

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



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ADDRESS:**

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

Frontline

VOLUME 13, ISSUE 1

FALL 2009

Friends,

It is shaping up to be a great year for SPA. If you have not had a chance to attend one of our events, please plan to do so in the near future.

A big SPA shout-out to immediate Past President Nancy Kujak-Ford on her newborn baby girl! Although we understand that James was not thrilled with the addition of a little sister, the reports so far are very positive.

Board members Greg Iaccarino and Hiba Zakai are working very hard to put on a successful conference on Careers in Student Affairs on November 12th. Stay tuned for details and please do your part to help them when they reach out to you. They will be asking for our help in recruiting students for an evening of small group chats with student affairs professionals from around the immediate Madison area.

Heather Cote put on the first SPA forum of the year on October 12th. The topic was H1N1 and aspects covered included how the student dorm population is working to contain its spread, how UHS is responding, and the progress of getting the vaccine out to those who want it. And speaking of forums, Alison Rice will be putting on a forum on the Madison Initiative in December. More to come on this in the near future.

The Book Club is off to a promising start. Keri Robbins of Housing has stepped up to coordinate this year's reading schedule and



Dave Black

we will have details on that very soon.

Planning for the spring SPA conference is progressing with President-Elect Mary Russell at the helm. As you can see in this newsletter, she will be keeping everyone up to speed as we move along. Save the date of Friday, February 26th at the Concourse Hotel.

If you have not renewed, please take the time to do so now and please don't be shy about asking your colleagues to come to our events. Even if they are not members, they are welcome to take us for a test drive.

I am extremely proud of our board – Heidi Lang is our Treasurer, Michaela Aust handles the web site and the newsletter, Katy France is working on our outreach efforts, Heather Cote is the membership coordinator and worked with Will Lipske to put on the SPA kickoff in September, Alison Rice and Greg Iaccarino are returning to the board this year and working very hard on the Careers conference and Awards Luncheon respectively, Hiba Zakai is our graduate stu-

dent member who is also working on the Careers conference, Tori Bucher is our undergraduate student member and has been extremely helpful with the kickoff and planning at board meetings, Past President Nancy Kujak-Ford and her sidekick Ruthie Duval (unofficial board member lol) have worked on the book club and providing institutional memory, and President-Elect Mary Russell is putting together a Spring conference that you will not want to miss and she represents SPA-Generation X: the Next Chapter. Her leadership, commitment and wisdom are unmatched.

Please give any and all your help when they come calling and thank you for what you do for the students on your campus. We are the unsung heroes who make campus life THE memorable college experience.

All the best,

Dave Black Dave Black
SPA President, 2009-10



Join the Book Club



Book Club committee chair Keri Robbins is opening a call for book suggestions.

SPA members and colleagues are warmly invited to join the SPA book club this spring. The theme of this friendly club is lively conversation centered in issues related to college student services. Please send suggestions for book titles - easy but provocative page-turners preferred - to Keri Robbins (keri.robbs@housing.wisc.edu). The proposed schedule is for a bi-weekly lunchtime meeting on Mondays in January (except the MLK holiday) and February. Please send your contact information if you are interested in participating!



Save the Date!

As I sit down to write this note, the leaves are turning colors, the sun is setting earlier and the temperature is getting colder. This makes me realize that our conference date of February 26th will be here before we know it!

A sneak preview.

The conference committee has already been hard at work at planning the 2010 conference. Our theme will be "Challenge to Student Affairs: When Business is Not as Usual".

The challenge for Student Affairs professionals in the midst of shrinking or non-existent budgets, greater public accountability (with fewer resources), hiring freezes, mandatory furlough days and increased enrollment demands, to name a few, make it difficult continue to provide quality service to our students as usual. This conference will examine the challenges we face and explore creative and not so usual ways to perform the valuable work we within this changing higher education reality or within this changing higher education landscape.

A few new things for the 2010 conference.

Changing the venue. The conference will be held at the Concourse Hotel. <http://www.concoursehotel.com/dining/dayton-street-grille/> We are excited to try out the new conference space.

The morning breakout sessions will be 1 hour in length and the afternoon breakout sessions will be 90 min. in length. Watch your email for the call for program proposals and think about presenting. If you have suggestions for people the committee should contact about doing a breakout session, please contact Mary Russell, mrussell@lafollette.wisc.edu

Come to our next event

Dear SPA Members and Friends:

Are you currently supervising, mentoring, advising and working with students that are interested in a career in student affairs and student services?

Do students that you work with ask you about your career background and what it takes to be successful in your career?

Are you currently a reference or letter of recommendation writer for any students that are applying for graduate programs in student affairs, counseling, and higher education?

Are you wanting to refer students to a network of student affairs professionals as well as some credible career print and online resources about the profession?

If your answer is YES to these and other questions, SPA definitely encourages you to personally invite your students to:

**Careers and Life in Student Affairs:
How it Impacts You Today & Your Future
Thursday, November 12, 2009
5:00—7:00 pm
Memorial Union (TITU)**

*Open to students, faculty, and staff interested in exploring careers in student affairs **now** and in the future. Join us and informally network with professionals working in the field at UW-Madison and neighboring colleges to gain valuable tips and advice from them on how to prepare for and be successful in a career in student affairs. Learn about the structure and function of student affairs/higher education both here at UW-Madison and at other institutions. Gets tips and suggestions for applying to graduate school and for jobs in student affairs. Hors d'oeuvres and refreshments provided!*

Please RSVP to: Greg Iaccarino at gjiaccar@wisc.edu

For more information, please contact Hiba Zakai: hzakai@wisc.edu
Greg Iaccarino: gjiaccar@wisc.edu



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**SPA Social / Volunteer Event:
The River Food Pantry
Tuesday, Nov. 17th, early evening**

Did you know that 40% of local food pantry users say that have to choose between food and utilities? 31% indicate they choose between food and housing? Please consider joining SPA colleagues for an event of social service at Madison's busiest pantry.

When: Tuesday, Nov 17th.
**Meet at 4:40 p.m., brief training at 4:45,
pantry runs 5:00 - 6:30.**

Where: The River Food Pantry, 2201 Darwin Road in Madison,
near the airport

Website: <http://www.theriver-madison.org/>

Volunteering novices are welcome, and we're looking for anywhere from 1 - 20 volunteers, so feel free to bring a non-SPA friend! We'll be providing assistance in various departments (bakery, produce, meats, bagging, loading cars, etc.) for the duration of the pantry's open hours, or for however long you can stay.

For questions, or to RSVP (please do) contact: Katy France at 262-2975 or kfrance@bact.wisc.edu

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