

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



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Jacklyn John

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<http://www.uw-spa.org>

**SPA CALENDAR**

<http://www.uw-spa.org/calendar>

# Frontline

VOLUME 12, ISSUE 5

SUMMER 2009

## FROM THE PRESIDENT:

### Summertime!

Graduation has now passed and hopefully you are looking forward to this summer and *some* relaxation. I would like to take a moment to share with you a brief "End of the Year Report" on the events and programs that the Exec Board presented this year. Each of the chairs wrote a brief summary of how they feel their program elevated the success of the Student Personnel Association. You will also see a summary of where the SPA finances currently stand and how your SPA membership dues were distributed. In our ques-



**Nancy Kujak-Ford**

tionnaire this past December, we asked if you would be ok with a small increase in dues (\$15.00 for staff (from \$10), \$10 for students (from \$8)). 90 % of the membership polled agreed with the increase of membership fees and the Exec Board voted to increase them in the fall of 2009. A membership increase has not taken place in over 8 years and there are several reasons behind this proposal. The SPA exec board would like to increase professional development for the membership and provide opportunities for networking. One example for this is to add more forums or begin a mentor/mentee brown bag program. The committees have gone to great lengths to adhere to budgets while still providing quality services by looking for alternatives. For example, the conference decided against a paid speaker and networked to try to find a speaker that would

present "in kind" for the organization. Many past expenses (printing, prizes, and food) have been covered by our the Exec Board members and/or departments. You will see that many of our programs came in under budget. However, this will be the first year in which we will have a positive starting balance to actually provide programs in the fall. We want to be a financially minded organization and take your membership dues seriously. The annual conference and awards luncheon are break even; that is, our goal is to have their entire budget paid for by registration fees. Help us create networking and social opportunities within a strong peer environment to strengthen and open paths for individuals interested in the field of student affairs. In these cloudy times, let SPA be your ray of sunshine!

~Nancy

## Thank You to SPA

June 30 marks the official end of my term on the SPA executive board. As Past-President, I enjoyed my final year on the board and especially chairing the awards selection committee, a very fun and humbling experience.

If I have not bored you with this fact before, I have been on the SPA executive board for seven years. I have served as graduate representative (2001-03), membership coordinator (2004-06), and the 3-year presidential cycle (2006-09). Since I started, I earned a PhD, got a "real" (non-student) job, adopted a cat, bought a house, changed jobs, got married, and changed my glasses frames twice. I've said hello and goodbye to several campus buildings, many colleagues, and countless students.

SPA has been a wonderful constant in this time. I've enjoyed the board and SPA activities so much;

## By Ann Dingman

the opportunity to take a break from work to spend time with the wonderful people at meetings and events has been enormously valuable. Though I no longer work directly with students, my connection to SPA has helped me stay involved in campus and reminds me of our end goal: to provide a learning environment in which faculty, staff and students can discover, examine critically, preserve and transmit the knowledge, wisdom and values that will help ensure the survival of this and future generations and improve the quality of life for all\*.

Thank you all so much for your dedication to the University and all it holds. I hope to see you soon, and look forward to the new generation of SPA leadership.

\*That's the first line of the UW-Madison mission, don't you recognize it?

## *Congratulations to our SPA Award Winners*

Suzanne Bader, Frontline Award

Kevin Helmkamp, Chancellor's Award

Nancy Kujak-Ford, Campus Impact Award

Sarah Oehler, Campus Impact Award

JoAnn Disch, Norman Bassett Award

Barb Kautz, Excellence in Student Affairs

Carren Martin, Norman Bassett Award

Andrea Palm, SPA Frontline Award

Michael Thornton, Leadership in Social Justice Award

## *Thoughts from Some of Our Award Winners*

### **Suzanne Bader**

2009 Frontline Award

#### **Full Circle From 1973 to 2009**

June 1973, I started my career of student service in the Office of Clinical Experiences for Teachers in the School of Education. One of my jobs was to stand in the Assignment Committee line for each student that was being placed in a classroom practicum. After 4 years, I transferred to the Testing & Evaluation Services office which is also in the School of Education. While there I worked with student employees, academic staff, classified staff, and faculty. Also, received classroom exams for scanning and then prepared the answer key. I was also involved in the start of the APR now the Effort reporting system. After 5 years, I moved to the south end of campus to work in the Industrial Engineering department in the College of Engineering. Here I got to delve into the many facets of the undergraduate and graduate academic experience. ISIS came to campus for Y2K. I had the pleasure to see the first female PhD student graduate from Ind Engr and was part of the organizational committee for the first alumni gathering of industrial engineers dating back to the inception of the department [1970]. This week I learned that another

student from my stay in Ind Engr is the new contender for the most degrees from UW-Madison as reported in the online version of the On Wisconsin magazine. I also enjoyed assisting students who had exhibits in the Engineering Expo and received a gift card to a local restaurant from the student IIE chapter when I left. After 19 years it was time to get an office of my own, so I moved to the Botany Department in the College of Letters & Sciences; which is located on Bascom hill across from the School of Education where I began. My tenure in Botany also has some highlights; one being the awarding of a MS degree to a student who completed the residence requirement in 1937 but never asked for the degree until 2003. Tracking down the course information from 1937 and checking to make sure degree requirements were met was very exciting. Also, the three Titan Arum plants in the Greenhouse have each bloomed at least twice since I moved here in December 2001. Now 2009 will be remembered as the year I won the SPA Frontline Award. Thank you very much for the opportunity to serve many great groups of students through the past 35+ years. The best is yet to come, I hope.

### **Barb Kautz**

Coordinator of Student Involvement and Greek Life, Center for Leadership and Involvement

2009 Award For Excellence in Student Affairs

I think in every Student Affairs Professionals career we find ourselves thinking: does what I do really really make a difference, does anyone really notice the extra hours I put in and the ways in which I go above and beyond what is required of me? In these challenging times of budget cuts, reducing staffing and doing more with less, it is easy to get caught up with and dwell on everything that impedes the work that we do. It's also easy to get disheartened when you feel like you work really hard and your reward in many cases is....more work.

on this campus for what it really is...a truly phenomenal place with some truly phenomenal people. It also gave some resolution to the questions I mentioned that can plague all of us from time to time... What we do DOES make a difference, we do impact the lives of others and we do leave a foot print on future generations. It was a wonderful experience to be formally recognized in such a way, however I am very aware of all of the people on this campus who are equally deserving of such and honor who never even get the smallest bit of praise.

Receiving an SPA Award, gave me an unique opportunity to step back and truly see the university and the area of student affairs

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This experience also gave me a chance to reflect back on all of the people who help me do the work that I do and those that put their time and energy in helping me to grow as a professional. I don't think I would have been as fortunate to receive such an honor, if it was not for the fact that I'm surrounded by such great people. I feel extremely lucky to work in the Center for Leadership and Involvement and within the Division of the Dean of Students and with all of the wonderful people outside

of my division as well, this group hosts so many amazing student affairs professionals, who are so dedicated to students and committed to the work that they do. It was a great honor to be a recipient of this award, but it is even a greater honor to work with some truly outstanding staff, students and volunteers. In closing, this experience reminded me that it is easy to see the flaws in your job, however it's important to see the past them and remember all of the good that you do, by doing what you do and all the good in others that surround you.



### SPA's last Social of the year!!

**Date:** Thursday, May 21, 2009  
**Time:** 4:30 pm – 6:00 pm  
**Cost:** FREE

**Location:** Memorial Union Terrace  
**Rain Location:** Lakefront Cafe

Come celebrate the end of a successful academic year with SPA! Members and friends of the Student Personnel Association are welcome to join us on the terrace to learn more about SPA and discuss new initiatives for the coming year. Free appetizers and door prizes.

## Reports from the SPA student Travel Grant Awardees

### Travel Reflections: Association of College Unions International Annual Conference in Anaheim, California

By Jacklyn John

As an officer for the Wisconsin Union's student programming board this year, I have gained a lot of amazing hands-on experience while planning events and managing a student organization. While my experiences in Madison at the Wisconsin Union have been invaluable, I also always appreciate the opportunity to venture elsewhere and see what people from other student unions across the country are doing. The Association of College Unions International (ACUI) Annual Conference in Anaheim provided the perfect opportunity to do just that. Through the conference's educational sessions, I found new ways to recognize and show appreciation for my fellow student programmers, gained some new insights about marketing and developing a brand, and discovered new methods for evaluating our programs at the Wisconsin Union.

While I gathered a lot of new ideas for the Wisconsin Union, I also benefitted personally from the conference as a student interested in a career in student affairs. *I'm Not Just a Student; I'm Going to Be a Grad Student* was by far one of my favorite sessions of the conference, as it provided an excellent opportunity to get advice and insights from young student affairs professionals before I begin my Master's program in Higher Education next fall. I should also note that the energy and passion of the professionals at the conference only reconfirmed my interest in the field. I look forward to many more professional conferences and networking opportunities in my future. *Thank you SPA for helping make my trip to the ACUI Annual Conference possible!*

### Report from a Travel Grant Recipient

By Raul Leon

I had the privilege to attend the annual conference for the American Association of Hispanics in Higher Education in San Antonio, TX this semester. This conference was an eye opening experience, introducing me to a group of scholars and practitioners that shares my own background, and it served as a significant incentive to continue to pursue my career goals, by renewing my energy and allowing me to connect with people that are concerned about the same issues affecting students, faculty, and staff today!

I think that the best part of the conference were definitely the keynote speakers, not only incorporating valuable lessons for the Hispanic Population aspiring to become part of the Higher Education system, but also providing a place where the work of others in this community can be showcased. I had the opportunity to attend several workshops through the whole conference. They definitely helped me to revise and sharpen the focus of my dissertation. For these and among other positive things that I got from this experience, I am grateful from receiving the SPA Travel Scholarship!

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*Meet your new 2009-2010 SPA Executive Board!*

Dave Black, President	Alison Rice, General Executive Member
Nancy Kujak-Ford, Past President	Will Lipske, General Executive Member
Mary Russell, President-Elect	Hiba Zakai, Graduate Student Rep
Heather Cote, Membership Coordinator	Victoria Bucher, Undergraduate Student Rep
Heidi Lang, Secretary/Treasurer	
Michaela Aust, Publicist/Historian	
Katy France, General Executive Member	
Greg Iaccarino, General Executive Member	



Dear Colleagues,

As a member of the planning committee for many years, I'm writing to personally encourage you to attend the upcoming UW-Madison 2009 Teaching and Learning Symposium.

This annual event attracts a lively cross-section of folks who share a common passion for enhancing teaching and learning on our campus, both in and out of the classroom.

Hope to see you there!  
Margaret

**FROM TEACHING TO LEARNING**

May 20-21, 2009, Pyle Center

May 21-22, 2009, Post-Symposium Workshops, Other Campus Locations

To view the program schedule and register go to:

<http://www.learning.wisc.edu/tlsymposium/>

Or, to register directly go to:

[http://www.ohrd.wisc.edu/reg/catalog\\_course.aspx?groupcoursekey=10897](http://www.ohrd.wisc.edu/reg/catalog_course.aspx?groupcoursekey=10897)

The annual Teaching & Learning Symposium provides an opportunity for faculty, staff, post-docs, and graduate students to share best practices, celebrate accomplishments, discuss new pedagogy, and explore themes of mutual interest in a community of educators dedicated to enriching the learning experience on campus.

The 2009 Teaching and Learning Symposium, "From Teaching to Learning"

provides opportunities for participants to more intentionally examine student outcomes, that is, what are our students actually learning in our classes and outside of our classes (vs. what we believe we are teaching them)? In this Symposium, we wish to explore how to shift the focus of our educational efforts from teaching to learning.

We invite you to attend the symposium to explore these and other topics including:

- \* Approaches that help us move from a teacher-centered to a learner-centered classroom
- \* Ways to bridge research and theory on learning with educational practices
- \* Research on how people learn
- \* Scholarship on teaching and learning
- \* Methods of assessing student learning
- \* Technology-enhanced learning
- \* Examples of how the Wisconsin Experience can enhance learning
- \* Approaches to enhancing learning through diversity

We hope these discussions will inspire you to try new teaching strategies, consider new ways of engaging students both in and out of the classroom, and strengthen connections with others across campus.

For additional information, contact Mo Noonan Bischof, 262-5246 or <mabischof@wisc.edu>

The 2009 Teaching & Learning Symposium is sponsored by the Office of the Provost, the Delta Program in Research, Teaching and Learning; DoIT Academic Technology; the General Library System; the Office of Human Resource Development; the Institute of Cross-College Biology Education; College of Agriculture and Life Sciences Dean's Office; College of Letters & Science Dean's Office and Office of Service Learning and Community-Based Research; the Teaching Academy; University Communications; University Health Services, and the Wisconsin Program for Scientific Teaching.

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*Cooperation, Commitment, Community, and Camaraderie Since 1956*

## 2008-2009 SPA Budget

### PROGRAMS

	Budgeted Amount	Actual	Variance
<b>Operating Costs</b>	\$175.25	No charge for 08	\$175.25
<i>Stamps, Brochures, Note Cards, Envelopes, Web Site)</i>			
<b>Book Club</b>	\$50.00	\$41.50	\$8.50
<b>Fall Reception</b>	\$1,200.00	\$1,052.99	\$147.01
<b>Careers in Student Affairs</b>	\$500.00	\$611.75	(\$111.75)
Career in Student Affairs Event	\$100.00	\$211.75	
Student Professional travel grant (\$400 total, 3 person limit)	\$400.00	\$400.00	
<b>Forums</b>	\$300.00	No charge	\$300.00
<b>Socials</b>	\$130.00	No charge	\$130.00
<b>Awards</b>	\$640.00	\$516.53	\$123.47
<b>Conference</b>	\$ 3800.00 -	\$3,800.00	This program breaks even !

