

Commission XI Update



Commission for Student Development in the Two-Year College

From the Chair

Trust this finds each of you eagerly awaiting the upcoming Convention in Washington, DC. It's hard to believe that it has been a year since we gathered in Atlanta to learn, share, and socialize.



As the United States and many of our individual institutions have undergone substantive changes over the last 12 months, I'm certain that many of us have contemplated how these changes will impact the valuable work that we engage in as we strive to best serve our students.

It is at times such as this that we look to organizations like ACPA and to the professional development opportunities that they provide as a harbor in which we can shelter ourselves as we weather periods of change and uncertainty. How appropriate that our 2009 Convention will be held at the new "National Harbor" on the Potomac!

On behalf of our Directorate, I challenge each of you to become even more involved in the Commission for Student Development in the Two-Year College and to take advantage of the many opportunities that we will have available in Metro-DC. It is our sincerest hope that our offerings will encourage your "power to image" and solidify your "courage to act." As I am sure you know, the two-year college environment is one of the fastest growing educational venues within the arena of higher education. Please take the time to join us as we work diligently to provide expanded opportunities for you to become even more connected to the ACPA organization and to further enhance your sense of "place" within our professional harbor.

As you read this newsletter, please join me in congratulating and thanking Lisa Kelsay for the

outstanding job she has done this year as Chair-Elect for our Commission. Her input and bountiful energy have been a refreshing infusion to our small but mighty group of volunteers. My thanks to Danny Pham for his outstanding work on our Commission's Newsletter and to Patty Munch for her unending dedication to our Commission's Awards Program. To all of our program reviewers, our "Showcase" volunteers, and our Directorate members I offer a huge thank you! Each of you has worked diligently to create a "2-YR Harbor" of which we can all be proud.

No pre-convention comments would be complete without offering a word of congratulations and thank you to Dr. Nancy Bentley, the recipient of our commission's 2009 *Service to the Profession Award*. Nancy has been a beacon in our harbor for quite some time and has guided many of us to the safe realization that the 2-YR experience is to be both a valued and celebrated segment of our professional organization. We all owe her a great deal of gratitude!

On the eve of the DC Convention take time to reflect on the impact that the 2-YR collegiate experience has had on you and on the students with whom many of you interact. As you engage your students in the learning process on a daily basis, I'm certain that you will find you have done much to create safe harbors in which you and your students have developed the "power to imagine" and the "courage to act."

Safe travels to everyone and please remember to join us in the "2-YR Harbor" while at the Metro-DC Convention...

Randy L. Dean

From the Chair-Elect

Hello and welcome to the Commission for Student Development in the Two-Year College. My name is Lisa Kelsay and I have been the Chair-Elect of this outstanding commission for the 2008-2009 year. Outside of ACPA, I am the Internships Manager at Moraine Valley Community College (IL) in the Job Resource Center.

This year, we have been witness to a year of history being made in our country and in the world. On January 20, 2009, Barack Obama and Joe Biden were sworn in as President and Vice President respectively. On January 27, 2009, Dr. Jill Biden returned to the



professoriate as an adjunct at Northern Virginia Community College for the first day of classes. And on March 6, 2009, Secretary of Education Arne Duncan chose the nation's largest and most diverse community college: Miami-Dade College, to be the site of his first college visit, according to the Chronicle of Higher Education. Could there be more focus on the

community college in coming years?

I am very excited and looking forward to what the future will bring for the community colleges on the individual college campuses and on the political scene. There are many innovative leaders who are dedicated to assisting the students at the community college within the commission. For example, Angel Hernandez and Yuri Betancourt from Santiago Canyon College were selected as the recipients of the *2009 Innovative New Program Award* for their program Discover Santiago Canyon College: Orientation to College Life. In addition, Dr. Nancy Bentley, Vice President of Student Affairs at Moraine Valley Community College, received the *2009 Service to*

the Profession Award for her years of service to the commission and to the community college students.

The directorate team for this commission is excellent and full of outstanding ideas. I would like to take this time to thank Randy Dean for his leadership through the past two years as chair of this commission. His initiative and leadership has been an asset to this commission and I look forward to his guidance as he moves into the role as Past Chair. I would also like to say congratulations to our newest directorate members; Joseph Leyland, Betsy Oudenhoven, Marcus Peanort, and Wendy Steinberg. These new directorate members bring many years of experience, ideas, and dedication to the our commission and I look forward to working with them as well as the many members of the directorate who are continuing their leadership roles.

So, where will the future lead us? Only time will tell, but we, as staff and faculty members at community colleges throughout the country, can create our path, move forward, and collaborate to develop student leaders on our campuses. Sometimes, it takes just one person who can make a difference in a student's life and career path. And sometimes, it takes believing in a student to make a difference. In that belief, our commission has selected Brian Walsh, a student at Middle Tennessee State University, as the recipient of the *ACPA Commission for Student Development in the Two-Year College NextGen Scholarship*.

As the annual ACPA convention convenes in Washington, DC later this month, take a few moments to review all of the innovative programs being offered to attendees. Research and innovative new programs that are occurring at the community college are being presented as programs at this year's convention. Take time to attend our Commission Open Business Meeting as well as the reception. Also, stop by our table at the Showcase to say hi and learn how you can help this commission. As the theme of the convention states, have power to imagine and courage to act. It is your time so take the time to network, share ideas with colleagues, and renew.

Have safe travels and I look forward to meeting you in D.C.!

Lisa Kelsay

New Directorate Member: Wendy Steinberg

Wendy Steinberg is from Aurora, Colorado and attended the University of Northern Colorado for undergraduate studies earning a Bachelor of Arts in English. She graduated from Emporia State University with a Master of Science in Counseling with an emphasis in Student Personnel Services in Higher Education. Wendy's primary function in student affairs has been within residence life, however, after being a stay-at-home mom for a while, Wendy was delighted to accept a position in retention services at a community college in Northern Kentucky. Outside of work, Wendy loves kissing on her two yummy boys and spending time with her husband, Andrew.



That was great! Now what?

Extending your conference experience¹

by Jeannette Marie Passmore

“Why would I want to spend time using social media”

Conferences are a great opportunity to refresh our knowledge, reinvigorate our professional enthusiasm, and network with other professionals. Current methods of conference participation provide us with an abundance of great ideas, best practices, case studies and responses, and a limited amount of time to process these ideas and connect with other professionals. We leave conferences with great new ideas and strategies for implementing them. However, following through with those plans can fall victim to our daily routine. Online networks are a great way to extend the conference experience. We can store documents, share results, and stretch our budgets.

How can we keep that conference vibe going? One option is the intentional use of social media and technology based forums. Technology will not replace in-person conferencing, but it does provide an opportunity to continue to encourage and support our colleagues. During a conference we attend sessions, network, exchange ideas, and have discussions. These activities can be enhanced by continuing the conversations online.

Why would I want to spend time using social media and technology for post-conference networking? Daily routines often do not allow time for connecting with

colleagues via the phone or in person. Email, Facebook, Twitter, discussion boards, and blogging are excellent tools for sharing ideas and outcomes. A session presenter who provides a blog or discussion board for the session participants and other interested parties is extending the impact a session can have. Offering a single location or key word to bring together professionals gives everyone an opportunity to share their implementation plans, ask questions, and discuss the various outcomes.

There are various forums for connecting with other professionals. This article will cover email, Google Groups, Facebook, LinkedIn and Twitter. Begin with all of the business cards you have collected. Enter all of the information in to your contact manager as soon as possible. As you enter each contact take a moment to send an email. The mails do not all need to be completely unique, but be genuine in your reply. A simple “was great to meet you” begins to establish a post-conference connection. If you have promised to send an article, or item of interest, include it with your email and if you would like to increase the odds of a response prompt the reader with a “call to action” by requesting something specific. **(cont. next page)**

“A simple ‘was great to meet you’ begins to establish a post-conference connection”

“Using all of these technology options...can be overwhelming and distracting”

Directorate

Chair

Randy Dean

Richard Bland College

2008-09 Chair-Elect

Lisa Kelsay, Ph.D.

Moraine Valley Community College

2007-09 Past-Chair

Sarah E. Merranko, Ed.D

College of Southern Maryland

David Asencio

Broward Community College

Sally Barton Dingee

Monroe Community College

Nancy Bentley, Ph.D.

Moraine Valley Community College

Loris A. Blue

Seattle Community College

Paulette Brower-Garett

Union County College

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Make connections between others if you are able. For example, if you spoke to Sam and Chris and they both indicated that they were working on an academic advising website send an email to Chris asking if he had met Sam, and an email to Sam asking if you could introduce her to someone working on a similar project. This is an excellent technique for the care and feeding of your network which includes the following steps: know what your colleagues are working on, think creatively about how to help, make meaningful introductions, follow up, and keep your network informed about what you are working on.

What should I do with a Google Group or Facebook Group? If you are a session presenter consider setting-up a Google Group for your session and including the URL in your handouts. The group is an additional place to store and share your handouts and any additional references you feel are valuable. Provide conversation starting questions or topics within the discussion forums. If there was an item of particular interest that you were not able to cover in full use the forum to continue your session. Ask the participants to share plans for implementation of projects that have been inspired by your session are and information on how those projects are progressing. Sharing the information provides a form of accountability and encourages participants to follow through.

LinkedIn and Twitter are additional ways to connect with your expanding network. LinkedIn offers a way to connect with other professionals worldwide. These connections allow for introductions to additional professionals and a place for collaboration and discussion to assist with meeting goals and gathering new information. Twitter is a real-time connection tool with a much less formal feel to it than LinkedIn. Twitter is a great way to broadcast your successes or quick questions to a large network and receive rapid responses from your connections that are online at that time.

Using all of these technology options for post-conference follow-up can be overwhelming and distracting. Choose one or two networking tools that will work for your communication style and carefully cultivate your network. Remember that reciprocity is essential and it is as important to share your own outcomes and resources as it is to view others. Make connections and interweave your network. Uplifting members of your network and making connections for them assures that you will make a positive impression and receive the same benefits.

[Google Group](#) – Extending the Conference Experience

LinkedIn – [Jeannette Passmore](#)

Twitter - [Jeannette Marie](#)

References

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¹ This article is also featured in the newsletter for the Commission for Commuter Students and Adult Learners.

New Directorate Member: Joseph Leyland

Directorate (cont.)

Monica R.M. Brown, Ed.D.

Montgomery College

Darleen McGrath Florance

Bergen Community College

Sharon Goldstein, Ph.D.

Bergen Community College, Paramus

Rickey Hall

University of Minnesota

John Jamrogowicz

Trident Technical College

Kari Kahler

Northwestern Michigan College

Wilson Luna, Ed.D.

Gateway Community College

Patty Munsch

Suffolk Community College

Danny Pham

Seattle University

Eboni Zamani-Gallaher

Eastern Michigan University

Joseph Leyland is studying for his Master's Degree in College Student Development while working as a Graduate Assistant in the Service-Learning Volunteer Center at Oklahoma State University. Before successfully completing studies for his Bachelor of Science degree at the University of Central Oklahoma, Joseph was very active with and influenced by the wonderful people and opportunities afforded to him by the first institution of higher education he was involved with: Rose State College – a two-year community college in Midwest City, OK. As a community college student, he graduated with an Associate of Arts degree in Liberal Studies. Joseph was a member of the 2006 All-Oklahoma Academic Team and the Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society.



As a community college professional, he has worked as a registration assistant in Enrollment Management and as a recruiter in Prospective Student Services. Research interests include: servant-leadership, service-learning, leadership development, retention, sustainability, and advisement. Joseph will be a GA in the office of Family and Parent Programs at Oklahoma State in August 2009. Currently, he resides in Stillwater, OK with his wife, Erin.

New Directorate Member: Marcus Peanort



Marcus Peanort has served as an Assistant Professor and Counselor in the Counseling & Advising Department at Montgomery College (MC) in Rockville, MD for the last four years. Prior to MC, he worked in a variety of roles at the University of Maryland, College Park, Prince George's Community College (Largo, MD), Old Dominion University (Norfolk, VA), and College Summit, Inc. and Reach4Success (Washington, DC). Marcus completed his MEd in Counseling & Personnel Services at the University of Maryland, College Park and his BS in Human Services Counseling from Old Dominion University. In addition, he has earned a Graduate Certificate in Academic Advising from Kansas State University in Manhattan, KS. Besides ACPA, Marcus holds membership in the American Association of University Professors (AAUP), the National Academic Advising Association (NACADA), and the National Orientation Directors Association (NODA). Marcus is really excited to be an active part of the ACPA Commission for Student Development in the Two-College and looks forward to meeting and working with the other members.

2009 Award Recipients

Commission on Student Development in the 2-Year College

Each year, the commission recognizes its members for their contribution to the field. Specifically, we honor outstanding publications, programs, research, and service as either a new or established professional. Additionally, for the first time, we collaborated with the NextGen conference to offer the *ACPA Commission on Student Development in the 2-Year College Next Generation Scholarship*. This scholarship serves to recognize and support one of a hundred undergraduates who aspires to our profession. Congratulations to all of our recipients.

The Service to the Profession Award



is bestowed upon **Dr. Nancy Bentley**, the Vice President of Student Affairs at Moraine Valley Community College for her continued support and service to the commission. Dr. Bentley has dedicated her time to the commission for many years, taking an active role through various leadership positions. In addition to her work for the commission, Dr. Bentley has served as a leader and advocate of students at Moraine Valley Community College. She has volunteered her time as

a mentor and resource to the members of the commission and has been the voice and leadership for the commission as an advocate for two-year colleges.

The Innovative New Program Award



goes to **Angel Hernandez** and **Yuri Betancourt** from **Santiago Canyon College** for their program *Discover Santiago Canyon College: Orientation to College Life*. This program was developed as a response to research data that indicated that incoming students needed to better understand the importance of student involvement and the opportunities on campus for students. The program, which has included over 400 participants, orients new student to co-curricular life at the college and provides leadership opportunities for current students to serve as orientation leaders. The program has assisted student in becoming familiar with programs and services, increased their understanding of educational counseling resources and increased their confidence about starting college.

The Next Generation Scholarship



is awarded to **Brian Walsh** from Middle Tennessee State University. While at MTSU, Brian is majoring in Electronic Media Journalism Major with a concentration in Sports Broadcasting and pursuing a minor in Leadership Studies. His campus involvement includes working in Athletics and the Office of Student and Family Orientation. He is set to graduate in December 2009.

ACPA, Two Year Colleges and YOU!

Two year colleges and the student affairs professionals who serve within them play a critical role in educational access for students who may be working adults with families and/or jobs that compete for their time. That role may increase as the economy forces many people to retool their skills and knowledge in the face of employment changes. As if that wasn't enough, the profile of two year colleges may be helped by the political spotlight. Dr. Jill Biden, wife of U.S. Vice President Joseph Biden, is a faculty member at a two year college in the Washington, DC area.

As a two year college professional (or someone with interests in that area) you can play a critical role in educating your fellow student affairs professionals about topics of critical interest. What do you believe are the most pressing issues facing student affairs professionals in two year colleges today? What educational sessions – offered as webinars, as drive in workshops or as publications – would best assist you throughout the year? ACPA has many avenues through which to provide ongoing professional development. Certainly the upcoming convention is one avenue. But there are additional options as well. For example, what two year college topics might you suggest for ACPA's great online newsletter, ACPA Developments, available at http://www.myacpa.org/pub/pub_de.cfm? And when you were new to your role in a two year college, what publications did you wish were "out there" to guide you as a student affairs professional in your institution? Via your contact with the incoming chair of the commission, ACPA is actively seeking your ideas on these topics. Take a moment to email Lisa Kelsay (kelsayl@morainevalley.edu) with your thoughts!



Alice A. Mitchell, Ph. D.
ACPA Coordinator for Commissions

Counseling Center
University of Maryland College Park



New Directorate Member: Betsy Oudenhoven

Betsy is currently the Vice President of Student Development at historic Joliet Junior College (the nation's first public community college). Her path to JJC led her through several states (Wisconsin, Minnesota, New York and Illinois), a variety of institutions, and a number of wonderful positions in student development. She worked for almost 20 years at four-year state universities, primarily in residence life. After a move to Illinois eleven years ago she made the transition to two-year institutions in the area of counseling and advising. Betsy has an MA in Counseling from the University of Colorado-Boulder and a PhD in higher education from Loyola University-Chicago. Her two children (who have kept her grounded as both a parent and a professional) are happily on the brink of completing their undergraduate degrees. Betsy loves higher education, both as an academic and practical enterprise, and believes wholeheartedly in the concept of education for the greater good. She is excited about becoming more involved in the Two Year College Commission because community colleges are institutions worthy of our passion and hard work, and student development professionals can individually and collectively make a difference.

Commission XI Sponsored Convention Programs

By Lisa Kelsay, Commission on Student Development in the Two-Year College Programs Chair

This year we had a great problem - we received more program submissions than our commission could sponsor. Proposals were detailed, exciting, and showcased many great projects and programs that are happening on our community colleges. It was a tough decision of the reviewers because of how good the proposals were. I would like to thank all of the reviewers for their hard work and dedication to selecting quality programs for the 2009 ACPA Annual Convention; David Asencio, Nancy Bentley, Yuri S. Betancourt, Jeff Lail, Christina Lunceford, Kathleen A. MacKay, Sara P. Smith, and Heather N. Werckle. Your insights and thoroughness truly assisted with selecting the programs that this commission would be sponsoring.

We are pleased to announce the programs selected for sponsorship by the Commission for Student Development in the 2-Year College are:

Courage to Act: Improving Transfer Services through Blackboard Academic Suite

Bryan A. Wint, MassBay Community College

Monday, March 30, 2009

11:45 AM - 1:00 PM

Gaylord National, Chesapeake 5

Transferring from a community college to a 4-year school can be difficult. This is especially true in Massachusetts where outdated and confusing transfer policies are often combined with the lack of inadequate information for our students and staff. This informative program will show how the Academic Advising staff at MassBay Community College had the Power to Imagine and the Courage to Act, creating an interactive, efficient, and sustainable website utilizing Blackboard Academic Suite to address student's needs.

Discover SCC: Orientation to Community College Life

Angel C. Hernandez, Yuri Betancourt, Patty Godinez, and Jose Plaza, Santiago Canyon College

Monday, March 30, 2009

4:15 PM - 5:50 PM

Gaylord National, Chesapeake 5

Incoming community college students often do not receive an orientation to campus involvement opportunities. The standard community college enrollment process involves three steps: completing an admissions application, a placement exam and an academic advisement session. The Discover SCC: Introduction to College Life program was developed to better familiarize incoming students with the resources and co-curricular learning opportunities available at this community college.

Inspiring Students to Take Action Through the GPS LifePlan

Aarin Distad, Kathryn Svoboda, and Kristin Hageman, Century College

Tuesday, March 31, 2009

10:15 AM - 11:50 AM

Gaylord National, Chesapeake 7, 8 & 9

There is a major difference between helping students be successful in college and giving them the tools to be successful in life. Teaching students to clearly define their academic, personal, and professional goals is an important part of the culture at Century College, a community and technical college located in Minnesota. This session will introduce you to the GPS LifePlan (Goals + Plans = Success), a campus-wide program designed to engage students and unite college resources under a common framework.

Make a Difference: Careers in Two Year Colleges

Sarah E. Merranko, College of Southern Maryland; Carolyn J. Palmer, Bowling Green State University; Patricia M. Munsch, Suffolk County Community College; Matt Matera, Pima Community College Desert Vista Campus; Marcus Peanort, Montgomery College, and Nancy Bentley, Moraine Valley Community College

Tuesday, March 31, 2009

1:15 PM - 2:50 PM

Gaylord National, Chesapeake 7, 8 & 9

Looking for that innovative career that allows you to be on the cutting edge of new trends, creating programs, and thinking outside the box? Consider a career with a two-year college--it's the place to be in higher education! More than half of all students attending college are enrolled in two-year colleges. Six panelists with two-year college experiences will share their insights and what keeps them excited and engaged in their work. **(cont. next page)**

Student Attrition in Two-Year Colleges: A Discussion of New Practices*Patricia M. Munsch, Suffolk County Community College**Tuesday, March 31, 2009**7:50 AM - 8:50 AM**Gaylord National, Chesapeake 10*

This program will provide participants an opportunity to have a conversation regarding student attrition in two-year colleges. Individuals will share their ideas, programs and policies that they believe help decrease the student attrition at their institution. It is an opportunity for professionals to hear from each other about what has worked on their campuses.

We are also pleased to announce that we also are co-sponsoring 2 programs:

Serving Adult Learners: Models for Effective Practice*Carolyn J. Palmer, Bowling Green State University; John L. Garland, University of Maryland; and Jeannette Passmore, Bowling Green State University and Tiffin University**Monday, March 30, 2009**8:45 AM - 10:00 AM**Gaylord National, National Harbor 11*

This program will identify issues affecting the rapidly expanding population of adult learners or non-traditional students and describe programs and practices at large, small, public, private, two-year, and four-year institutions that are effective in addressing those issues within various functional areas of student affairs (e.g., admissions, orientation, financial aid, academic advising, learning assistance, career services, counseling, student and family housing). Participants will be encouraged to share their own experiences with, or suggestions for, effective practice in serving adult learners.

Culture of Evidence: Using Learning Outcomes Assessment in Student Services*Rashida H. Govan, The University of New Orleans; Cynthia Peterka, Howard Community College; and Sakina Williams, The Community College of Baltimore County**Wednesday, April 1, 2009**9:50 AM - 10:45 AM**Gaylord National, National Harbor 5*

Is the work you're doing in student affairs really contributing to student learning? How do you know? We'll discuss how student affairs divisions in Maryland's community colleges are attempting to answer these questions through their statewide learning outcomes assessment project. We will specifically discuss Maryland's student life departments' use of learning outcomes assessment to gauge the effectiveness of our leadership programs and will discuss how this project has improved our practice and impacted student learning.

Attend these workshops at the 2009 Annual ACPA convention to learn more about what is happening in the two-year college! See you in DC.

It's never too early to think about submitting program proposals to the next convention or articles to the next [newsletter](#) (the next newsletter deadline is **July 3, 2009**). It would be great for us to have the same "problem" Lisa mentioned, of having too many programs for us to consider for sponsorship. If we don't see you at Convention 2009, we hope to see you in 2010!

