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Editorial

Comments from the Editor

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Welcome to the inaugural issue of the online *CSPA-NYS Journal of Student Affairs*! After over 18 months of planning and learning, we are all very excited to bring you this first issue. It is styled Volume 11, number 1 in recognition of the fact that this is a continuation of the *CSPA-NYS Journal*, which was published by CSPA-NYS and Buffalo State College for a decade in the 1980s and 1990s. The final issue was published in 1996, bearing Volume #10. We consider this to be a continuation of the journal in an online format. The words, “*Of Student Affairs*,” were added to the title of the journal to make it more recognizable to current electronic database search engines.

Acknowledgments

Many people contributed to the re-emergence of the journal. Thanks are due, first, to the CSPA-NYS Board of Directors, whose vision it was to bring back the journal in an electronic format. I wish to add my own personal thanks to Brian Haggerty (University at Buffalo), who

has served as the board's liaison to this project. There were many questions to be answered as we worked our way through the process of re-creating the journal, and Brian was always able to get us an answer. We all are grateful to Canisius College, especially to Dr. Scott Chadwick, vice president for academic affairs, for being willing to serve as the institutional host of this journal. Not only are all of the services of the college provided *pro bono*, Dr. Chadwick provided a grant for the journal's start-up costs and on-going expenses. George Emery of the Canisius library staff was especially helpful in introducing us to the software that we are utilizing and helping us to learn how to use it, as was Pamela Jones, director of the library at Medaille College. Thanks are due as well to Dr. Tim Gallineau (Buffalo State College), who has been invaluable in making connections back to the years the journal was in print format.

Once the nuts-and-bolts of deciding where and how to host the journal was in place, the most important decision was the creation of the founding editorial board. We wanted a board that would come from across the entire state, that represented the institutional diversity in the state, and that would be composed of both faculty members and senior student affairs officers. Our dreams came true! The members of the editorial board are exceptional in their depth of experience and in their dedication to this project. The board undertook all of the decisions necessary to bring the journal back to life, from creating the journal's name, mission statement, and editorial policies to serving as reviewers of manuscripts. Board members contributed manuscripts as well. We have met twice in the past year face-to-face and many times electronically. I would like to extend my deep gratitude to the founding members of the editorial board of the *CSPA-NYS Journal of Student Affairs*: Dr. Peter Baigent (Stony Brook University), Dr. Julia Davis (SUNY Plattsburgh), Dr. Bassam Deeb (Niagara County Community College), Dr. Cathy Engstrom (Syracuse University), Dr. Richard Herdlein (Buffalo State College),

Barbara Jones (SUNY Delhi), Dr. Jelane Kennedy (College of St. Rose), Dr. Jason Lane (SUNY at Albany), Dr. Patrick Love (Rutgers), and Dr. Steve Tyrell (Alfred State College).

This journal would not exist without the exceptional hard work and dedication of its volunteer, and unpaid, editorial staff: managing editor Danielle LaMarre (Canisius College) and copy editor Dr. Logan Hazen (University of Rochester). Danielle, in particular, has put in countless hours during the past 18 months learning the host software, creating the draft template of the journal, troubleshooting the myriad issues that have come up along the way, and managing the submission and review process. Truly, this journal would not exist without her. Logan's work has been more concentrated in the past few months as the review process has generated accepted manuscripts. I don't think there is anyone in the state who is more knowledgeable about APA and more dedicated to getting manuscripts right. He has brought that dedication to this journal. Both Danielle and Logan have had to learn new software applications to translate their knowledge into the journal's electronic template, learning as they both went along. I am honored to be working with them on this project. All of us, and I in particular, owe them both a huge debt of gratitude...and lunch to celebrate this inaugural issue at our first opportunity!

This First Issue

The mission of the *CSPA-NYS Journal of Student Affairs* is to address contemporary issues relevant to the practice of student affairs professionals. The journal aspires to carry on the tradition of its print predecessor by publishing quality articles that both contain solid scholarship and are relevant to practitioners. Many of us began our careers publishing in journals like the *CSPA-NYS Journal* or the *NASPA Journal*. Our goal is to provide such an opportunity for a new generation of scholars...to "pay it forward," as it were...as well as for established scholars and practitioners. The journal will publish twice a year in April and November, and we will solicit

manuscripts continually. Each issue will have five or six articles. One does not need to be located in New York State, nor be a member of CSPA-NYS, to submit a manuscript for review. The journal accepts for review all forms of scholarship that are recognized in the sixth edition of the *Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association*: original research, assessment that has interest and application beyond the individual institution, literature reviews, theoretical articles, methodological articles, case studies, historical reviews and essays. This is consistent with the original journal. I reviewed the last two issues in the CSPA-NYS archives as I prepared this overview. They contained empirical studies of the employment of students who left college without completing a degree, retention of Native American students, and attitudes on campus toward sexual orientation. The issues included an assessment of college health trends, descriptions of a training workshop for student leaders and a violence prevention program, and an analysis of master's level student affairs preparation programs in New York State. Finally, there was a historical piece assessing the impact of the killings at Kent State University 25 years after they occurred.

This first issue of the online continuation of the journal follows this generalist format with one exception. For this first issue the editorial board thought it was appropriate to solicit general manuscripts and to have a special section that engaged the joint ACPA/NASPA publication, *Envisioning the Future of Student Affairs*. This first issue is being published after the historic vote on consolidation of ACPA and NASPA and all of the discussion that occurred throughout both organizations as their members pondered their votes. We now know that the memberships have not chosen to enter the future as one consolidated organization, as was recommended in the *Envisioning the Future* document, but we do know that the other issues raised by *Envisioning the Future* remain. These include the impact of globalization and

technology, economic pressures, the demand for accountability, and the increasing diversity of educational delivery systems. The authors of *Envisioning the Future* challenge us to rethink, and be willing to change, our roles and structures to respond to these emerging realities. They ask us, “What would student affairs work ‘look like’ if it were organized for the success of today’s students and today’s higher education.”

This issue contains two reflections that are inspired by *Envisioning the Future*, one by Steven Tyrell and Charles Fey and the other by Robert Bonfiglio. They wrestle with the same question that emerged in the consolidation discussion... What in our collective past is essential to keep and what must we do to be successful in the future? We hope these pieces will inspire other reflections and that this journal can serve as the venue for a thoughtful and spirited engagement of the future.

Three research articles round out this first issue. Richard Herdlein, Mark Kratovic, Christie Rossiter, and Jessica Sobczak present their study of senior student affairs officers’ perceptions of the role politics play on campus. Robert Longwell-Grice argues that student affairs is in an excellent position to educate students about environmental stewardship, implement campus-wide and student-led initiatives, and create an ethic of care on campus for the environment. Caleb Bridges, Sara Heiman, Nicholas Hyer, Carrie Radke, Allison Wright, and April Heiselt review the development of parent and family services and make recommendations for how institutions can work effectively with families in the future, enlisting them as allies in our traditional goal of developing the whole student. Finally, Robert Dobmeier and Thomas Hernandez and their colleagues present the results of a mixed method study of student knowledge of the signs, risk factors, and services for several common mental health problems.

I am proud to present to you the first issue of *The CSPA-NYS Journal of Student Affairs*,
volume 11, number 1.

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