



Sharing the Commonwealth

Volume 32, Issue 2

November 2006

President's Message: Todd Eicker, Pennsylvania College of Podiatry

Seasons Greetings! As the 2006 year comes to a close it provides us with an opportunity to reflect on things past while looking ahead to the future. PCPA has had an excellent year to say the least. Our membership has increased, the Keystones have been a huge success, and our annual conference, which occurred in the Pocono's was a wonderful event. Add to this the revision of our mission statement and goals coupled with the second phase of developing the new strategic plan and continued support on our listserv, I say the health of PCPA is strong.

With this in mind I do want to take this opportunity to thank those who make much of this possible. So to Jan Schumacher, Brian Mauro, Charmaine Strong, Joe Puzycki, Joe Merkle, David Wilson, Amber Valentine, Kate Linder, Mary Ellen Bayuk, Kelly Finely, Ron Lunardini, John Mayo, Tom Steiner, Dwayne Hilton, Terry Wigle, Laurie Verost, Matt Shaffer, Lynn Pierson, Shirley Rodgers, Jill Landis, Christina Bell, Matthew Shupp, and Bryan Valentine thank you for your countless efforts and ongoing support in making PCPA an organization for others to look up to. I also do not want to forget the countless volunteers at the various host sites and conference committee. On behalf of the PCPA Executive Board I would like to wish the membership happy and safe holidays and a successful completion to your fall semesters.

- Todd

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Upcoming PCPA Events:

2007 PCPA Executive Board Nominations

- ◆ Nominations due by January 12, 2007

2007 Annual Conference

- ◆ October 14 - 16, 2007
- ◆ Radisson Hotel Pittsburgh in Monroeville, PA



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

www.pcpa.net

FROM THE MEMBERSHIP CORNER

Prepared by: Mary Ellen Bayuk, Membership Chair
Penn State Erie, The Behrend College

PCPA Current Membership Database: 259
Number of members who participate in the Listserv: 240
A breakdown of the membership follows:

Institution Type		Expiration Dates	
• Two-Year CC	24	• October 2006	162
• Four-Year Public	119	• October 2007	76
• Four-Year Private	109	• October 2008	9
• Other	7	• October 2009	4
		• October 2010	3
		• October 2011	1
		• October 2015	1
		• Emeritus	3
Membership Type		Membership-At-Large Representation	
• Emeritus	3	• Two Year East	15
• Associate	10	• Two Year West	9
• Regular	183	• Four Year East Private	70
• Student	63	• Four Year West Private	47
		• Four Year East Public	39
		• Four Year East Public	79

BOARD BRIEFS

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

The Executive Board Meeting was held prior to the Annual Conference on 15 October 2006.
Following are the highlights:

- √ Matt Shupp, Conference Co-Chair, reviewed conference arrangements and shared that all was in order for the 25th annual conference.
- √ Treasurer's report reflects total assets of \$24,419.12.
- √ Membership Commission Chair, Mary Ellen Bayuk, reported 259 members.
- √ Professional Development Chair, Kelly Finely, reported that registrations for the Fall 2006 Keystones are currently being received. On Friday, 17 November, the Keystone West will be held at St. Vincent College in Latrobe, PA; Keystone East is scheduled for Friday, 1 December at York College of Pennsylvania, York, PA. Topic is "Mental Health Issues on Campus: Counseling and Legal Perspectives."
- √ Topic for the Spring Keystones was selected – "ACPA's Sustainability Development Initiative.
- √ K. Finley suggested the development of a "PCPA Book Club," with leadership from a graduate school professor. Book would be read prior to the conference and the discussion would occur during the annual conference. This initiative was well received and Kelly will be pursuing idea development.
- √ President Todd Eicker announced that John Mayo, an IUP SAHE student, will serve as the Graduate Student Liaison and Lynn Pierson, Bucknell University, will serve as the Four Year Private East Member at Large.
- √ NBCC Chair, Tom Steiner, reported that a total of 21 conference program sessions and the keynote met the criteria for National Certified Counselors (NCCs) seeking recertification contact hours. This year's conference format will allow NCCs to earn up to 7.5 contact hours.
- √ Permission to use ACPA's NBCC provider number was requested for the 2006 Alcohol Summit sponsored by PCPA and Penn State Lehigh Valley with funding from the PA Liquor Control Board. ACPA's NBCC provider number will also be available for the Fall Keystones.
- √ The Member at Large (MAL) representatives reported on their activity to contact constituents about their availability, the conference, and the upcoming Keystones.
- √ President Todd Eicker reviewed plans to discuss the revised mission statement and the strategic planning initiatives at the Business Meeting. Acceptance of the revised mission statement will require a membership vote.
- √ Proposed that the Webmaster position be added to the Executive Board. This addition will require a membership vote. This will be discussed at the Business Meeting.
- √ Amber Valentine, Communications Commission Chair, reviewed plans for the November newsletter.

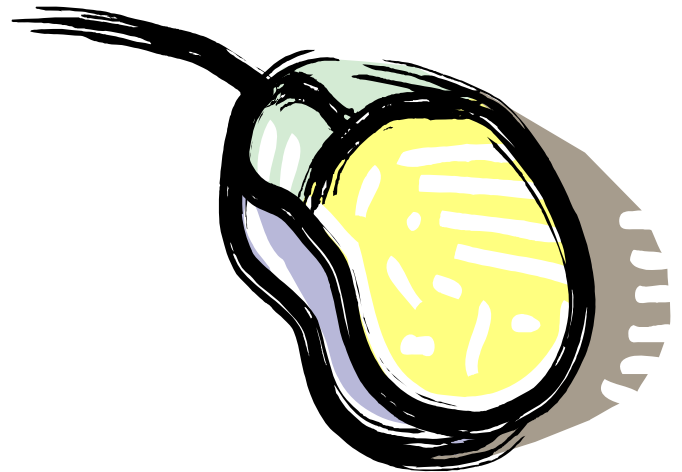
ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

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

President Todd Eicker chaired the annual PCPA Business Meeting on Monday, 16 October 2006 at the 25th Annual Conference: A Professional for All Seasons at The Chateau Resort and Conference Center in Tannersville, PA. Following are highlights:

- √ President presented an overview of the work of the Executive Board on the development of a strategic plan. This work has included a revised mission statement, which was shared at the meeting. As a result of the discussion, the following statement will be sent to the membership for voting; if accepted, this will require a change in the organization's bylaws.
 - ◆ PCPA's mission is to promote, support, and enhance the Student Services profession in its advocacy for higher education and the learning and development of all students served within the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.
- √ President outlined and discussed the organizational goals:
 - ◆ To ensure and enhance organizational effectiveness and stability.
 - ◆ To maintain and promote the Student Services profession through quality services and developmental opportunities.
 - ◆ To influence trends of a legislative, financial, and professional nature affecting higher education in Pennsylvania.
- √ President Eicker emphasized that the organization is in a strong position and encouraged all to be active, to outreach, and to get involved.
- √ Noted that the Executive Board is recommending that the PCPA Webmaster position be added to the Executive Board. This will require a membership vote and if accepted, a bylaw change.
- √ Members were asked to encourage students interested in the profession to attend the Student Affairs Career Day on Saturday, 28 October 2006 at Slippery Rock University. Online registration available at:
<http://academics.sru.edu/CounselingDev/CareerDay/home.htm>

CLICK ON THIS.....



John M. Mayo, Jr.
Graduate Coordinator for Customer Service & Programming
Housing and Dining Services
Carnegie Mellon University



<http://www.ncstac.org/content/projects/college.htm>

This site provides information about Finding Hope and Help: the College Student and Depression Initiative, one of the National Mental Health Association's (NMHA) efforts to address mental health issues finding that many mental illnesses may be traced to trauma whose damage surfaces in times of stress and change, such as the college years. For example 10% of college men and 13% of women have been diagnosed with depression; in 1998 suicide was the 2nd leading cause of death for college students; in 2000 almost 7% of college students reported experiencing anxiety disorders.

<http://www.nacada.ksu.edu/Clearinghouse/AdvisingIssues/Gamer-Addiction.htm>

There are more addictions facing college students than drugs and alcohol. Gamer Addiction is an obsession with video game playing that usually begins in elementary and middle school. By college, the individual progresses from simple to elaborate games and the student is game-hooked.



<http://www.healthyminds.org/collegementalhealth.cfm>

A website published by the American Psychiatric Association. It offers many resources on mental health issues relating to alcohol and substance abuse, suicide, disasters, eating disorders, depression, etc.

Responding to Suicidal and Distressed Students With Mandatory Counseling

Jill Landesberg-Boyle, Ed.D.

Vice President for Student Affairs, Pennsylvania College of Technology

College students seem increasingly at-risk for serious depression, self-injurious behavior, and suicide. Against a national backdrop of 1,100 college suicides each year (JED Foundation, 2006), the urgency of this crisis can not be underestimated. Mandating that these students attend counseling as a condition of enrollment is one strategy gaining a great deal of attention. The interest can be traced to Dr. Paul Joffe's first presentation of his findings from eighteen years of work at the University of Illinois (AIIHE, fall 2002). His results show a decline of over 50% in the number of suicides at the school since the introduction of mandatory counseling, from a rate of 6.91 students per 100,000 to a rate of 3.08 per 100,000. In stark contrast, over that same time period, rates at comparable institutions have remained stable (Joffe, 2003).

Joffe's approach grew out of his frustration in trying to convince students with a history of suicide attempts to come in for counseling. His experience reflects the sad statistic that fewer than 20% of students who commit suicide are ever seen by a campus counselor (www.insidehighered.com, 2006). He decided the only way he would reach these students was to give students a forced choice: attend three sessions with a counselor or face dismissal from school. He wisely and intentionally steered away from using the term *counseling*, preferring instead to refer the visits as an assessment process. By doing so, he avoided potential controversy stemming from the widely-held belief that counseling must be voluntary to be effective (Consolvo & Dannells, 2000; Freeman, 2001). Furthermore, he chose to not limit the policy only to students who were considered suicidal in the strict, clinical sense of the word. Instead, he chose broad parameters that reflected the continuum of suicide ideation thereby avoiding the need to attempt to distinguish between ideation and intent which can be difficult, if not impossible (for further discussion see Lake & Tribbensee, 2002) This provided Joffe the flexibility to address, for instance, a student who was "cutting"¹, even if that student was not considered suicidal in the clinical sense of the word.

The Pennsylvania College of Technology has a policy closely modeled after Joffe's approach. In short, if a student is determined to be at-risk of self-harm or has been self-injurious, the student is transferred to the hospital for immediate psychiatric assessment and medical attention, as needed. If the situation is not imminent, the student may wait at the campus health center for a parent (or, in cases of non-traditional students, another family member such as a spouse) rather than be sent to the hospital. An interim two-day, involuntary, medical leave is imposed to allow the student to stabilize and receive professional attention. A voluntary medical leave is always a possibility, and a few students have chosen this. However, if the goal is to continue in school, as is the case in most situations, the student must be evaluated by a qualified psychologist or psychiatrist and submit documentation of the professional's evaluation to the vice president for student affairs. If the evaluation indicates the student may resume classes and living arrangements, a contract is signed assuring that the student will engage in a mutually determined number of ongoing counseling appointments.

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¹ Engaging in behavior whereby the person actually cuts themselves although the intent is not to commit suicide.

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In general, conditions of enrollment, such as counseling, are generally acceptable as long as those conditions do not require that the student cease behaviors that may be considered related to a disability (United Educators, 2006, p. 3). In cases where students have challenged suspensions and housing evictions, the policies have typically been designed to keep otherwise able students from pursuing their degree. For example, at George Washington University a student was disciplinarily suspended for “endangering behavior” and was kept from completing his degree until after fully completing treatment (www.washingtonpost.com, 2006). Similarly, a Hunter College student who attempted suicide was evicted from the residence halls even though her doctors had cleared her to return (On-Campus Report, p.4). In developing policies, then, institutions would be well-advised to work with legal counsel and to ensure that they are working to protect not just the institution’s risk, but also the student’s rights and best interests. As was recently stated in *Leadership Exchange*, “Our goal is not to develop creative ways to dismiss students, but to find creative ways to keep them in school” (Pavela,G., 2006, p. 23).

A comprehensive approach for preventing suicide includes many elements including educational outreach, screening opportunities, access to professional services, support networks, means restriction, social marketing, and encouraging social environments to prevent isolation (SPRC, 2004). Having a policy that helps students struggling with depression, self-injurious or suicidal behavior, is one other way administrators may be able to support these students. Our experience with mandatory counseling has convinced us that it can make a difference. All but one of the students we have worked with under this policy returned to school. None of these returning students have had a further self-injurious incident or made further threats. More importantly, they have been emotionally and academically successful after returning and starting counseling. In some cases we hear the impact we have made directly from the student as was the case just last month when one young man told me, “thank you and please thank all the staff members, for helping me get the help I’ve needed for so long.”

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United Educators (2006). Administrative leave and other options for emotionally distressed or suicidal students. *Risk Research Bulletin – Student Affairs*. April.

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FROM THE 2006 CONFERENCE.....

A Summary of Stephen Merritt 's Keynote Address
The Millennials: A Perspective on America's Rising Generation

Lynn Burke, Gettysburg College

Stephen Merritt, Dean of Enrollment Management at Villanova University spoke to PCPA in October about our millennial students: who they are, their expectations as well as those of their parents of higher education as well as the current challenges facing education.

Chances are fairly good that you are familiar with the millennial generation. There are about eighty million of them and many are present on our college campuses changing life as we know it. Being born in 1982 or after places you in this generation and 1982 also happens to be the first year personal computers were available.

All generations feel comfort from their memories and tend to be skeptical of rising generations. What happened to the good old days? Time doesn't stand still and because people selectively remember what was great about the past, the present doesn't always seem to measure up. So naturally the Boomers, the Xers and other generations are skeptical of the promise that the millennial generation is supposed to bring. Statistics show us that millennials are doers and achievers, trained by their parents. And being trained by their parents means that they are the generation that most are able to relate to their parents. But for those of us who work in higher education, we know that our millennial students can be impaired by their parents, unable to solve their own problems without the help and the advice of mom and dad each step of the way. Merritt stated the statistic that 56% of 2001 graduates plan to live with their parents; and it's not because they can't make it on their own, it's because mom and dad invited them and students want to return to stay with mom and dad.

Along with the intense involvement of parents, comes the impressive personal achievement of millennials. They go to camp; they have SAT preparatory classes, tutors and lessons for everything. As doers and achievers, millennials tend to be overscheduled, becoming overworked at a young age. However, they are also incredibly active in community service. From Habitat for Humanity, to soup kitchens, Students Against Drunk Driving and countless other organizations, 83.1% of college freshmen report doing volunteer work.

Millennials are also tremendous consumers. They spend on average \$103 each week on personal expenses and over 175 billion in 2003. It's a fair assumption that a portion of that money is spent on technology because millennials are technology veterans, owning personal computers and laptops, spending hours each day on the internet, many own cell phones and rely on the instantaneous communication that technology brings. A recent Chronicle of Higher Education article stated that "email is for old people." Text messaging, blogging and instant messaging have become more widely used and are a language of their own.

Diversity sometimes appears to be a non-issue among millennials. They are more tolerant than any other generation and more diverse both racially and ethnically. They tend to see justice as the core issue. This doesn't mean that all millennials accept all people; it's obvious that we have a long way to go both nationally and globally around human rights and social justice issues.

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These characteristics are not consistent for all millennial students. In terms of the socioeconomic divide and technology for example, 35% of lower income students have internet access as compared to 83% in the upper bracket. Our role is to assure all students are served, so that means not assuming all students have the means or ability to use technology and obtain information. This part of Merritt's presentation facilitated group discussion about how reengineering our current plans and finding solutions to individual student issues will assure all our students are served.

As for the current expectations of higher education, our campuses are faced with several challenges. One is that students and parents see the educational experience as a commodity, which is not always consistent with our mission and values. Students and parents want limitless academic options and an experience that supports academic acceleration and clear outcomes, such as a career or graduate school success.

Students and parents expect enhanced personal support, seamless administration, with a specialized housing environment, excellent food services and many amenities. With this also comes a sometimes unrealistic expectation of discounted educational costs. The bells and whistles of the college experience don't come with a discounted price tag, but cost billions of dollars to maintain.

Students want information technology integrated with learning and access to information twenty four hours a day, seven days a week, worldwide. Instantaneous connections with friends, faculty and family are part of daily life and an expensive challenge for our campuses. Millennials view information technology as a way of developing and nurturing academic and personal relationships, which may not be our first thought on IT. There are drawbacks, such as a loss of face to face communication and unrealistic expectations of the instantaneous communication. But, with over seven billion instant messages sent each day, communication via technology is more common than conversation in person or the phone among most millennials.

With these expectations and others not mentioned, we have a number of challenges to face. Can we manage the expectations from both parents and students? Can we manage the energy and stress? And, what about the costs financially and any additional human resources?

Academics challenges include the continued development of contemporary, valued added and integrated academic offerings. Information technology will also have to be blended with traditional teaching and learning as well distance learning. Basically, higher education will need to compete with the fast pace of the world around us. Administratively, the management of Information Technology and the increasing services will be difficult, as well as managing the consumer-oriented services and the diversity of the current and future student body.

Each of those challenges appears daunting by themselves, but what does the future of higher education look like? To meet these challenges, we will need to develop and support intelligent learning environments; balance the cost of old and new services, stay current in Information Technology integration, and further understand the needs of our students in order to assure that all students are served. In short, we will need stability and growth to meet the needs and expectations of all constituents, students and parents alike.

For your reference, Stephen Merritt has a summary of his presentation to PCPA as well as other resources and presentations he has given on his website.

<http://www17.homepage.villanova.edu/stephen.merritt/>

FROM THE 2006 CONFERENCE.....

“A Profession for All Seasons”

A Summary of Dr. Brenda Pardini’s Opening Remarks

Charmaine Strong, Seton Hill University

Much has changed over the past 25 years – I don’t think anyone would argue that point. In my opinion, what hasn’t changed is the foundation of PCPA. In the words of past president, Brenda Pardini, “PCPA is all about friendships, it is all about support.” That golden thread continues to run through the fabric of PCPA.

As the 25th anniversary celebration began at the Past Presidents’ Dinner on Sunday, 15 October, conference attendees were treated to a walk down “Memory Lane.” All past presidents in attendance were recognized and thanked for their leadership, vision, and guidance of PCPA throughout the years and a pictorial PowerPoint played in the background.

After dinner, Dr. Brenda Pardini, Associate Vice President for Student Affairs at the University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown and former PCPA President in 1996-1997, entertained us with her story telling and great sense of humor. Dr. Pardini shared that ten years ago, moving the conference from April to October was the main event – and she is happy that she has lived to tell the tale!

Dr. Pardini also recalled the huge debate on changing from “Pennsylvania CPA,” which related each organization by state to the American College Personnel Association (ACPA) to the Pennsylvania College Personnel Association.

After sharing these two issues, Dr. Pardini then shared that while these two issues were unfolding, she was thinking, “What about the students? Aren’t we worried about the students?”

She ended her remarks by encouraging folks to stay connected to PCPA and noted that:

- ☞ Friendships are key
- ☞ Participation will keep you vibrant
- ☞ Participate, participate, participate, and
- ☞ Encourage graduate students to get involved in a “College Personnel Association” of the state where they work.

"525,600 minutes. 525,00 moments so dear. 525,600 minutes. How do you measure, measure a year?"

--Lyrics from *Seasons of Love*, Rent, 1995

As we sit here on this beautiful fall day – the conference behind us – and contemplate what has taken place over those three days, it is hard not to reflect back on the last year, and our experience with what lead up to a conference worthy of PCPA's momentous 25th conference celebration. When we agreed to take on the responsibility of co-chairing this conference, neither one of us realized the amount of time, energy, and passion we would put forth to make this celebration a success.

In daylights, in sunsets, in midnights, in cups of coffee. In inches, in miles, in laughter, in strife. In 525,600 minutes - how do you measure a year in the life?

We wish that we were able to convey to you the gratitude we feel towards our conference committee. They are an amazing group of people, who asked for nothing except to assist wherever they could with whatever needed to happen. Need a projector screen moved? No problem. Find you a basket to put nametags in? Done. This is above and beyond executing all of the requests that we charged them to complete throughout the year leading up to the event. If we have any advice to give to next year's co-chairs, it is this: keep your committee informed, and trust them.

How about love? How about love? How about love? Measure in love. Seasons of love.

The leaves on the trees are a mosaic of yellows, reds, greens, and oranges – truly representing the diversity of the profession in which we work. Higher education is a profession for all seasons. Our hope is that this year's conference provided new insights into the issues impacting our profession.

525,600 minutes! 525,000 journeys to plan. 525,600 minutes - how can you measure the life of a woman or man?

In truths that she learned, or in times that he cried. In bridges he burned, or the way that she died.

We challenge you to continue to develop as a professional. We challenge you to continue to motivate your staff. We challenge you to create new and innovative ways to service our ever-changing student body.

It's time now to sing out, though the story never ends; let's celebrate remember a year in the life of friends.

Remember the love! Remember the love! Remember the love! Measure in love. Seasons of love! Seasons of love.

So, how can we measure *our* year? In time, in emails, in meetings, in trips to the Poconos. How can we measure the 25th annual conference? In 21 quality program sessions, in keynote addresses, in networking opportunities, in award ceremonies. In broken ankles (Chris), in lost voices (Matthew), in bright yellow polos, in school spirit, in dancin' fools. In smiles, in a sense of camaraderie, in coming together for a common purpose. In memories.

How do you measure a year?

Measure in love. Indeed.

Warmest Regards,

Matthew and Chris

K U D O S

O

The following staff members have joined Lehigh University's Residence Life Staff:

Kerri Kloorfain, formerly from Bucknell University
Chantal Rozairo, formerly from the University of Florida
Tanisha Nooner, formerly from the Muskingum College

R

The following staff who have taken promotions at Lehigh! Congratulations to...

Jessica Manno, the new Coordinator for Greek Leadership Development
Alta Thornton, the new Interim Assistant Dean for Multicultural Affairs

N

Congratulations to **Robin Anke** and her husband Doug on the birth of their son, **Stephen**, who was born on **Monday, September 18, 2006**. Robin is the Associate Dean of Student Services and Director of Residence Life at Seton Hill University!

E

R

Congratulations to **Kristen Radovanic Corcoran** and her husband Chris on the birth of their son, **Joshua Patrick**, who was born on **Sunday, July 9, 2006**. Kristen is the Assistant Director of Residence Life at Saint Francis University!

COLLEAGUE UPDATES

- Have you moved to a new institution or been promoted to new job responsibilities?
- Have you had your writing published locally or nationally?
- Have you gotten engaged, married or had a baby?
- Is there other exciting news you'd like to share with your colleagues?

If so, please send an email to Amber Valentine at a.n.valentine@iup.edu with your name, job title, institution and your big news! All updates will be posted in the Kudos Korner section of the PCPA Newsletter!

K U D O S

2006 Conference Committee:

O

- Christina Bell, Lehigh University, Conference Co-Chair
- Matthew R. Shupp, Community College of Philadelphia, Conference Co-Chair
- Sylvia Asante, Gettysburg College
- Mary Ellen Bayuk, Penn State Behrend
- Pamela Blazi, Lehigh Carbon Community College
- Lynn Burke, Gettysburg College

R

- Todd Eicker, Pennsylvania College of Optometry
- Allison Gulati, Lehigh University
- Dwayne Hilton, Penn State Hazleton
- Gene Kelly, Lebanon Valley College
- Daniel Kennedy, Carnegie Mellon University

N

- Mary Lou Kennedy, Community College of Allegheny County
- Jessica Kirkwood, York College of Pennsylvania
- Amanda Knerr, Penn State Behrend
- Rich Kovalsky, Pocono Counseling Associates
- Jill Landis, HACC - Central Pennsylvania's Community College

E

- Jess Manno, Lehigh University
- Brian Mauro, Penn State Lehigh Valley
- Sue Norton, Edinboro University of Pennsylvania
- Kaycee Palko, Carnegie Mellon University

R

- Lynn Pierson, Bucknell University
- Jenni Rach, Bucknell University
- Mary Reed, Butler County Community College
- Jaimie Steel, Seton Hill University
- Tom Steiner, Westmoreland County Community College
- Kate Totaro, Bucknell University
- Amber Valentine, Indiana University of Pennsylvania
- Bryan Valentine, La Roche College
- Laurie Verost, Penn State University Park
- Terry Wigle, California University of Pennsylvania
- Liz Yates, Bucknell University

THE ANNUAL ELECTION OF PENNSYLVANIA COLLEGE PERSONNEL ASSOCIATION WILL BE UPON US SPRING 2007

Nominations are invited from all members of PCPA.

EACH YEAR, THE NOMINATIONS/ELECTIONS COMMITTEE LOOKS TO OUR MEMBERSHIP FOR
NOMINATIONS FOR THE OPEN POSITIONS
ON THE EXECUTIVE BOARD.

Elected board members must:

- Be a member of PCPA and ACPA
- Be in attendance at four Board meetings (June, October, January and April)
- Be in attendance at the Annual Conference in October

The Positions Open for Nomination are:

President Elect - This person will serve as President Elect in 2007-2008, President in 2008-2009, and Past President in 2009-2010. As President, this person will preside over all meetings of the organization, provide leadership in association activities, and be the communication liaison to ACPA.

Two-Year College Member at Large – West - This person will serve a two-year term, as a member of the Executive Board, representing the needs and interests of two-year college student affairs professionals in the Western region of the Commonwealth. This representative will work with the constituencies to provide a communications liaison to PCPA.

Four-Year Public Member at Large - West - This person will serve a two-year term, as a member of the Executive Board, representing the needs and interest of the four-year public institution student affairs professionals from the Western region of the Commonwealth. This representative will work with the constituencies across the state to provide a communications liaison to PCPA.

Communication Commission Chair – The Communication Commission Chair will oversee and recommend appropriate action affecting overall policy of Association publications such as, but not limited to, the PCPA newsletter, the PCPA journal, the PCPA website, and alternate recruitment publicity.

Membership Commission Chair –. The Membership Commission Chair shall be responsible for the major membership work of the Association which includes encouraging eligible persons to become members of ACPA as well as PCPA, maintaining accurate membership records, and processing fees.

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Professional Development Commission Chair - The Professional Development Commission Chair will plan, initiate, and coordinate Keystone Seminar Series, identify issues of particular concern to graduate students, new professionals, as well as veteran professionals within the State and in particular to members of PCPA. He/She will be able to assist the PCPA Conference Chair with program planning that will address issues specific to the broad range of PCPA members.

For a complete description of the above positions open for nomination, please refer to the PCPA By-Laws which can be reviewed on the Association Web Site www.pcpa.net

All PCPA members are encouraged to nominate (themselves or others) for these open positions. The slate of candidates will be presented to the Executive Board in January and elections will be held in March. The Association year begins May 1, 2007 and all newly elected representatives will begin their terms at that time.

Should you have any questions or need any additional information, please feel free to contact any PCPA Executive Board member. The listing of Board Members, and their email addresses are listed on the association web site, www.pcpa.net

Nominations are due by January 12, 2007!

Please email all nominations to:

Dr. Brian Mauro
Director of Student Affairs
Penn State Lehigh Valley
8380 Mohr Lane
Fogelsville, PA 16563-0901

Phone: 610-285-5021
FAX: 610-285-5022
Email: xbm1@psu.edu

YOUR EMAIL SHOULD INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

Nominator's Information:

Name:
Email:
Phone (daytime):

Nominee's Information:

Name of Nominee:
Executive Board Position:
Institution:
Title:
Email:
Phone:



2006 PCPA Recognition Award Winners



Joseph Merkle Award for Outstanding Contribution to PCPA

Presented to a PCPA member who has made a significant contribution to our association over a period of years.

David Wilson
Saint Francis University
Director, Counseling Center and Intercept Program

Outstanding Contribution to the Profession

Presented to an individual (does not have to be a member of PCPA) who has made a notable contribution to the profession.

Dr. Sue Norton
Edinboro University of Pennsylvania
Graduate Program Faculty

Outstanding New Professional

Presented to a PCPA member who has made a significant contribution to PCPA and has been employed in the student personnel field for less than five years.

Amber Valentine
Indiana University of Pennsylvania
Assistant Director, Advising and Testing Center

Outstanding Graduate Student

Presented to a PCPA member and graduate student who has made a noticeable contribution to the student personnel profession through his/her studies, work, and accomplishment.

Matthew Zielinski '06
Indiana University of Pennsylvania
Student Affairs in Higher Education



WINNER OF THE 2006 GRADY ROBERTS WRITING AWARD:



Christian J. Grandzol
Ph.D. Candidate, Marywood University
Instructor, Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania

An obligation to advance student development in the online education debate

Abstract

Waxing acceptance of the online medium as an effective and viable alternative to classroom-based higher education, combined with shifting societal expectations, several arguably failing higher education practices, increasing costs, and decreasing resources, suggest a possible shift away from the traditional form of the college and university toward a new model where learning at a distance is commonplace. Despite elucidating anecdotal advantages, offering numerous studies that compare cognitive learning outcomes, and presenting empirical validations of online best practices, the online education literature contains serious limitations in terms of how well this new medium serves the holistic education of undergraduate students. Student development theorists have long informed that undergraduate students need the traditional classroom and concomitant peer group to develop fully, thus it is an open question whether online education can aid students in developing to their potential. The ACPA asserts that student affairs professionals must be especially vigilant to ensure student development remains an essential purpose of higher education, yet research on the affective gains of students enrolled in online programs is non-existent. Therefore, this paper urges student affairs professionals to make a determined stand for comprehensive education before it is too late, because as the Yale Report of 1828 argued, "it is a hazardous experiment to act upon the plan of gaining numbers first, and character afterwards" (p. 197).



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

26th annual PCPA conference

www.pcpa.net

Save the Date

Dates: Sunday, October 14 - Tuesday, October 16, 2007

Location: Radisson Hotel Pittsburgh in Monroeville, PA

<http://www.radisson.com/monroevillepa>

For more information or to volunteer for the conference committee, please contact:

Lynn Burke, Co-Chair at eburke@gettysburg.edu

Kaycee Palko, Co-Chair at kpalko@cmu.edu

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.

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