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DISABILITY ISSUES FEATURED AT CONVENTION 2000

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Working with students with disabilities, and creating an open climate for staff with disabilities are issues which impact every area of the student affairs profession. As student affairs professionals who are concerned with diversity in all forms, it is necessary for us to increase our knowledge in these areas. We need to understand how to assist students with disabilities to become tomorrow's leaders, today's scholars, and citizens of the world. We need to understand the potential of staff with disabilities to become leaders, scholars, and good citizens of the campus and the community. The upcoming ACPA conference will provide many opportunities to broaden our knowledge and awareness in these areas.

The goals of the Task Force on Disability include enhancing the development of staff with disabilities, and building education and awareness of the issues of students with disabilities. The Task Force would like to make ACPA members aware of opportunities available at the upcoming ACPA conference in the area of disability concerns. These opportunities are listed below.

PRE-CONVENTION & ORIENTATION PROGRAMS

Orientation for Candidates with Disabilities, Katherine Schneider (see program book for date, time, and location)

This short program will provide tips for current or future job-seekers with disabilities about marketing themselves as well as discussing their accommodation needs.

Discussion and/or role-playing of responses to particular interview questions also will take place.

Orientation for Employers about Disability, *Interviewing & employing student affairs professionals with disabilities*, Donna Martin, Nancy Badger (Saturday, April 1, 9:30-10:30 a.m., see program book for location)

This session will encourage employers to broaden their horizons as to why it is good business to hire student affairs professionals with disabilities. Information will be shared on communicating with people with various disabilities; attitudinal barriers; and some basic legal issues in accordance with the ADA.

Establishing a Mentoring Program for Professionals with Disabilities, Katherine Schneider (see program book for date, time, and location)

This program describes a pilot project for the American Psychological Association's Committee on Disability Issues in Psychology which matches fifty psychologists with disabilities as mentors for fifty psychologists in training who have similar disabilities. The potential for implementing a similar program for ACPA professionals with disabilities will be discussed.

Disability Rights and Responsibilities: A Balancing Act for Students and Institutions, L. Scott Lisner, Ann Bryan, Mario Payne, Kimberfly Godden (Sautday, April 1, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.)

This workshop is designed for Senior Student Affairs Officers, particularly those who have direct oversight of Disability Services. Disability trends in higher education, rights and responsibilities of institutions and students, key issues and resources for addressing these issues will be discussed. The format will be highly interactive, drawing upon case studies and model policies as well as scenarios and issues provided by the participants.

SPEAKERS

Americans with Disabilities Act: Citizenship for the Future, Chair Feldblum and Salome Heyward (Tuesday, April 4, 11:15 to 12:30 p.m., see program book for location)

Dr. Chai Feldblum, a Professor of Law and the Director of the Federal Legislation Clinic at Georgetown University Law Center in Washington, D.C., is a leading scholar and speaker on disability rights. She has been actively involved in federal legislative issues affecting the disability community since the late 1980s, including work on the disability provisions of the Civil Rights Restoration Act of 1987 and the Fair Housing Amendments Act of 1988, and serving as the lead lawyer negotiating and drafting provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990.

Dr. Salome Heyward, the President of Heyward, Lawton and Associates, is a well-known and respected speaker and trainer in the area of disability discrimination law. She is the author of *Higher Education and Disability*, the *FMLA Handbook*, and *Access to Education for the Disabled*, and is the editor of the *Disability Accommodation Digest*.

GENERAL PROGRAMS

Counseling Students with Disabilities: Promoting Leadership, Scholarship, and Citizenship, Nancy Badger, Katherine Schneider, Barbara Palombi (Monday, April 3, 11:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m., Marriott Virginia B)

Students with disabilities comprise a group, which has the capability to become emerging leaders, scholars, and contributing citizens in our communities. Counseling services can assist this group in achieving their full potential by merging theory related to people with disabilities with counseling practice. This program will review some theoretical underpinnings of counseling people with disabilities, discuss therapeutic issues and suggest implications for practice in counseling. Adjustment to disability, diversity, and accommodations in services will also be discussed.

Untapped Resources for Disability Service Providers: Volunteerism in College Communities, Kimberly Godden, Maggie Viverette, Christia Williams (Monday, April 3, see program book for time and location)

Disability service providers are continuously faced with the challenge of accommodating students in an adequate and timely manner using limited resources. This program will examine volunteerism as a viable alternative to more costly options. Blazer VIP's (Volunteers Improving Possibilities), a new program at Valdosta State University, will be analyzed, and participants will receive a comprehensive guideline for implementing similar volunteer programs on their campus.

Access to Work: Career Counseling for Students with Disabilities, Marilyn Petrich (see program book for date, time and location)

An in-depth overview of Access to Work, a project designed to offer career planning and experiential learning opportunities for students with disabilities at the University of Minnesota will be presented. Information on cutting edge research and best practices in the field of disability services will be addressed.

Diversity and Leadership: Building Teams One Individual at a Time, Daniello Garmo Balon [EDITOR: please include acute accent over the 'o' in Balon], Heemanshu Mukund Bhagat, Amiko Ine Matsumoto (see program book for date, time and location).

This interactive "train-the-trainer" workshop will explore the critical interdependence between individual diversity and community team. Disability, touched upon as a thread of difference, will be included in the discussion of how these differences may be respected, incorporated, and honored in our various team environments. Practitioners from higher education and non-profit consulting fields will guide you to strategize ways of facilitating individual self-awareness, understand its relevance to student leadership and global citizenship, and provide exercises and tips to strengthen your team.

Designing and Implementing a Web Based Career Exploration Course, Jayne M. Lokken (see program book for date, time and location)

Information on strategies for developing a successful asynchronous Internet career exploration course will be presented. This Internet career exploration course is targeted mainly for non-traditional students who are working full time off campus. Traditional and non-traditional student career development issues will be discussed and contrasted.

Other programs you may be interested in are listed below. Please check your program booklet for presenters' names and session day, time and location.

Barriers and Solutions to Enhance Campus Citizenship for Students with Disabilities

Federal legislation requires that post secondary institutions provide accessible services and programs to students with disabilities. Student affairs personnel can provide an important leadership role to assure that educational, residential life, and related programs meet the needs of students with disabilities. This interactive program provides information regarding how legislative mandates apply to post secondary settings and outlines important resources that will help student affairs personnel to ensure full participation of students with disabilities.

Credit for Protest

Activism has always been a visible part of college life in the US and saw its peak during the Vietnam War/Civil Rights era. Most people think apathy reigns on campuses today, but in actuality many students are active in a variety of causes. Who is training and mentoring these students regarding activist methodology and skills? Come back to school today ... take HDF 498G, URI's "citizen activist" class, one of the only for-credit activist training programs in the country.

Developing a Campus Commitment to Diversity in the Year 2000

With our rapidly changing demographics comes the potential for intolerance to run rampant on our campuses. Administrators have a responsibility to address this issue and to bring their community together to find solutions. Come find out how one institution has uniquely addressed this issue through its initiative, which was recognized by the White House as a Model Program. Through this presentation participants will gain valuable insight into creating not only a tolerant campus, but also an accepting and appreciating environment.

Thinking Styles, Learning Approaches and College Success in Three Cultures

Theories dealing with differences in thinking styles and learning approaches, along with their substantiating research findings are becoming increasingly prominent in the literature from the field of educational psychology. These concepts have relevance for student affairs practitioners. They are presented on this program through examining the results of cross-cultural studies utilizing these concepts conducted with university students in three cultures--the United States, Hong Kong, and Mainland China.

DISABILITY-RELATED EVENTS

Signed Supper (Sunday, April 2, 8:30 p.m., Marriott Balcony B)

This event is an enjoyable opportunity for deaf, hard of hearing, and hearing convention attendees to meet for dinner or an evening snack. American Sign Language/ Pidgin Signed English will be the sole mode of communication. In the past, this event has included deaf members of ACPA, ACPA members who have deaf family members, ACPA members who are interpreters, and other folks who just happen to know how to communicate in ASL/PSE. Join us! We will meet at the room location listed in your program book, then go to a nearby restaurant.

Task Force on Disability Business Meeting (Monday, April 3, 9:30 to 10:30 a.m., Marriott Balcony D)

Come learn about the wonderful ideas and great work that the Task Force has been doing. You are welcome to attend if you are (1) a student affairs professional with a disability, (2) a disability support service provider, or (3) a person who wants to learn more about disability as one facet of campus diversity. Join us!

Task Force on Disability Table at ACPA Carnival (Monday, April 3, 6 to 8 p.m., see program book for location). Come meet members of the Task Force on Disability, pick up information about disability, sign up for our listserv and just "hang out." We are happy to meet you at our table at the Convention Carnival.

ACPA Business Meeting (Tuesday, April 4, 9:45 to 11 a.m., see program book for location).

The Task Force on Disability has worked very hard over several years to establish a procedure through which Task Forces may propose that they be considered for Standing Committee status. As a Task Force, we look forward to being the first group to use this process. Read our complete proposal on our website <http://www.acpa.nche.edu/comms/disab/proposal.htm>. Vote to make us a Standing Committee For Disability at this Business Meeting. Many other items of importance to ACPA members will be discussed as well. Come be involved in YOUR association!

No Host Dinner (Tuesday, April 4, 7 p.m., Marriott Park Tower Suite 8226)

The annual Task Force on Disability No Host Dinner is a chance for three groups of people to meet, greet and EAT! Those three groups are (1) student affairs professionals with disabilities, (2) disability support service providers, and (3) people interested in learning more about disability. You don't have to know anyone beforehand; just show up! We will meet at the room listed in your program book, then go to a nearby restaurant.

The Task Force on Disability hopes that this information will assist you in your development in the area of disability concerns. You have the opportunity to enhance the development of people with disabilities to create leaders, scholars and citizens at your campus and community. Take advantage of the growing number of educational and experiential presentations available at the conference. We hope to see you in Washington!

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