

A Time of Reflection

Volume 33, Issue 3

April 2008

President's Message: Jan Schumacher Muhlenberg College

Go confidently in the direction of your dreams. Live the life you have imagined.
Henry David Thoreau

It's been an exciting national primary season to watch this year. The College Democrats Club has been very active here at the College so we had former President Bill Clinton come speak on behalf of Senator Hillary Clinton and Senator Barack Obama was here on campus prior to the Pennsylvania primary. With voting and elections in mind, I want to thank everyone who participated in our recent elections both by running and voting. Congratulations to Terry Wigle, President Elect, Kate Linder, Constituencies Chair, Mary McGinnis, Professional Development Chair, Lynn Burke, 4 Year Private East Member at Large, and David Watters, 2 Year East Member at Large.

Since this is my final note as president, I want to thank the executive board for all their hard work and support this year. You have made this year special for me and the entire organization. I've truly enjoyed each moment working with you and appreciate all you do for PCPA! Special thanks to Todd Eicker, Joe Merkel, Charmaine Strong, Dave Wilson, and Dan Kennedy for your help and guidance. I wish our new president, Dan Kennedy, all the best during his tenure!

I also need to thank and recognize our outgoing Faculty Liaison, Ron Lunardini and our outgoing Past Officers Advisory Committee (POAC) Liaison, Joe Merkel. They had shared many years of active service to PCPA and we've been blessed by their time, talents and wisdom. While I support their decisions, I hope they read the fine print in the executive board clause that says they have to come back and visit us often, especially at our annual conferences!

Finally, I included the above quote...well mostly because I liked it. Little did I know over 18 years ago when my first mentor cued me into Student Affairs as a career path, that I still be going down it. But I enjoy the constant change of each day, the new faces each year, the cherished ones who stay in contact or come visit and the opportunity to explore issues and topics with our students and for our students. I also appreciate the family friendly environment I have found on each of the campuses I have worked on. My hope for each of you is for you to continue to pursue your dreams and find purpose in the life you lead. Peace.

Inside this issue:

From the Membership Corner 2

January & April Board Briefs 3

Grady and Mary Roberts Writing Award 5

Some Things to Ponder... 6

Constituencies Commission Corner 7

Click on This! 8

PCPA Summer Book Club 10

PCPA Election Winners 11

Upcoming PCPA Events:

2008 Annual Conference

- ◆ October 19 - 21, 2008
- ◆ Nittany Lion Inn State College, PA



Pennsylvania College Personnel Association
Serving student affairs professionals in higher education in Pennsylvania

www.pcpa.net

FROM THE MEMBERSHIP CORNER

Prepared by: Amber Valentine,
 Indiana University of Pennsylvania

PCPA Current Membership Database: 163
Number of members who participate in the ListServ: 156

A breakdown of the membership follows:

Institution Type		Expiration Dates	
• Four-Year Public	65	• October 2008	134
• Four-Year Private	75	• October 2009	13
• Other	4	• October 2010	5
		• October 2011	3
		• October 2012	3
		• October 2015	1
		• October 2017	1
		• Emeritus	3
Membership Type		Membership-At-Large Representation	
• Emeritus	3	• Two-Year East	10
• Associate	4	• Two-Year West	9
• Regular	124	• Four-Year East Private	33
• Student	32	• Four-Year West Private	49
		• Four-Year East Public	22
		• Four-Year East Public	40

BOARD BRIEFS

January 18, 2008

**Prepared by: Dr. Charmaine Strong, PCPA Secretary
Seton Hill University**

The Executive Board Meeting was held at Seton Hill University on Friday, 18 January 2008. Following are the highlights:

Evaluation results from the 2007 Annual Conference were reviewed and discussed as planning for the 2008 Annual Conference in State College, PA begins. Conference co-chairs are Jamie Rossi, Carnegie Mellon and Sarah White, EMC. Conference dates are 19, 20, and 21 October.

Jan Schumacher, President, continues to drive the strategic plan development with President-Elect, Dan Kennedy. Key points: diversity of membership, development of committees, collaboration, and orientation/integration of Executive Board members.

Joe Puzycki, Treasurer, reported that the total assets are \$22,087.65. Annual conference report also presented; total income realized was \$1,160.34.

Past President, Todd Eicker is soliciting nominations for Executive Board vacancies.

Membership Commission Chair, Amber Valentine, reported 157 members. Graduate student numbers have continued to decline; decline in other areas also. Discussion of strategies to impact membership.

Kate Linder, Constituencies Chair, plans to recruit members with legislation reviewing/reporting by marketing the broad arena of this commission and how legislation impacts higher education in general and specific job responsibilities/areas of interest in particular.

PCPA is co-sponsoring a "Suicide Prevention Workshop" with the PA College Counselors Association and the Student Affairs Office at Shippensburg. Workshop is scheduled for Friday, 11 April at Shippensburg. Presenter is Laurie Davidson, M.A., Suicide Prevention Resource Center/Center for College Health and Safety, Newton, Mass. Watch for details about this professional development offering!

BOARD BRIEFS

April 6, 2008

**Prepared by: Dr. Charmaine Strong, PCPA Secretary
Seton Hill University**

The Executive Board Meeting was held at the Nittany Lion Inn on April 6, 2008. Following are the highlights:

Conference co-chairs Jamie Rossi, Carnegie Mellon and Sarah White, EMC. reported from the 2008 Annual Conference planning meeting earlier in the morning. Discussed costs to members and graduate students as well as changes to some of the programs.

Jan Schumacher, President, distributed information about desired insurance coverage for each state division. It is an "all or nothing" policy; all state CPAs must provide annual reports to provide the necessary information the insurance company needs to produce a quote. Also discussed a dual membership program wherein PA ACPA members could simultaneously join PCPA online when renewing their ACPA membership. Pros and cons were discussed.

Joe Puzycki, Treasurer, reported that the total assets are \$22,551.68. Shared two letters of thanks from the UPJ President and the Secretary of the Foundation on behalf of PCPA's donation to the Dr. Brenda Pardini Scholarship.

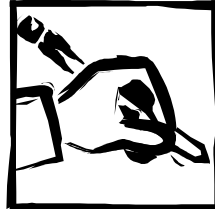
Past President, Todd Eicker reported that elections will begin today. There is at least one person running for each vacancy.

Membership Commission Chair, Amber Valentine, reported 163 members - an increase of 6 members since January's meeting.

Kate Linder, Constituencies Chair, gave updates on on the PA Victims of Crime Act funding; PA House Bill 606 (greater control of liquor sales by businesses); PA Senate Bill 1250 – PA Constitutional Amendment (proposes to forbid same-sex marriage and civil unions); House Bill 725 (PA House Liquor Control Committee – requires all PA colleges to implement written alcohol policies regarding student and ensure that each student receives a copy; and a federal case – Love vs. Morehouse College – institutional liability case. Also mentioned the movement for concealed weapons being permitted on campuses.

President Jan Schumacher thanked Dr. Lunardini for his wisdom, guidance and years of service to PCPA, to the students, and to the state. Also welcomed Dr. Linda Hall to the Board; Dr. Hall will serve as the Executive Board Faculty Liaison. For his final report, R. Lunardini noted that he would recommend that we continue to recruit members via the chief student affairs officers; suggested that we send the newsletter to the CSAOs. R. Lunardini thanked the Board for the past 12 years.

Grady and Mary Roberts Graduate Student Writing Award



The Pennsylvania College Personnel Association is pleased to announce the Grady and Mary Roberts Graduate Student Writing Award. Submissions are now being accepted for the 2008 award.

Encouragement and recognition of scholarly writing by graduate students on current issues in Student Affairs is the purpose of the award. Students in master's or doctoral programs are invited to participate.

The award is donated by Dr. Grady H. Roberts Jr., past president of PCPA, in memory of his parents. The winner will be announced at the Annual PCPA Conference in October. The amount of the award is \$1000.

Eligibility

Students must be:

Enrolled in a graduate degree program for one or more semesters during the 2007-2008 school year. Verification is required.

A current member of PCPA. (Student membership is \$10.)

Planning to attend the annual PCPA fall conference.

Procedures

The topic of the award is a major issue in Student Affairs.

Submissions must not exceed ten (10) double-spaced typewritten pages including references, tables, and figures, and should conform to the current American Psychological Association Publication Manual.

Submit (2) copies of the manuscript.

Entries will be judged on originality, clarity, significance of the topic to the field of Student Affairs, technical competence, and forcefulness of argument.

All entries must be postmarked no later than June 1, 2008 to:

Dr. Linda Hall

Student Affairs in Higher Education

206 Stouffer Hall, IUP

Indiana, PA 15705

[APPLICATION AVAILABLE AT: WWW.PCPA.NET]

Some Things to Ponder

compiled by Dr. Ron Lunardini, with contributions from various PCPA executive board members and other colleagues

Students

Remember when students' meals were limited but healthy? With limitless choices now, do students choose healthful meals?

Isn't it interesting how some students rationalize failure resulting from a lack of effort as not failing, since they didn't try? I guess that way they don't have to find out whether they could or could not do the work.

Many schools are building new residential communities that guarantee privacy in response to consumer demand. At the same time we struggle to help students to connect with one another to stem the tide of isolation-related attrition. Were open lounges and community bathrooms really that bad?

Was alcohol consumption as high when most students had Friday, and some had Saturday classes, which they were required to attend? Is tolerating class absences a false sense of student-centeredness?

It's always interesting how much students pay for but don't get – classes missed, meals skipped, residence hall space rented but vacated on weekends,

Athletics

When will college presidents care enough about student athletes to force the NCAA to require a 50% graduation rate for teams to compete in post-season play?

We are concerned about the moral and ethical development of our student-athletes, and we lament their off-the-field problems – but coaches' futures remain pretty closely tied to only wins & losses. Hmm?

Parents

Parents say that they want college to help their students to become independent adults, but they fight their students' battles. Hmm?

Do any parents still defer to the educational experts, or even just keep an open mind, when issues at school or college come up that might be critical of their children?

It is interesting how parental support for behavioral accountability changes when ones son or daughter is involved.

Leadership

If we are really concerned about students' increased loan indebtedness, why haven't we slowed our cost increases?

Failure is just as likely due to problems with style as it is to problems with substance.

Do we stand as tall for principles -- like equal protections, challenges, supports and processes for all students – when coaches, donors, legislators, etc. make the inquiries?

Constituencies Commission Corner

By Kate Linder, Commission Chair

Greetings! Please take a few moments out of your busy schedule to check out some current legislation affecting higher education:

Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) Funding in PA

VOCA was enacted by Congress and President Reagan in 1984 as a non-tax payer funded source for services that help victims of crime recover from trauma. The funding for VOCA comes from a variety of federal criminal fines, forfeitures, assessments, and penalties. The program is national and serves as a major funding source for domestic and sexual assault violence programs across our state.

President Bush has requested that the VOCA balance be rescinded with the money being moved to the general treasury by 2010. This request comes at a time when operating costs are increasing and demands remain high for the services which are provided by domestic violence programs such as shelters, counseling, advocacy and hotline calls. Without VOCA funds many domestic violence/ victim services across PA will have to reduce services or close completely.

To speak out in support of maintaining VOCA funding for domestic violence and victim services, contact your congressional representatives and urge them to deny President Bush's request. Take it further and ask for an increase in the VOCA cap to \$1 billion (this would reallocate funding that already exists and will not impact taxes). Our students can benefit greatly from domestic violence/victim services, so our advocacy is important!

To reach your congressional representatives, go to www.Congress.org or call 202-224-3121.

PA House Bill 606

This Bill has passed the House and is pending in the Senate and represents greater control of liquor sales by businesses. The Bill increases the current fines for alcohol sales to minors, sales after hours, and sales to intoxicated persons from a range of \$1000 to \$ 5000 to \$2000 to \$10,000. The Bill also requires the county court to follow decisions made by the Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board (PLCB) unless an error of law or an abuse of discretion is committed. Currently, the county court can decide cases without regard to PLCB decisions. Finally, the Bill requires managers of restaurants, eating place retail dispensers of alcohol, and hotel, club or distributor licensees to complete the manager training component of RAMP (Responsible Alcohol Management Program). Currently, participation in RAMP is voluntary. Stay tuned for an update on the Senate vote.

(Note: the source for this information is Kenneth Healy, *Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board*)

PA Senate Bill 1250 – Pennsylvania Constitutional Amendment

This Bill proposes to forbid same-sex marriage and civil unions by amending the Constitution of the Commonwealth of PA to define marriage as being between one man and one woman. If passed the Bill may impact other forms of relationship recognition, such as domestic partner benefits by putting union-bargained contracts which currently recognize domestic partners/civil unions at risk. On March 18, 2008, the Judiciary Committee voted 10 to 4 in favor of this Bill. The Bill now goes to the House for a vote.

House Bill 725 (PA House Liquor Control Committee)

In February 2008 the PA House Liquor Control Committee approved this Bill which would amend the state liquor code to require all PA colleges, universities, and community colleges to implement written alcohol policies regarding students and ensure that each student receives a copy. Colleges that fail to do this would be ineligible for grants from the PLCB's alcohol education fund.

The written policies would need to include: a summary of the state's liquor laws and penalties for underage drinking (UAD), purchasing alcohol for minors, DUIs, and providing false ID to purchase alcohol; note that violating UAD will result in counseling on a first offense, education and probation on a second offense, and a one-semester suspension with a prohibition for seeking state financial grants on the third offense; each student must receive a copy upon enrollment and each semester thereafter; the written notice must describe the link between excessive alcohol use and auto accidents (injury and death) and sexual assaults of students.

House Bill 725 is sponsored by Rep. Ron Raymond, R-Delaware, and will soon be coming up for vote in the House.

Love vs Morehouse College (2007)

According to the February 22, 2008, *Chronicle of Higher Education* (p A31), former student Gregory A. Love sued Morehouse College because he contended that the institution was liable for injuries he received in 2002 when another student attacked him in a residence hall shower. Love stated that the attack resulted because the aggressor perceived him to have made a homosexual advance. Love claimed in his suit that Morehouse had fostered intolerance towards gay students either deliberately or through ignorance and did not address reported incidents of harassment and homophobia.

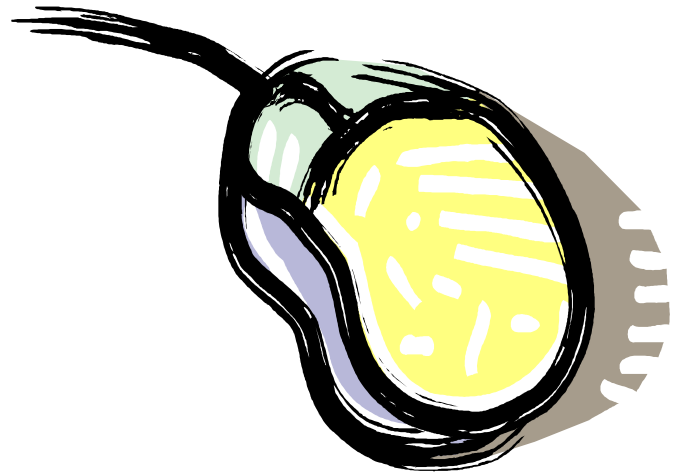
A trial court dismissed Love's case, but in October 2007 the Georgia Court of Appeals reversed the dismissal. This reversal signals that if evidence is produced to support Love's claim, he may be entitled to damages from Morehouse. (The aggressor has already been convicted of aggravated assault and battery.)

The perspective articulated by Morehouse is that the incident related to matters of "morals and virtue" for which the institution does not have increased responsibility.

Any decision on this case will only affect Georgia law but could certainly influence whether or not similar lawsuits are filed in other states. The arguments made by Love could be applied in situations involving a plethora of personal characteristics (for example, race, religion, ethnicity, etc). Also, if the court finds in favor of Love, the decision may become grounds for legally requiring that higher education institutions teach tolerance and address harassment aggressively.

At any time, you can access information about pending legislation in PA or access updates on the above House Bills on-line by visiting: www.legis.state.pa.us

CLICK ON THIS.....



Social Networking for Student Affairs

By Stuart Brown, Student Affairs.com

In the past five years, according to a January 3, 2008 report by the Pew Internet & American Life Project, “social networking sites have rocketed from a niche activity into a phenomenon that engages tens of millions of internet users.” These sites are “an online place where a user can create a profile and build a personal network that connects him or her to other users.” The most well-known and most utilized sites include Facebook.com and MySpace.com.

The social network phenomenon had its genesis on college and university campuses. Remember when you needed an edu email account to join an institution’s Facebook.com network? Nowadays, most of the major networks do not have such restrictions. While this has allowed membership to skyrocket, the open door policy has diluted their impact for specific audiences.

For student affairs administrators this problem has now been solved with the introduction of **iStudentAffairs.com**, launched in February 2008 as a social networking site for student affairs professionals that connects friends and colleagues with each other. Within a week of its introduction over 400 people joined, demonstrating the need and desire for this type of network. Individuals must register and be approved to access the site. Why are people asked to register? This is to ensure the integrity of the site. By keeping out spammers and advertisers, the focus remains on people interested in joining a community involved with higher education.

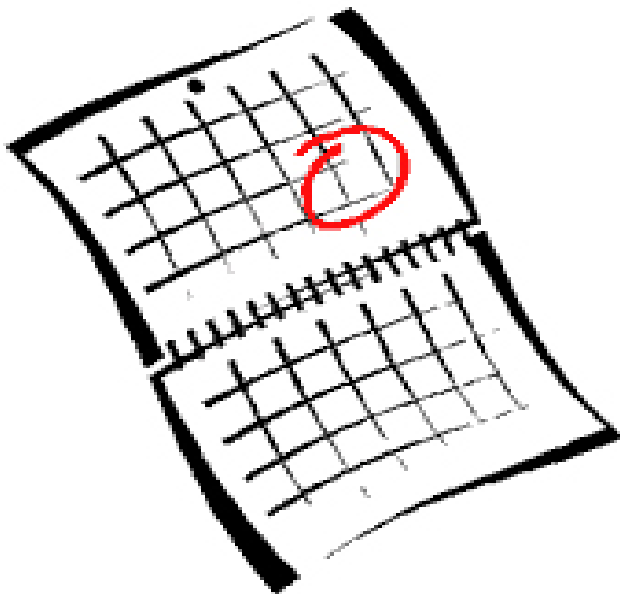
The response to the site has been overwhelmingly positive. Alex Herzog, Director of Campus Card Services at the University of Nevada – Las Vegas stated, “I can’t believe this site didn’t come about sooner. It’s a great resource for student affairs professionals and I

personally like the ability to reconnect with colleagues in the field. I think this application is more personal and applicable for student affairs administrators than Facebook.”

Once people are registered, they can share program ideas, views on policy matters, photos, discussion forums and more. Within the first few days, dozens of interest-based groups that reflect personal interest or professional responsibilities were formed. These include such functional areas as residence life, career services and academic advising as well as a number of groups to connect alumni of graduate preparation programs. Personal blogs have been created, which are featured on the main page, as well as a wide variety of videos. “By combining member pages, photos and videos, and blogs this social network merges the best of Facebook, Myspace, Blogger, Livejournal, and Wordpress,” states Will Barratt, Associate Professor of Educational Leadership at Indiana State University. “This is the good stuff.” **iStudentAffairs.com** also provides, what the Pew report classifies as “public and private communication tools.” There is a built-in email system to correspond within the network, catch up with friends and surprise long lost colleagues. Individuals can also post messages to entire groups or write a post directly on someone’s My Page bulletin board, known as a Comment Wall.

The goal of **iStudentAffairs.com**? Continued growth with the desire to become the social networking site for student affairs professionals, where connecting, sharing, and collaborating will be commonplace.

Stuart Brown heads the website StudentAffairs.com



SAVE THE DATE

28th Annual PCPA Conference
October 19—21, 2008



PCPA Summer Book Club

Want to be part of a great professional development opportunity?

Looking for a way to stay current on literature in the student affairs field?

Join the PCPA Summer Book Club

This summer's inaugural reading is, "Job One: Experiences of New Professionals in Student Affairs," edited by Peter M. Magolda and Jill Ellen Carnaghi

This book focuses on nine narratives written by new professional about their transition into the student affairs work place. It identifies themes that emerge from the narratives and interprets them using developmental theory. It is a useful resource for supervisors of new professionals as well as others in supervisory roles.

About the moderator:

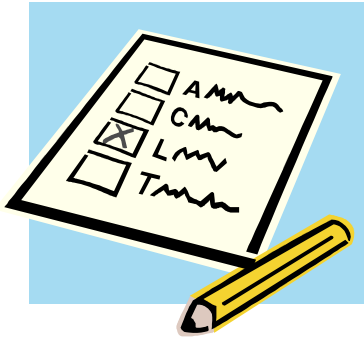
Dr. Ignelzi's (Univ. of California at Riverside, B.A., The Ohio State University, M.A., Harvard University, Ed.D.) primary research interests include professional development and supervision of student personnel staff, adolescent and adult development and reasoning in real life situations, moral reasoning, development, and education. His teaching experiences include: Teaching Fellow (Harvard Univ.), Workshop Instructor (Harvard Univ.), Instructor (Menlo College), and Instructor (Ohio State Univ.). Dr. Ignelzi has had the privilege of conducting research with renowned professors Lawrence Kohlberg and Robert Kegan. Additionally, he has served as Dean of Students (Wells College), Administrative Assistant (Harvard Univ.), Program Coordinator (Harvard Univ.), Director of Housing and Residential Life (Menlo College), Residence Hall Director (Univ. of California), and Administrative Associate (Ohio State Univ.).

Dr. Ignelzi has several presentations and publications in the field of Student Personnel.

The book club is free and open to PCPA members only. Join at PCPA.net!

****Registration Deadline is May 27, 2008****

Congratulations to the Winners



President Elect

Terry Wigle

California University of Pennsylvania

Constituencies Chair

Katie Linder

Indiana University of Pennsylvania

Professional Development Chair

Mary McGinnis

Butler County Community College

4 Year Private MAL East

Lynn Burke

Gettysburg College

2 Year MAL East

David Watters

Community College of Philadelphia

Thank you to everyone who took the time to vote in this year's elections.

HIRING? LOOKING FOR QUALIFIED STAFF?

For decades the Indiana University of Pennsylvania (IUP) SAHE program (Student Affairs in Higher Education) has produced and distributed Mini-Resumes to introduce the graduates of the MA program to the professional community. Those condensed résumés are now available for viewing through the program's website. If you have professional searches to conduct and would like to view the credentials of the upcoming graduates from IUP, please click on the link below:

<http://www.coe.iup.edu/sahe/miniresume2007.pdf>

ARE YOU LOOKING FOR A NEW POSITION?

If you are currently looking to change positions or gain a new experience, please visit the PCPA Website at <http://www.pcpa.net/PAJobs.htm> to search for different job openings in Pennsylvania and the rest of the nation.

ARE YOU HIRING?

If you have a position open at your institution and would like to advertise it on the PCPA website, please send the job description and accompanying information to Bryan M. Valentine, PCPA Webmaster, at bv6@pitt.edu.

The Pennsylvania College Personnel Association does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, age, affectional/sexual orientation, or disability in any of its policies, procedures or practices. The non-discrimination policy covers membership and access to association programs and activities including but not limited to conferences, placement services, publications, and educational services.

SHARING THE COMMONWEALTH

- Published by the Pennsylvania College Personnel Association; a division of ACPA.
- The newsletter is issued three times a year: April, July, and November.
- Deadline for copy is the 15th of the prior month.

ADDRESS ALL NEWSLETTER INQUIRES TO:

David A. Falletta
Assistant Director of Residence Life
Washington & Jefferson College
dfalletta@washjeff.edu
724.229.5136