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Dave Black

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Mary Russell

Past President:
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Greg Iaccarino

Will Lipske

Alison Rice

**Graduate Student
Representative:**
Hiba Zakai

**Undergraduate
Student Representative:**
Tori Bucher

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Frontline

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Friends,

I want to thank each of you for making SPA's 2009-10 year a success and to join you in wishing incoming president Mary Russell and her incoming board the best.

The 2009-10 executive board was tremendous: Past-President Nancy Kujak-Ford, President-Elect Mary Russell, Treasurer Heidi Lang, Membership Coordinator Heather Cote, Web and Newsletter Director Michaela Aust, Kickoff Organizer Will Lipske, Social Director Katy France, Award Luncheon Coordinator Alison Rice, Undergraduate Outreach Director Greg Iaccarino, Undergraduate Representative Tori Bucher and Graduate Representative Hiba Zakai.

We will miss those who are departing and are excited by our new members who are here to



Dave Black

serve you.

Please come out to meet them (and to just say hi) on Tuesday the 11th at the Memorial Union from 4-6pm – there will be refreshments, conviviality and door prizes.

Thanks to the board and to our wonderful members, this has been a memorable year for anyone who attended any of our events.

Please consider getting involved in the executive board in the future. For those reading this who have served in the past, thank you for your service. Please feel free to share comments, compliments or concerns to me at dsblack@wisc.edu or to Mary Russell at mrus-sell@lafollette.wisc.edu. If you know of someone who is not a member but might benefit from joining us, please encourage them to enroll.

Hope to see you on the 11th.

All the best,

Dave Black
President, SPA
Madison Chapter

The 2010 ACPA Annual Convention and Next Generation Conference: A Convincer for Me to Choose Student Affairs as a Career!

By Kala Grove

With the help of funding from SPA and ACPA, Kala Grove, who is an ALPS Student Coordinator and has studied Communication Arts and Teaching English as a Second Language, had the opportunity to attend and experience the 2010 ACPA Convention and Next Generation Conference, that occurred in Boston in March. The Next Generation Conference, or simply referred to as Next Gen, is a unique opportunity for approximately 100 undergraduates to learn about careers in student affairs. Participants will meet and learn from current graduate students, graduate preparation program faculty, and seasoned student affairs professionals who work at a variety of colleges and universities across the country.

Below are some reflections from Kala on her experience, which convinced her to choose student affairs as a career!
Greg Iaccarino, Coordinator of 2009 SPA Careers in Student

Affairs and General SPA Executive Board member, 2009-2011.

Graduation no longer seem so daunting. Whether I worked Americorps, traveled to another country or crashed with the 'rents, the next few years would work out because I had decided. Because of the American College Personnel Association's (ACPA) Annual Convention and Next Generation Conference, I have decided on Student Affairs as a career!

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Meet the the newly elected SPA Board members 2010-2011:

President-elect:

Lori Berquam

General Executive Board Members:

**Alicia Jackson
Kristin Radtke
Melanie Schneider
Pam Garcia-Rivera**

Grad student rep:

Stephanie (Salazer) Kann



Reflections on the Past Year

By Will Lipske

Graduation is once again upon campus. This time of year is one of the most visible reminders of what we as student affairs professionals work for on a daily basis; however, more than celebration, commencement season is a time for reflection. A time to reflect on a particular student or two who will be moving on to the next step in her life, a time to note that several items on my semester "things to do list" will be graduating onto the summer's list, but most importantly, a time to appreciate all of those around us. Recently, I was honored (unexpectedly) by the SPA Campus Impact Award. I'm glad that I have this opportunity to further develop words of appreciation and gratitude. For this, I will borrow the framework of Chancellor Martin's December commencement speech. She states, "(we have) a great university... take advantage of it, Second ... we place a great deal of hope and also a lot of expectations... for the future. Third, you're graduating at a difficult time, but also a time that could be opportune. And four, snow days are really important."

We do indeed have a great University with great reason for hope in the future. Looking around at my company at the SPA Annual Banquet proved me with great proof. We have individuals working on truly remarkable projects. One of the great things of SPA, it showcases how we touch students in so many different aspects of their lives. Individuals in Housing are working on accommodations during winter break for Inter-

national students; Admissions counselors form community on Facebook for entering transfer students; Advisors coordinating an MCAT course for students aimed to increased access for lower socio-economic advantaged students. There is need a lot to celebrate on campus. These last couple of semesters is also a reminder that times are at times difficult. Furloughs, hiring freezes, and budget cuts all were necessary to balance the books; however, with partnership and camaraderie things can get easier. Our SPA Annual conference "Challenge to Student Affairs, When Business is not as Usual" provided us with great sessions and ideas on how to work smarter and more collaboratively in difficult times. Lastly, reflecting on the snow days of life are important. For this last charge, I probably do not need to say more than the summer equivalent of a visit to the Terrace has arrived. Congrats to our graduating class! For those of us staying around for another campus-year, please join me in reflection, celebration, and gratitude for another great year.

Congratulations to our Award Winners!!

Campus Impact Award

Donna Freitag
Will Lipske

Leadership in Social Justice Award

Magpie Martinez

Excellence in Student Affairs Award

Susan Dibbell

Frontline Award

Sylvia Garcia
Eileen Posluszny

Norman Bassett Award

Cathy Trueba
Jeff Shokler

Chancellor's Award

Ileana Rodriguez

I would like to thank all the people, Staff, Students and Colleagues, who wrote letters of support. It is their appreciation of my work that keeps me fulfilled and committed to insure that our students receive the best academic and support services that can be provided.

-Sylvia Garcia



Hello!

My name is Tori Bucher and I have been the Undergraduate Representative since June of last year. Although, I am looking forward to continuing on the board for another year, I wanted to share a little bit about the ways that being in the SPA has influenced my school year and hopefully future career. Through the SPA, I have been able to connect to many, many different people in different areas of campus. I find that the more people that I talk to, the more excited I get about working with students in the future. I have been able to make connections not only with fellow board members, but also with other campus staff during SPA events, such as the awards banquet, careers in student affairs night, and the spring conference. These connections have led me to explore many other opportunities on campus that I might never have known about, such as the SAM mentoring program and the peer advisor position I have for the fall. Although this organization consists mainly of professional staff, I really want to encourage other students to join the SPA and attend our events. It's a great way to get all your questions answered within a group of really dedicated professionals. I have found, and will continue to find, my position on the board extremely beneficial. I hope that with a slightly reduced class load for my senior year, I will be able to assume a bit more responsibility and make a bigger impact both within the SPA and for the campus as a whole.

Upcoming Events

**Tuesday, May 11, 4 PM, 4-6 PM:
SPA End of the Year Social!
Meet at Memorial Union Terrace**

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!

Save the Date

**Watch for our Fall Kick Off Reception invite for September!
Date is yet to be determined.**

**March 10, 2011:
SPA Annual Conference at the Concourse Hotel**

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I would have never gone to the ACPA Convention if I hadn't had some amazing student affairs professionals and SPA members encouraging me along the way. I am so thankful they did. Their support and interest in my life truly exemplifies the spirit of every person I met at the ACPA Convention and Next Generation Conference, and this is one of the largest reasons I am so interested in Student Affairs. I attended the Next Generation Conference, which was tailored to the needs of undergraduates. From guest speakers to panels to networking sessions,

Next Gen was a great opportunity for those still entertaining the idea of Student Affairs, and those certain of the career path. The most exciting part of my experience was that I jumped from the former to the latter: I even have a memoir of the moment I decided. Scribbled on my folder reads

1:09pm, Saturday March 20th. Decided on Student Affairs!

At the ACPA Convention and Next Generation Conference, I was allowed the opportunity to talk to professionals from many different departments with various involvements and interests. It was amazing to see the many ways that a Student Affairs degree can manifest itself, and even more inspiring to see the hundreds of people that had been brought together for their passion and dedication to working with students. Every person I met was genuinely interested in my future career, and offered any help they could to help me decide if Student Affairs was a good fit for me. People shared with me the paths they had followed to get where they now are, and I learned that my passions aligned with so many of theirs. The hundred students I met shared those passions, and I knew that they had all had a similar story, something that pulled them to want to help future generations of college students find themselves and their place. In sum, the ACPA Annual Convention and Next Generation Conference did just that for me. I felt at home and know I have found my place in Student Affairs!