

**A
PUBLICATION
OF THE
STUDENT
PERSONNEL
ASSOCIATION**

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<http://www.ohrd.wisc.edu/spa>

SPA CALENDAR

<http://www.ohrd.wisc.edu/spa/calendar.pdf>

Frontline

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From the President:

Hello! For those if you that do not know me or remember me from the Awards Banquet, last April, my name is Mike Crawford and I will be serving as your SPA president for 2005-2006. I hope everyone had a great summer and a smooth transition back to the start of the academic year. I always look forward to the academic year as it helps me develop a routine and focus for the year. Here's a little bit about me:

- I am starting my 5th year working at Madison
- I work in the academic programs area within the Department of Residence Life in University Housing.
- Ever since I arrived on campus in July of 2001, I have been involved in SPA in some capacity... it first started with being a committee member on the SPA Conference Committee and now look at me... I'm President! I joined SPA so I could meet other people on campus – and let me tell you, I have met a lot of wonderful and dedicated people!

This is a great time to be president. Why do you ask? Well, that's because in 2006 we will be celebrating the 50th

Anniversary of this great organization! Here's to another fifty years of cooperation, commitment, community, and camaraderie. I won't talk about the 50th Anniversary too much in this article because you will hear much more about that throughout the year.

My goals for SPA are simple and succinct: #1. To continue to recognize and award individuals and departments who are innovative, student-centered, and are committed to social justice. #2. To continue to provide professional development opportunities for all of our membership so we can better serve the students who rely on us, now and throughout the year. #3. To be financially responsible and to take your \$10 annual membership as far as we can take it, so we can accomplish goals #1 and #2. In addition, we always rely on the SPA membership to help us accomplish these goals. So help SPA by serving on committees (for info on the committees, there's an article later in this newsletter)

Looking back this summer, there have been a lot of distractions with the state legislature, the media, and the UW administration. For me, when the students

arrived, it immediately helped me steer my focus and reminded me of why we are here and who we serve. Without a doubt, student affairs professionals make a difference with the students on this campus, and sometimes we need to be reminded of that. More importantly, with all the distractions, there are times when we need to be reminded of why we are here... to serve the students of this institution. No matter what else may be going on (which many of us have no control over) one thing is certain... we are here to serve the students on this campus and to make sure they have a positive experience while they are here.

In conclusion, I hope the start of the academic year finds you focused, in good health, and ready to celebrate the 50th anniversary of SPA! Please feel free to e-mail me about any ideas or thoughts that you have that could help the SPA Executive Board serve you better and to help celebrate our 50th. From one student affairs professional to another: Thank you all so much for your hard work and dedication. I hope to see you around campus or at the Social on 9/28! - Mike Crawford



**Mike Crawford
SPA President**

New Year New Membership!

Be sure to update or renew your SPA membership for another great year. Look for information in your mail or email.

Don't forget to share SPA with your colleagues. Joining SPA provides networking and social opportunities for student services professionals across campus. Please encourage your colleagues to join today!

Did you know that students also are welcome to join SPA? A 1-year student membership is only \$8. Through SPA, students who are interested in student affairs can learn about the field through networking and informational programs. Please encourage the students in your office to join, or sponsor one to become a member.

To join, visit the SPA website or contact Ann Dingman, Membership Coordinator at 262-8446 or aedingman@wisc.edu.

SPA Fall Kick Off Celebration

Wednesday, September 28, 2004
4:30-6:00pm

Virginia F Harrison Parlor, Lathrop Hall
1050 University Avenue

Bring cash to donate to SPA's Katrina Relief
Collection

Free hors d'oeuvres, cash bar, entertainment, and more!



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Ways to Respond to Hurricane Katrina By Ann Dingman & Katy Resop

We have all been at least emotionally impacted by the disaster of Hurricane Katrina. As visual images of survivors – and those who didn't survive – of this tragedy fill our television screens, SPA would like to provide some information about how we can help, locally and nationally.

Because of the dangerous situation in the areas hit by the hurricane, people are urged to refrain from going to the affected areas to help. Additionally, shipments of unsolicited donations of supplies and food often do not reach their destination, or organizations have problems finding storage. Monetary donations are currently the greatest need.

National Efforts

There are many organizations involved in relief efforts. Visit the FEMA website listed below for National Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster and the May First website listed below for grassroots efforts.

Local efforts

The Allied Apartments here in Madison are hosting 13 individuals displaced by Hurricane Katrina. An account has been set up with the Dane County Credit Union to sponsor these families directly. The funds will go to assist

families with paying rent, schooling, and other support services. Checks should be made out to "Katrina Disaster Fund" and can be sent to: Dane County Credit Union, 2160 Rimrock Road, Madison, WI 53713



Campus efforts

UW-Madison is currently accepting displaced students for admission into the university, and the Offices of the Dean of Student are providing support services to these students. Among the services available are crisis loans, assistance with coursework and excused absences from classes. Important note: **At the SPA fall kickoff on September 28, we will be collecting donations for the Dean of Students crisis fund for these students.**

The Morgridge Center for Public Service has formed a partnership with evacuees relocated to Texas. Currently Newman Smith High School in

Carrollton, Texas has 30 new students who were evacuated from the Gulf Coast area (the entire district has approximately 400), and is getting more every day. The high school stated the best thing we could do for these families is to give them a Wal-Mart or Target Stores gift card. Please contact Ann Dingman at 262-8446 or aedingman@wisc.edu for more information.

If you would like to do something besides give money, consider donating blood to keep blood levels adequate. On campus, you can donate through Youngblood, the American Red Cross blood donation center at Union South. To make an appointment, call 263-4590.

Finally, remember that there are many ways to get involved in your community, even if it's not related to Katrina efforts. Visit www.VolunteerYourTime.org for a searchable database of Madison and Dane County volunteer opportunities.

Other resources:

FEMA <http://www.fema.gov/rrr/help2.shtm>
Grassroots/Low-income/People of Color-led

Efforts <http://katrina.mayfirst.org/>
UW-Madison efforts & response <http://www.news.wisc.edu/hurricane/>

Beloit College Helps Us Focus on This Fall's 1st Year Students by Geb Lefebber

From the home office in Beloit, Wisconsin, comes the new edition of the Mindset List for the class of 2009. This fall, a new generation of traditional-aged undergraduate students will be entering our doors with its own particular world view. Once again Beloit College has distributed its "Mindset List" which helps faculty and staff identify some of the benchmarks that help to define this new generation of students. This year's list was edited by Professor of the Humanities Tom McBride and Director of Public Affairs Ron Nief. For the complete "Mindset List for the Class of 2009" please see www.beloit.edu/~pubaff/releases/mindset_2009.htm.

In 1987, Oliver North testified about the Iran-Contra operations, *Platoon* won an Oscar for best picture, Prozac was released for use in the US and a majority of our traditional-aged incoming undergraduates were born. Here are some of the 75 facts Beloit College published about our incoming first year students:

- ♦ They don't remember when "cut and paste" involved scissors.
- ♦ Boston has been working on "The Big Dig" all their lives.
- ♦ With little need to practice, most of them do not know how to tie a tie.
- ♦ Pay-Per-View television has always been an option.
- ♦ Iran and Iraq have never been at war with each other.
- ♦ Phillip Morris has always owned Kraft Foods.
- ♦ Al-Qaida has always existed with Osama bin Laden at its head.
- ♦ Voice mail has always been available.
- ♦ "Whatever" is not part of a questions, but an expression of sullen rebuke.
- ♦ Condoms have always been advertised on television.
- ♦ Money they put in their saving account the year they were born earned almost 7% interest.
- ♦ Dirty dancing has always been acceptable.
- ♦ Southern fried chicken, prepared with a blend of 11 herbs and spices, has always been available in China.
- ♦ Pixar has always existed.
- ♦ There have always been zebra mussels in the Great Lakes.
- ♦ American Motors never existed.
- ♦ "Baby M" may be a classmate, and contacts with surrogate mothers have always been legal.
- ♦ They never saw the shuttle *Challenger* fly.
- ♦ Digital cameras have always existed.
- ♦ *The Field of Dreams* has always been drawing people to Iowa.
- ♦ Lever has always been looking for 2000 parts to clean.
- ♦ CNBC has always been on the air.



Fall Kick Off 2005

Mark your calendars today for SPA's annual Fall Kick-off Reception! Start the semester off right by connecting with old friends, meeting new colleagues, and of course enjoying the delicious (and free!) hors d'oeuvres. Meet the new board and learn about ways to get involved in SPA this year. Know someone who is new to campus? Invite them along to learn more about SPA and meet new people. You will also be able to donate towards Katrina relief. Please join us on Wednesday, September 28th, from 4:30-6:00pm, at the Virginia F Harrison Parlor of Lathrop Hall at 1050 University Avenue. We look forward to seeing you there!

Join a SPA Committee Today!

HELP NEEDED IN FULFILLING OUR MISSION.

SPA always needs your help with our committees so we can provide a diverse range of programs and opportunities. Besides, it is a great way to interact and get to know other student affairs professionals.

Newsletter – Dora Valentin

(dora.valentin@housing.wisc.edu)

The newsletter, currently titled *Frontline*, is a quarterly production, typically following a September/October, November/December, February/March, and April/May schedule. This is not a "formal" committee, but all SPA members can contribute articles throughout the year. (Timeline: academic year)

Book Club – Chair: Ann Dingman

(aedingman@wisc.edu)

The SPA Book Club was created in the 1999-00 academic year to provide a group of 10-15 SPA members with the opportunity to read and discuss a book(s) in the student personnel field that touch upon issues and dilemmas encountered in daily campus life. The committee recommends particular readings/books, organizes chapter or book club facilitators, and promotes the "club." (Timeline: late fall/spring)

Social Committee – Chair: Stephanie King Norton

(smking2@wisc.edu) SPA Socials, held in informal settings, provide opportunities of rich social interactions for new and seasoned professionals. The Social Committee selects the locations, creates the timeline and promotes the events. (Timeline: academic year)

Careers in Student Affairs – Co-Chairs:

Dora Valentin (dora.valentin@housing.wisc.edu) & Becky Krueger (rakrueger3@wisc.edu)

The Careers in Student Affairs panel is planned in the fall and/or spring semester and assists students who are

considering careers in the field of student affairs. The panel is an opportunity for students to learn from and get an overview of the diverse field of student affairs. Graduate programs have also provided information about their program. Committee members determine the panel representatives, promote the program, organize the inclusion of graduate programs information and update a membership resource guide. (Timeline: fall/spring semester)

SPA Forums – Co-Chairs: May Lee Moua-Vue

(moua-vue@redgym.wisc.edu) & Heidi Lang (helang@wisc.edu) SPA Forums are held monthly throughout the year as either a "brown bag" over the lunch hour or some other time in the afternoon. They provide an informal opportunity for the membership to get together and talk about relevant campus topics or other issues of interest. The committee members determine topics with input from the executive board, schedule speakers/facilitators, and promote the events. (Timeline: academic year)

SPA Annual Conference

Chair: Consuelo López Springfield (cspringf@wisc.edu)

The annual SPA Conference is a showcase professional development event on a chosen theme of interest for the membership. The conference traditionally features keynote speakers, breakout sessions, lunch, and door-prizes. Themes are chosen by the Conference Planning Committee, with input from the SPA Executive Board. The committee also plans the breakout sessions, schedules the speakers, promotes the conference, and assists during the day-long event. This year's conference is scheduled for Friday, February 17, 2006. (Timeline: mid fall/spring)

Field Days – Co-chairs: Gebriel Lefeber

(gebriel.lefeber@housing.wisc.edu) & Kari Fonstad (fonstad@wisc.edu)

This program has evolved from the original concept of the Professional Exchange Program. In collaboration with MACAA (Madison Association of Career & Academic Advisors) and SPA membership, this program offers a great opportunity to learn how other offices on campus on how they function and how they serve the students on campus. This is a great way to meet new people and learn about new systems on campus. (Timeline: mid to late fall and/or spring semester)

SPA Awards Luncheon Committee

Ann Dingman (aedingman@wisc.edu) & Kari Fonstad (fonstad@wisc.edu) The SPA Luncheon is held each spring, typically the last Wednesday in April. Its primary goal is to recognize and present the SPA Annual Awards. The committee plans the menu, decorations, and publicity for the event. (Timeline: spring semester)

Membership & Recruitment – Ann Dingman

(aedingman@wisc.edu) Committee members interested in this committee would assist with the SPA membership recruitment drive, promote and encourage SPA membership throughout campus. This is not a "formal" committee and will meet on an as-needed basis throughout the year. (Timeline: fall and/or spring semester)

*New Initiative for 2005-2006:

50th Anniversary Celebration – Co-chairs: Mike Crawford (mike.crawford@housing.wisc.edu) & **Stephanie King Norton** (smking2@wisc.edu) Help us think of ways on how we celebrate SPA's 50th Anniversary! It's not very often when an organization turns 50! (Timeline: late fall and spring semester.)

Linking Professionals to Specialized Organizations on Campus

Remember being new on campus? Or how about having an idea and connecting with a colleague who might have the same interest? At our first Executive Board meeting we decided we would like to facilitate that process. If you know of an organization that would be welcoming to new members please send the following information:

Name of the Organization; Contact Person; Web link; A two- to-three line brief description of what the organization is about and what it does.

We will add this to our SPA website. Please send information to **Consuelo Contreras** at ccontreras@wisc.edu.

Hurricane Katrina: A Student's Perspective by Consuelo Contreras



For students, fall is a time of excitement and new beginnings. This fall has brought about a very different beginning. With the events of Hurricane Katrina, a great nation was again reminded of the uncertainties that the future can hold.

The timing of this natural disaster will forever hold in our memories as it paralleled with a time of great anticipation for the academic school year. With the start of the academic year, students in New Orleans were settling into their new dorms as were other students across the nation. Yet, unbeknown to them their lives were about to change dramatically within hours of their arrival on campus.

To be sure, students' lives are full of hope for achieving their dreams. Education is certainly the traditional method for defining ambitions and pursuing goals. Although colleges and universities have been considered safe havens in the past and a student's tenure at a university a moratorium, an event like this has an enormous impact on a student. This will prove to be a year that will start off quite differently than most others, and students forced to grow in unanticipated ways. These events can bring about financial hardship, emotional stress and other consequences. Fortunately, student services professionals, professors and administrators across the nation are willing and ready to work with the students directly impacted by Hurricane Katrina, and those who have also been peripherally affected. Yet, in the face of these events, resolve to continue is forged and courage multiplied. We could continue to focus on the negative impacts of Hurricane Katrina, but it is more important to note the positive outcomes.

We are reminded of the outreach and service of institutions of higher education and communities across the nation as they work together. Universities across the nation are waiving tuition for students directly impacted by the Hurricane. Communities and charitable organizations are fundraising to help the victims and those displaced by the Hurricane. The University of Wisconsin has also reached out to students and welcomed them. "We want to do everything in our power to assist families as they cope with the horrible damage caused by this natural disaster," says Chancellor John D. Wiley. For more information on the efforts of UW-Madison to assist students impacted by the



Becky



Kari



Jane



Consuelo L-S



Consuelo C



May Lee



New SPA Exec.'s: Welcome!



SPA is happy to introduce its new members of its executive board. President-Elect, Consuelo Lopez Springfield; Secretary/Treasurer, Kari Fonstad; General Executive Members May Lee Moua-Vue and Jane Schimmell; Graduate Student Representative, Consuelo Contreras; and Undergraduate Student Representative, Becky Krueger. Visit the SPA Website for their contact information.

Here are some things they said to help you get to know them.

What is your ideal of perfect happiness?

Jane: Enjoying life to its fullest by achieving a good balance between home/family and work during all the chaos that life brings!

Kari: A warm tropical beach with all my family and friends (with Elvis music playing in the background).

May Lee: My idea of perfect happiness, after knowing that everyone closest to me are well taken care of and happy themselves, is having all the time in the world to enjoy life and relax with family and friends.

Which talent would you most like to have?

Jane: Singing (I have some, but could use more!)

Becky: To be an amazing piano player

Consuelo L-S: Singing well

Kari: I wish I could sing well. I am always so impressed by people who can sing beautifully.

May Lee: If I could pick any talent to have, I would wish that I could play the guitar like Carlos Santana! That's my inspiration, so I'm slowly working on teaching myself how to play the guitar. Someday, I hope to play for my family without having them wince!

What is it that you most dislike?

Jane: Negative people (and bad drivers)

Becky: Ignorance and conflict

Consuelo L-S: Hypocrisy

Kari: I hate seeing people being treated unfairly, but what's worse is hearing people trying to justify that unfair treatment based on information that's just not accurate.

Who are the heroes in your life?

Jane: My parents and my kids.

Becky: My mom and dad, my brother

Consuelo L-S: Tom Paine, Daniel Shays, Fidel Castro

Kari: My Grandma Fonstad, I miss her dearly. And my brother, Greg. He's just the greatest guy I know.

May Lee: My heroes are my parents and my husband. I've heard horrific stories of their struggles to survive while fleeing from the Vietnam war. I am ever so grateful I did not have to go through what they did. They have been the strength and motivation in my life.

What is your most

treasured possession?

Jane: My kids (and my videos and pictures of them).

Kari: An 8X10 photo of Elvis I bought at a charity auction. It's an original photo taken of him in the 70s when he was performing in Wisconsin.

What is your most marked characteristic?

Jane: I go with the flow.

Consuelo L-S: Commitment to equity

Kari: Those who know me well find out that I am pretty snarky and sarcastic.

What is the quality you most like in a person?

Jane: Ability to not take self so seriously.

Becky: Compassion and patience (okay, that's 2)

Consuelo L-S: Honesty

Kari: A good sense of humor.

What is the trait you most deplore in others?

Jane: Negativity

Becky: Refusal to listen to/understand other points of view

Consuelo L-S: Duplicity

Kari: Dishonesty in any form (lying, not being true to self, etc.)

May Lee: Mean people!

What is your motto?

Jane: "WHATAYA GONNA DO" (a saying a friend of mine use to use when you just have to deal with something. I try not to dwell on anything for too long.

Becky: The most important things in life are love and happiness: make sure you're putting them first in the larger scheme of your life

Kari: "The only way around it is through it."

What turns you on creatively, spiritually, or emotionally?

Jane: Certain types of music/singing, a good book (if I ever get time to read one for my own enjoyment)

Becky: Ideas and actions that make the world a better place

Consuelo L-S: Compassion

Kari: Long talks with those I love about issues that are really important to both of us.

What do you consider your greatest achievement?

Jane: Besides getting to work w.o picking off any pedestrians and bicyclists each day? That would be continuing my education to allow me to better serve students (while balancing a full time job and raising my children).

Becky: Having the courage to step outside of my comfort zone and learn more about social justice over the past year and a half AND studying abroad in Italy for the first time this summer (okay, 2 again)

Consuelo L-S: Ongoing and respected academic publications in Caribbean/Latina Studies even while working in student affairs

Kari: Putting myself through college!

Anything you'd like to let SPA Newsletter readers know about?

Jane: I work hard and like to play hard (when the opportunity arises). I enjoy a good sense of humor and being surrounded by positive down-to-earth people.

Becky: I'm a second year House Fellow and the campaign coordinator for UW Madison's Student Global AIDS Campaign, double majoring in Sociology and Italian. I love working with students and love the Italian language and culture, so maybe one day I'll get to spend a longer amount of time living, working as a sociologist, and going to school in Italy! You'll probably see me quite a bit on State Street, because it's my favorite place during the day and I'm a bit of a coffee addict who loves spending most of my study time at Steep n' Brew - so, yeah, come stop by my "office" some time when you're in the mood for coffee!)

Consuelo L-S: I have two great daughters and the perfect cat.

May Lee: Hello fellow SPA colleagues! My name is May Lee Moua-Vue, and I am a student services coordinator in International Student Services. I am very happy and excited to be selected as one of your General SPA Executive Board Members. I'm an International Advisor where I assist international students with their non-immigration visas and help them stay in valid status throughout their studies in the USA. I also help coordinate various cultural, educational, and social events in ISS including the BRIDGE (Building Relationships in Diverse Global Environments) international friendship program. It is quite befitting that I work in International Student Services, helping new internationals with their adjustment to this new country, as that's the story of my life. I was born in Thailand during my family's migration to the US after the Vietnam war. I am the fourth child of twelve natural born children of my parents. We first came to Connecticut, then moved to Rhode Island, and finally to Wisconsin where my family decided to settle in. My husband and I enjoy living in Madison with our 2-year-old son.

(For suggestions on future Spotlights, please e-mail dora.valentin@housing.wisc.edu)

