

Pre-convention CCSAL Newsletter

Spring 2012

Commission for
Commuter Students and
Adult Learners

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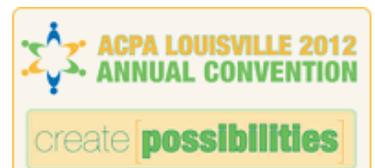
By: *Jeannette Passmore, Owens Community College*

The [itinerary builder](#) is ready! As soon as I receive the email letting me know the schedule is out, Convention starts to seem real. I'm very geeky about building my schedule. I first add all of our Commission sponsored events (of course), then I put in any leadership meetings, and then I dig in and add all of the sessions with titles that look interesting and/or applicable. That's where I am at right now. Over the next few weeks I will look at each time slot, reviewing the program descriptions, and much to my dismay start deleting a few sessions. If only I could be in four or five places at once! Now that would create some serious possibilities! Thankfully social media will be in full force and I can go back to review the Twitter stream as I anxiously await presentations to be posted to the web.



I hope your excitement is building as you read this issue of the newsletter featuring our award winners, sponsored programs, and convention plans. I know that in the current economic climate we will be missing many of you in Louisville. If you would be interested in a live stream from the Open Business Meeting, or following along via Twitter, please let me know. I would be happy to provide these services.

For all of my excitement about convention, and interest in the sessions, I couldn't help but notice that we certainly have some possibilities open to us as professionals interested in commuter students and adult learners. Our commuter colleagues are doing a fantastic job with research and presenting. Thank you! I, again this year, found myself disappointed in the offerings focused on nontraditional students. As one of the fastest growing demographics on our campuses nontraditional students need our support. Our colleagues also need our support, scholarship, and knowledge about how to serve this demographic as well. I would like to create possibilities for you to engage beyond the Convention. To share what you know, what you practice, and your current issues and questions. We survey our commission members, communicate several times a year, and enjoy seeing you once a year. This year I would like to hear more from you! How can we create possibilities for you share best practices, build presentations, submit newsletter articles, and engage in the Commission?



If you are going to be in Louisville please seek me out. I will be posting daily to Twitter and Facebook (and I always include what I'm wearing to make me easier to spot!). If we won't have the pleasure of your company in Louisville please take a few minutes to drop me a line via email, Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter, or carrier pigeon and let me know how I can create possibilities for you to engage and share.

[Twitter](#) [Facebook](#) [LinkedIn](#) [Email](#)

ACPA/Convention Quick Takes

- 2012-13 ACPA Governance election results are in. Check them out [here!](#)
- For the first time, Convention has a [webpage](#) dedicated to accessibility!
- Commission for Career Development is doing C3 candidate resume reviews!
 - If you're interested, please email [Eric Hall](#) with a copy of your resume no later than March 1st, they will be critiqued & returned by March 16th.
- Receive Convention program updates and cancellations via Twitter follow ["@ACPAConvention."](#)

CCSAL Events Pocket Calendar

By: *Raechel Matyas, Terra State Community College*

While I have been pouring over the [2012 convention program outlines](#) and the “Itinerary Builder,” I thought it might be nice to include a quick Commission for Commuter Students & Adult Learners pocket calendar of events! You are likely to find any number of commission members at these events and are encouraged to attend and say “Hello.” Come to the CCSAL Open Business Meeting and learn about all of the exciting ways you can get involved with the commission. We are always looking for new members, so stop by and put in your two-cents. I know you’ve got ‘em. In addition to CCSAL meetings I have also included the Convention Showcase and CCSAL sponsored programs (detailed on the next two pages) in this list. Convention Showcase is a fun interactive event where you can get to know each of the commissions and regional affiliates in a laid-back environment. Finally, CCSAL has sponsored five exciting programs for the 2012 National Convention in Louisville! As a commission member, you are encouraged to attend these sponsored programs. They have been specially selected by CCSAL to help you better serve your commuter and adult students. Be sure to include each of these exciting events or programs in your schedules!

Event	Date	Time	Place
Convention Showcase	Monday: 3/26/2012	6:30 - 8:00 PM	Kentucky International Convention Center Exhibit Hall
Sponsored Program: Without Walls: Best Practices in Services for Distance Education Students	Monday: 3/26/2012	5:45 - 6:45 PM	Kentucky International Convention Center - L2
CCSAL No-Host Breakfast	Tuesday 3/27/2012	7:30am	Galt House - Lobby 1
CCSAL Open Business Meeting	Tuesday: 3/27/2012	9:30 - 12:00 PM	Galt House - Taylor
Sponsored Program: Civility Near Campus: Students Becoming Positive Community Members Around Campus	Tuesday: 3/27/2012	9:00 - 10:00 AM	Kentucky International Convention Center - L4
Sponsored Program: Merging Leadership and Service to Engage First-Year Commuter Students	Tuesday: 3/27/2012	10:30 - 11:30 AM	Kentucky International Convention Center - 102
Sponsored Program: More Than a Place to Park	Tuesday: 3/27/2012	12:00 - 1:00 PM	Kentucky International Convention Center - L7
Sponsored Program: Identifying Success Markers: Creating Possibilities for Commuter Students	Wednesday: 3/28/2012	10:00 - 11:00 AM	Kentucky International Convention Center - 211

Receive Program Updates and Cancellations via Twitter



Click the icon to the left to visit the ACPA Twitter page. Log in or create an account and follow "@ACPAConvention."

You can also have Twitter updates sent directly to your mobile phone. After logging in, click the arrow next to your username at the top of the page, then click the "Devices" tab. Follow the steps to activate updates to your mobile phone.

CCSAL Sponsored Programs

By Laurie Hulcher, University of Maryland University College

Without Walls: Best Practices in Services for Distance Education Students, Roundtable Discussion **Monday March 26, 2012, 5:45-6:45 PM** **in Kentucky International Convention Center - L2**



As more and more traditional-age and adult students are drawn to the flexibility and accessibility of distance education programs, the growth in the number of students taking classes online and at off-campus sites has far outpaced the growth of students attending on-campus. Thus, a separation between student service providers and their students has become commonplace. Institutions and student service units also show very different responses towards working with this unique group from fully engaged in providing services online and off-campus to little or no services offered at a distance.

Share your experiences with distance education and online students and gather strategies from your ACPA colleagues at the CCSAL sponsored roundtable Without Walls: Best Practices in Services for Distance Education Students. Led by CCSAL members Laurie Hulcher of University of Maryland University College and Amy O'Keefe of Texas Woman's University, we will discuss the unique challenges of successfully providing support to these students and helping them to reach their educational goals.

Participants will share information around the following hot topics:

- What does the online/distance education population look like at your school?
- What services are provided for online/distance education students? Where are the services provided?
- What are the challenges to providing online/distance education student services?
- What high impact practices can make a difference for this population?

Networks for professionals providing online/distance education student services will also be discussed.

Mark your Convention itinerary builder for Monday March 26, 2012, 5:45-6:45 PM, in L2. For those who are interested, we plan to continue the conversation at dinner following the roundtable. If you are interested in learning more about this event, but can't attend convention, contact Laurie Hulcher personally.

By Jami Campbell, University of South Carolina

Civility Near Campus: Students Becoming Positive Community Members Around Campus **Tuesday, March 27, 2012** **9:00 AM - 10:00 AM** **Kentucky International Convention Center, L4**



This program seeks to introduce student affairs professionals to high-impact practices related to working with students living in the communities surrounding our institutions. These practices are often in response to demonstrated needs from both our students and feedback from our neighbors and local leaders. Example programs address renter education, educating students regarding being positive community members in a diverse off-campus community, and creating a developing a civil environment between students and neighbors near campus. We will also discuss important constituents when discussions occur regarding off-campus behavior and community impact from our students.

Presenters:

Josh A Hengemuhle; University of St. Thomas; Area Manager, Off-Campus Student Services

Jes Berdnt; University of Wisconsin – Milwaukee

CCSAL Sponsored Programs *continued...*

By Jami Campbell, University of South Carolina

Merging Leadership and Service to Engage First-Year Commuter Students
Tuesday, March 27, 2012 | 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM
Kentucky International Convention Center, 102



There is little research on leadership confidence amongst commuter students in college. With this premise in mind, New York University initiated a program (CommUnity) to address and assess commuter student involvement and leadership self-efficacy during their first-year. This presentation will examine research that supports the importance of developing this confidence amongst first-year commuter students, and will specifically explore how this can be done through service-learning and faculty interaction on your campus.

Presenters:

Zach Harrell: NYU; Graduate Programming Assistant for Undergraduate Programming; Student Resource Center
Paulina Abaunza: New York University

More Than a Place to Park
Tuesday, March 27, 2012 | 12:00 PM - 1:00 PM
Kentucky International Convention Center, L7

This program will be an interactive presentation consisting of a five-minute introduction from a representative from the National Clearinghouse for Commuter Programs (NCCP), followed by three 15-20 minute presentations on innovative commuter programs and adult learner practices from members of the Commission for Commuter Students and Adult Learners and the NCCP. After the presentations, there will be 15-20 minutes for questions and critique of the programs and ideas presented.

Presenters:

Melissa K Mahan: NSU; Associate Dean Student Affairs
Kristi Mindrup: Western Illinois University Quad Cities
Paulina Abaunza: New York University
Olivia Seifert: Michigan State University



Identifying Success Markers: Creating Possibilities for Commuter Students
Wednesday, March 28, 2012 | 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM
Kentucky International Convention Center, 211



Are your commuter students transitioning successfully to college? In general, commuter students have more difficulties adjusting to college compared to residential students. But within the commuter student population, there are large variations between successful and unsuccessful students. Using data collected from a national retention project, we build a profile of a successful commuter student and compare those students to less successful students. Practitioners from a predominantly commuter university will discuss their work identifying and supporting struggling commuter students.

Presenters:

Jennifer Hodges: The University of Akron; Assistant Dean, University College
Greg Dieringer: The University of Akron
Trillah Culver: The University of Akron

2012 CCSAL Awards Recipients

By: [Sarah Jaks](#), Texas A&M University

Each year, the Commission for Commuter Student and Adult Learners nominates and selects programs and individuals who have done exemplary work with commuter students and adult learners. Award winners will be recognized at Convention in March. Please take a moment to read about our award recipients from this year.

Program Awards

Outstanding Commuter Program

This award will be given in recognition of an outstanding program or service that provides exceptional support to commuter students; represents a new and creative way to support commuter students or achieves outstanding results. Areas of consideration include, but are not limited to, cost-effectiveness, numbers of students served as percentage of population, and student participation in the planning and execution of the program or service. Programs that should be nominated for this award are any innovative programs that break new boundaries in serving commuter students, achieve outstanding goals, or make a noted impact on students.

Recipient: Arizona State University- Community Liaison Program

Off-Campus & Commuter Student Services (OCCSS) at Arizona State University (ASU) strives to connect and engage with the students who reside off-campus. The ASU Be a Good Neighbor Program was implemented to provide off-campus apartment communities the opportunity to interact with ASU students who reside off-campus. This program has a Community Liaison component, which embeds ASU students into these Good Neighbor communities. The Community Liaisons' serve as a resource to these students and provide educational and interactive programs that strive to keep these students engaged and connected to the university.

This program aims to educate off-campus student about civic engagement, community involvement, city ordinances, state laws, and being a Good Neighbor. For example, the Community Liaison may host a safety forum with the local Police Department to educate students about personal safety when living off-campus. Other programming components of the Good Neighbor Program include but are not limited to: Community Service, Game Day Initiatives, Personal Safety, Sustainability Initiatives and promoting student entrepreneurship. These programs are aligned with President Crow's Design Imperatives for Arizona State University. Another example, of a Community Liaison programming initiative is to promote the universities Game Day efforts. Some of these efforts include encouraging students to wear Gold on Friday's to promote spirit pride and tradition, as well as attending Game Day pep rallies and tailgates. Currently, we have partnered with eleven Good Neighbor communities and have four Community Liaisons'. The Good Neighbor program promotes achievement, engagement and responsibility, which is the Sun Devil Way.

Outstanding Adult Learner Program

This award will be given in recognition of an outstanding program or service that provides exceptional support to adult learners; represents a new and creative way to support adult learners or achieves outstanding results. Areas of consideration include, but are not limited to, cost-effectiveness, numbers of students served as percentage of population, and student participation in the planning and execution of the program or service. Programs that should be nominated for this award are any innovative programs that break new boundaries in serving adult learners, achieve outstanding goals, or make a noted impact on students.



Recipient: Arizona State University- Cap & Gown Sustainability Service

The graduation ceremony is a symbolism of accomplishment and should be available to all students who wish to attend. For many returning students finances are tight and the cost of a cap and gown is more than they can afford, therefore they are unable to participate in the graduation ceremony. Off-Campus & Commuter Student Service's Cap & Gown program is a wonderful way to lend a helping hand to fellow students who might not have the resources at the end of their college career to pay for a cap and gown. We invite all graduates to donate their cap and gown after graduation to the Cap & Gown Sustainability Program. The donated caps and gowns are lent out to adult students who are in need.

2012 CCSAL Awards Recipients ...continued

Outstanding Collaboration

This award will recognize a program or service that successfully incorporates a collaborative, campus-wide approach to serving commuter students and adult learners. Particular consideration will be paid to significant innovations in sharing of resources, funds and staff that cross academic, co-curricular and community boundaries. Programs that should be nominated for this award are collaborations where academic departments, student affairs units and campus neighbors, or city officials collaborate to provide a program or service to commuter students and adult learners.



Recipient: Arizona State University-Adopt an ASU Family Program

In 2004 with the help of University Career Women, ASU Family Resources officially created the Adopt an ASU Family program in hopes of assisting ASU families through the holidays. Selected families need to show financial need--many of the families adopted are referred by students, departments or financial assistance programs. Since then, the program has grown immensely, and in 2009 we saw our largest number of families (29) adopted. Any department, business, organization, etc...that would like to adopt a family can pick the size of the family they want to adopt. We have families that include 2 people up to 8 people. Participants pick at least one wish and one need item for each family member. Participants are responsible for wrapping and labeling all gifts for each family member. Stocking stuffer items can also be included. For individuals who would like to assist but not adopt a family, gift cards can be donated. The program has been a continued success and has garnered a bit more buzz each year, even getting recognition from President Crow, with more departments on and off campus wanting to be involved.

Individual Awards

Commuter/Adult Learner Perspective by a Student Development Professional

This award recognizes the work of a higher education professional (in the field for under 5 years and 5 years plus) responsible for significant research, presentations, program development and outstanding leadership in promoting the commuter/adult perspective or providing educationally purposeful programming or services.

Recipient: : Lisa McGuire, The University of North Carolina at Greensboro

Lisa and her branded "On The Go" programming reach out to adult, transfer and commuter student populations through informational emails and events. Lisa collaborates across campus to connect these constituent groups to needed resources while keeping them informed and engaged. In addition, Lisa advocates for adult, transfer and commuter needs by serving on several campus committees.

Graduate Student Research and Innovation

This award is intended to recognize a graduate student for their contributions of research, innovation and overall body of thought to the field of commuter/ adult student experience. Individuals who have exemplified a particular motivation, passion for and commitment to studying the needs of commuter/ adult students should be nominated for this award.

Recipient: Robert Jason Cottrell, North Carolina Central University

Robert is currently researching a structured first-year college (University College at Virginia Commonwealth University) and whether or not first-year colleges are a factor in engaging undergraduate commuter students. Robert is using Astin's college impact model as the theoretical framework, and he hopes to contribute to the limited research on commuter students while testing this model. Robert is a doctoral student at the University of Virginia in Charlottesville, Virginia.

Previous recipients can be found on our [website!](#) If you have questions about the awards please feel free to contact [Sarah Jaks](#) for more information.

The ACPA Leadership and Corporate Partners Reception & Awards Ceremony will take place Saturday March 24, 2012 from 5:00pm – 7:00pm in Galt House - Cochran & Addition .



Start thinking now about the innovative and inspiring professionals and programs from your campus to nominate for next year's awards!

Featured Directorate Member: Lynne Miller

By: *Raechel Matyas*, Terra State Community College

Each issue we feature a CCSAL Directorate member. This edition we are featuring **Lynne Miller**. Lynne is the Coordinator, Commuter Student & Family Programs at the University of Pittsburgh. She says her position is “an interesting mix of not only working with commuter and transfer students and adult learners, but and also parents/families of Pitt students.” She also plans parent orientation programs and Family Weekend. Lynne completed her Masters in Higher Education and Student Affairs at The Ohio State University in 2005.

Lynne was kind enough to answer the following questions to let us get to know her better. If you have any questions or would like to contact Lynne personally, you can email her at: lam145@pitt.edu.

1. **What is your favorite aspect of your position?**

I love doing leadership development activities and team building activities with my Commuter Assistants and the officers of the organizations I advise. There’s something so satisfying in watching a group of strangers come together and become not only a working group, but eventually friends. Knowing that making friends on campus is one of the biggest challenges commuter students face, it’s so rewarding to know that I have played a role in helping students overcome this barrier.

2. **What's the best/worst career advice you've ever been given?**

WORST ADVICE: “Don’t do what you love for work. Then you’ll begin to hate it.” Couldn’t be further from the truth.

3. **What is your favorite student development theory and why?**

Perry’s theory on intellectual development. Although not perfect, I’ve always found it helpful in understanding where students (“traditional” aged students) are developmentally throughout their collegiate years. It could determine a group activity I do for, say a group of first year students vs. juniors and seniors.

4. **What do you do for fun?**

Right now, most my time spent outside of work is with my husband and 3 year old daughter. We love to go places together, whether it’s the zoo, a

museum, out to dinner, or on a cruise to the Bahamas!

5. **What book(s) are you reading?**

Right now, I’m taking a break from the intellectual and am rereading the Harry Potter books.

6. **If you were stranded on a desert island what three things would you bring along?**

Hmmm... a tent (I burn so easily and sunblock could potentially run out quickly), a good book, and fishing rod.

7. **Where were you born?**

Pittsburgh, PA

8. **What's the most memorable class you've ever taken?**

Deterrence Theory and Nuclear Weapons. I was a Political Science major in undergrad and at one point had thoughts of becoming an analyst for the CIA.

9. **Favorite TV show, movie, and/or magazine:**

TV SHOW: Once Upon a Time; MOVIE: Lord of the Rings Trilogy, but if I have to pick one movie alone, I’d say The Notebook

10. **Favorite quote:**

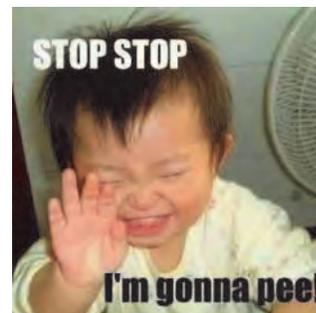
"To love a person is to learn the song that is in their heart, and to sing it to them when they have forgotten."
~Unknown



Closing from the Chair-Elect

By: *Jeannette Passmore, Owens Community College*

When Raechel asked if I would also write the closing to the newsletter I sent back a quick “Sure!” email reply. No problem I’m thinking..and then I remember I said all of the good stuff in my opening! Reflecting on ACPA in Boston and then last year in Baltimore there are some moments that stand out, and these aren’t the moments that I normally write about. Now I find myself looking just as forward to these moments just as much as the educational and professional moments. I don’t often laugh so hard my stomach hurts the next day, but I always have at least one night at ACPA where I am snorting and clapping and can’t breathe there are tears running down my face I don’t care how ridiculous I look I needed that, laughing. I hope you will make the time to have similar memories, and it would be even better if we made those memories together!



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Don’t forget to join other CCSAL
members at Convention for our
“No-host breakfast” meet us
**Tuesday 3/27/2012 at 7:30am in
Lobby 1 of the Galt House.** We
will then depart for a delicious and
fun breakfast full of networking
and getting to know other
professionals working with
commuter students and adult
learners!