignity that impact higher education communities.

Goal 5—ACPA will establish strategic alliances to address mutual needs and interests and to shape the future of the higher education community.

Goal 6—ACPA will effectively serve student affairs educators, faculty, and professionals in related areas, at all stages of their careers.

Goal 7—ACPA will develop the financial stability and infrastructure necessary to ensure that its goals are achieved.

2004-2005 Themes and Goals for ACPA:

Overall theme:

Advancing Student Affairs, Enhancing Learning

Program Themes:

Social Justice and Personal Wellness

Operational Theme/Focus:

Continue to work on ACPA structural and office/managerial efficiencies

Goals:

1. Recognition of the new Commission for Social Justice;
2. Professional development workshop on multicultural competence;
3. Learning Reconsidered...the Next Step;
4. Wellness integration;
5. ACPA governance structure review;
6. Centralized process for the awards processes;
7. Centralized process for the nominations and elections process;
8. Establish an ACPA research protocol, and
9. Reestablish the Ethics Committee.

Have You Moved? Has Your Information Changed?

We would like to keep in contact with you and keep our membership database up to date. If you have switched jobs, moved offices, changed addresses or job titles, please feel free to share that with us. Please contact the Membership/Records Chair, Angela Harris at aharris@otterbein.edu to update your information or to find out when your membership expires.

Thank you for helping us stay up to date with your current information!

Get to Know TRIO Programs

By Dana Lawless-Andric, Assistant Director UBMS Center, Kent State University

Federal TRIO Programs are educational opportunity outreach programs designed to motivate and support students from first-generation college and limited income backgrounds, and students with disabilities.

TRIO includes six outreach and support programs targeted to serve and assist students to progress through the academic pipeline from middle school to post baccalaureate programs. Programs usually are located within Higher Education institutions, with some TRIO programs at non-profit agencies. Programs include:

- § Talent Search: Focus on middle to high school students and drop-outs; educational outreach and college preparation/admissions
- § Upward Bound: Focus on high school students; strong individual focus on college, academic and social preparation for college entrance and graduation.
- § Upward Bound Math/Science Center: Focus on high school students; emphasis on preparation for math and science fields upon college entrance, strong research component and interaction with faculty.
- § Student Support Services: Focus on college level students to support their successful persistence and transition through college, emphasis on academic support.
- § McNairs Scholars: Focus on upper level college students to prepare students for graduate school, emphasis on research, journal writing and poster presentations.
- § Educational Opportunity Center: Focus on adult students, drop-out students and veteran's in order to engage this group back into higher education.

TRIO Programs directly work with students on several areas that overlap student affairs, development and higher education work. TRIO professionals work to assist students from all ages to successfully enter into, persist, and graduate with a degree; TRIO professionals also encourage students to pursue graduate level work.

There are state and regional professional associations along with the national organization, the Council for Opportunity in Education. Ohio's TRIO organization is OAEOPP – Ohio Association of Educational Opportunity Program Personnel.

Learn more by visiting www.oaeopp.org, www.trioprograms.org or www.ed.gov .