

**A
PUBLICATION
OF THE
STUDENT
PERSONNEL
ASSOCIATION
(SPA)**



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SPA CALENDAR

[http://www.uw-spa.org/
calendar](http://www.uw-spa.org/calendar)

Frontline

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From the President

Making time for professional development

When was the last time you went to a national conference? Read a journal or other publication relevant to student affairs? Participated in a "webinar"? If you are like most people, you are probably thinking, "Not recently."

I am fortunate to be going to a conference next week. This is the first conference I've attended in five years. I also have a list of things to accomplish by the end of the day – and it's already 6:00 p.m. I am torn between excitement over the networking and educational opportunities offered by my trip, and fear of what will await me upon my return.

Professional development can be seen as optional activity for our field. It can be one of the first line items to be eliminated in budget cuts. People often have to spend money out of their own pocket to travel to a conference. It's also something that

can easily fall to the bottom of a to-do list. I have a large pile of publications on my desk that await my perusal. Somehow they just aren't as pressing as returning a phone call or writing that memo to my boss.

Staying abreast of innovations and research in our field is important, obviously, so we need to think creatively about professional development. One idea is to create a journal reading group. You don't have to read all 100 pages of the ACPA Journal of College Student Development if you can share that task with colleagues. Assign each person an article, then meet for lunch a week later to share a brief overview of each one and how it is relevant to your work.

Another idea is to take advantage of local opportunities. To engage in some self-promotion, SPA is a wonderful source of free and easy chances for professional development. If you eat at your desk while staring at emails, take a break once in a while to attend a lunchtime forum. Our annual conference will

once again feature a nationally recognized keynote speaker, and it's just down the street at the Pyle Center.

The book club can be a fun way to engage in reflection and discussion about different cultures. You get the idea.

Finally, I think we should try harder to emphasize the importance of professional development to our colleagues and superiors. It should not be an optional activity or an extra benefit, it should be something that is a priority for everyone. I think we owe it to the students we work with to be at the top of our field. Engaging in professional development opportunities just adds to the high quality and reputation of our university.



Ann Dingman
SPA President



**SPA Forum with UW-
Madison's police chief
Susan Riseling**



Tuesday, December 11, 2007

11:30am-12:30pm

MSC Lounge, Red Gym, 716 Langdon Street

SPA Forum topics are determined with input from the executive board and membership. Bring your lunch and join us as we welcome Chief Susan Riseling as our featured speaker.

For more information, contact Charles Holmes-Hope at (608) 262-4503, or email holmeshope@odos.wisc.edu

Multicultural Student Center

Charting a Course towards Social Justice and Multicultural Education Excellence

By Charles Holmes-Hope

Social Justice and Multicultural Education are bedrock principles of our intellectual and social fabric that fuels individuals to analyze, address and challenge societal inequities and injustice acts that plague our society. As Dr. Manning Marable, Professor, History & Political Science, Columbia University so elaborately stated, “As the years progress, what women and men will discover is that the more lasting and rewarding educational experiences come not from specific information provided in classroom lectures or assigned textbooks, but from the values obtained in active engagement in meaningful issues. We achieve for ourselves only as we appreciate the problems and concerns of others—and only as we see our own lives as part of a much greater social purpose.”

The Multicultural Student Center (MSC) is charting a course towards excellence in becoming the clearinghouse and engine for social justice and multicultural education on the UW-Madison campus. As we respond to the multifaceted cultural needs of our diverse undergraduate and graduate student populations, we do this by revisiting past student learning development perspectives and best practices; in order to build on existing student learning frameworks that will serve and prepare today's college students for tomorrow. Our goal is to create and promote an inclusive and welcoming campus community that respects individuality by valuing students in their development, raising social consciousness about social justice and multicultural issues and providing support and resources for underrepresented and marginalized groups within the larger campus community.

The Multicultural Student Center will develop social justice and multicultural education programs that will be cutting edge in theory and practice. The MSC recently hired two experienced and skilled professionals who will lead and serve the campus community by infusing diversity resources to advance cultural competency; facilitate training sessions for graduate students; train and develop peer facilitators; develop social justice programs, workshops and retreats; plan and organize service-learning programs with a focus on social justice; and develop community partnerships with organizations in the Greater Madison community to develop civic engagement leadership opportunities for youth in Madison, just to cite a few.

A commitment to social justice conceptions and principles includes understanding that social justice is a process and goal that involves “**Centers of Responsibility**” from students, faculty, staff and administrators coming together to create a shared vision for change. This will generate new knowledge about social justice and multicultural education and afford individuals the opportunity to apply new knowledge designed to deliver effective intentional learning perspectives from a universal experience.

Increasing social justice and multicultural understanding with a positive civil discourse promotes a supportive campus climate where different opinions and ideas are welcome and beliefs are challenged. The University community will develop a strong sense

and foundation for social justice and multiculturalism where cultural values are recognized, embraced and where diversity is viewed as the RULE, not the exception! Social justice and multicultural education then becomes a transformational enterprise that serves as a driving force in examining and provoking critical thought.

The Multicultural Student Center will map a course towards excellence in diversity for student success. Our journey, in collaboration with the University community is to develop and articulate a vision that will be shared and embraced by students, faculty and staff centered on personal and intellectual growth, leadership development, social responsibility, and appreciation of diversity.

Take full advantage of our multicultural resources and outreach as we put social justice and multicultural education at the center of what we do, and collaborate with our partners to become change agents by enhancing the University experience through positive educational interactions and connections.

Our commitment is to provide academic and cultural resources and co-curricular activities that are essential **in supporting the total development of each and every student so that they can achieve multicultural competence through an abundance of multicultural learning dimensions.**

The best is yet to come, just you WAIT!

SPA Represents at Homecoming Game

By Carlotta V. Calmese

SPA President-Elect Carlotta V. Calmese was given an opportunity of a life time! She served as "Guest Coach" for the Badgers Football Team at the October 27th Homecoming Game at Camp Randall. Coach Calmese started her stint by watching game film with the Special Teams and coaching staff and attending the warm-up practice. On game day, Coach Calmese viewed the entire game from the field, sat on the benches during half-time, saw first hand what goes in a Big-Ten game, and nearly missed being tackled on the sidelines. Without a doubt, Carlotta's great "coaching" led to a big Badger 33-3 victory over the Indiana Hoosiers. She reports that watching another Badger game from the stands will never compare to her experience on the field!





What is your ideal of perfect happiness?

My ideal of perfect happiness is spending a Saturday night watching a good movie with my husband and our lab puppy.

Which talent would you most like to have?

I would like to be able to play the piano. My mom always wanted me to take lessons as a child, but I refused.

What is it that you most dislike?

Violence

Who are the heroes in your life?

My mom, my godparents, and my grandma. I agree with the phrase "it takes a village to raise a child."

What is your most treasured possession?

One of my most treasured possessions is a necklace my older brother gave me for Christmas the year he went to college. I never take it off.

What is your most marked characteristic?

I would have to say persistence is my most marked characteristic.

What is the quality you most like in a person?
I appreciate people who are genuine and authentic.

What is the trait you most deplore in others?
Hypocrisy

What is your motto?
There's always a way.

What turns you on creatively, spiritually, or emotionally?

The smell of bread baking in the oven, tulips, the opportunity to help someone, books, learning, and the smiles and laughs of my nieces and nephew.

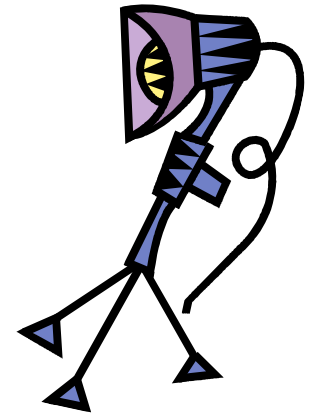
What profession other than your own would you not like to do?

I would not like to be an accountant or a kindergarten teacher.

What do you consider your greatest achievement?
Learning to be patient!



Megan Schmid
Associate Student Services
Coordinator in Economics
SPA General Executive
Board Member



!! Mark Your Calendars !!

The **Annual SPA Conference** will be on **Friday, February 22, 2008** at the **Pyle Center**. Key note speaker will be **Renee Barnett Terry**, Ph.D., Dean of Student Affairs, Revelle College, University of California, San Diego

Dr. Barnett Terry was born in Virginia and raised in Connecticut, and is one of thirteen children. After earning her bachelor degree in education from the Southern Connecticut State University in New Haven, CT, she completed her Master's degree in College Student Personnel at the University of Southern California in Los Angeles and her PhD in Education at the University of New Mexico in Albuquerque, NM. Actively involved in the National Association of Student Personnel Administrators (NASPA) at the regional and national levels, her areas of professional interests are new student programs, parental influence/impact on students, underrepresented students in higher education, student leadership and development, and generational issues and differences in college students. She has served as Dean of Student Affairs at Revelle College since September 1993. Her passion is truly one of commitment and dedication to serving students, undergraduate student learning and student excellence and engagement in college! She is married to her grade school sweetheart and enjoys traveling, old school R&B music, classic movies, and family reunions.



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KWANZAA

happy
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UPCOMING EVENTS

SPA Friends & Family Craft Day

Saturday, December 8, 2007

1:00 - 3:00 pm

Craftshop, 4th Floor of Memorial Union

Join SPA friends for an afternoon of crafts. We will enjoy activities such as decorating seasonal figurines and painting wooden boxes or picture frames. You can bring a photo to complete your new decorated frame or a digital camera and printer will be available for you to take a photo at the Union – can you think of a better gift!

All skill levels are welcome. Bring your friends & family! To participate, please RSVP to Nancy Kujak-Ford at nmkujak@wisc.edu or 265-8012. The fee is only \$5.

Wisconsin Public Television Volunteer Opportunity

Sunday, December 9, 2007

7:00 - 11:00pm

Vilas Hall

Once again, a friendly team of SPA members, is helping Wisconsin Public Television with its fund-raising drive by answering phones. We will be volunteering on a LIVE show on Dec. 9, 2007, from 7:00 - 11:00 p.m. (You can leave earlier than that). There is ample food and breaks, which allow for lots of socializing. Live shows are largely quite entertaining!

Please RSVP to Consuelo López Springfield at cspringf@wisc.edu

[Go to our website](#) to download the sign up sheet at www.uw-spa.org/calendar

SPA Forum with UW-Madison's police chief Susan Riseling

Tuesday, December 11, 2007

11:30am-12:30pm

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SPA Social

Thursday, December 13, 2007

5:00 - 7:00pm

Blue Moon Bar & Grill, 2535 University Ave

<http://www.bluemoonbar.com/>

Come by for great conversation and free cheese curds!!

SPA Annual Conference

Friday, February 22, 2008

8:00 - 4:30 p.m.

Pyle Center

SPA Awards Luncheon

Wednesday, April 16, 2008

Ogg Hall



Cooperation, Commitment, Community, and Camaraderie Since 1956