



**NASPA Region I Advisory Board  
Sunday, November 17, 2019  
Regional Conference – Providence, RI  
Meeting Minutes**

**I. Call to Order**

Meeting called to order at 3:03pm

**DeBurro**

**II. Ubuntu Updates**

Connie Cabello joined J. Golden for the update.

150 participants and 28 advocates have been involved in the institute – this includes individuals from all states. Thank you to Barbara Fienman for their assistance in getting participation from Maine, Vermont and Connecticut professionals.

J. Golden specifically highlighted the following Senior Student Affairs Officers and Presidents who were involved with the institute.

President Dr. Frank Sanchez of Rhode Island College  
Dr. Angela Batista, Champlain College, current NASPA Board Chair  
Dr. Walter Diaz of Eastern Connecticut State University  
Dr. Jamie Glanton Costello of Mass Art  
Dr. Mary Grace Almandrez, Brown University  
Dr. Lawrence Ward, Babson University  
Dr. Ed Cabellon, Bristol Community College  
Dr. Jason Meriweather, Humboldt State University  
Dr. Jennifer Mezquita, Northern Essex Community College  
Eric Rivera, Rhode Island College  
Dr. Doris Ching, Student Affairs Emeritus University of Hawaii system

J. Golden and Cabello stressed the need to do more to engage Senior Student Affairs Officers of color in the region. Additionally, they stressed the importance of intentional engagement of Ubuntu participants in other volunteer opportunities within the region.

DeBurro would like to add J. Golden & Cabello to the agenda for the next Regional Advisory Board meeting to further discuss this topic.

**III. Approval of the Minutes from 6/28/19**

Motion to approve by C. Regan.

Second by Davis.

Motion passes

**DeBurro**

**IV. Approval of the Notes from 9/20/19**

Motion to approve by Fienman

Second by Troiano

Motion passes

**DeBurro**

**V. President's Welcome**

President Kruger thanks the members of the Regional Advisory Board for their service to NASPA and the Profession.

Kruger also shared updates on some of the conversations that have been taking place at the national office.

NASPA has joined with Fraternity and Sorority Life leaders to discuss our involvement in reform.

Kruger spent a day with 20 thought leaders from a variety of sectors to discuss what student affairs look like for online learners

**Kruger**

There was a recent summit for Vice Presidents, Associate Vice Presidents and graduate faculty members to continue the ongoing conversation about the evolution of the graduate curriculum in order to meet needs of current market/workforce

The certification conversation continues to be a major initiative in NASPA.

NASPA previously received a 7-8 million dollar grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation to explore holistic advising. NASPA was just notified that they have received a second grant for 9 million from foundation to look at first generation student success and seek to create some lighthouse institutions.

These grants are in addition to the 8 million Suter foundation grant

External funding sources such as these have allowed NASPA to NOT raise membership dues in several years

Kruger shared his excitement about the upcoming National Conference in Austin. Between 7,000-8,000 attendees are expected. There will also be the connected conference hosted as a satellite program at San Jose State University.

## **VI. Conference Updates**

**Anderson**

433 registrants

17 corporate sponsors totaling \$23,000 in external financial support

Land acknowledgement – Chief Two Hawks will be coming in. Thanks to Chelsea Reed, Indigenous Peoples Knowledge Community Representative for their assistance in getting him here.

Entertainment will include a band from Berklee College of Music

Reminder to use the Socio app, as it will have the most up to date information

Institutions with the largest number of attendees this year are The University of Rhode Island and Boston College.

Two Institutes are taking place – Ubuntu and the SSAO Institute

There are two pre-conference workshops - Career boot camp and an assessment workshop. Both workshops are filled and have waitlists

The Asian Pacific Islander Knowledge Community Master Class will take place on Monday

Colleen Lubin will be the conference chair for the 2020 conference in Hartford

## **VII. Regional Director Update**

**DeBurro**

DeBurro distributed a small sheet with sessions board members are expected to attend.

Welcome to Laura Flynn (Foundation Ambassador) & Susan Marine (Faculty Liaison)

The group discussed conference locations.

Registration numbers this year are down.

There were some issues with the NASPA website, but committee is unsure what impact that had.

D. Golden shared that next round of contracting starts in December. Additionally, he reminded the group that we do not HAVE to be in a conference center. Possible to explore smaller locations and cap registration numbers.

Dougherty voiced concern about the program slate coming out so late

D. Golden reported that 29% of total membership registered for conference

DeBurro suggested that we track self-funding through conference

Stender suggested that the Board survey individuals who attended last year, but not this year why they did not come back.

K. Golden mentioned that some folks are picking some of the institutes over the regional conference if they have limited funding

Regular mentioned that two-year contracts are particularly challenging when location is far away from where you are.

D. Golden shared that it is possible to do a two-year contract that is not back-to-back years

Sidelko offered that for folks from rural states, it can be prohibitive to be in a city – costs, congestion, etc.

Fienman will lead sub-committee with Maitino, Stender, Sidelko, D. Golden to explore the topic

## **VIII. Conference Registration Discussion**

**Fienman**

### **a. One-Day Registration**

### **b. Complimentary registration for co-presenting non-members**

Regional conference previously offered one-day registrations. Folks are looking for it more often

ACUI offer one-day registrations

The Advisory Board and Conference Committee would need folks to look at impact before making any changes

Fienman presented at NEACRO as non-member at no cost

Maitino brought up the suggestion of a transferrable registration – so multiple individuals from a particular institution could attend on different days.

Community partners in RI expressed interested in coming, but not for whole conference so they did not attend at all because there was no one day option

Davis expressed financial concerns as conference has been used to balance our budget for past several years

Long suggested that it may not be useful to offer for Monday and Wednesday, but Tuesday would be something to explore

C. Regan mentioned that members have expressed frustration because they just want to register for banquet and we currently do not allow that

D. Golden reminded the board that we will have to look at financial impact. Convention centers are expensive. Do we go to explore smaller locations and cap registration?

**IX. Budget Update**

**D. Golden**

As of 11/7/19, the Region has spent 8% of budget– bulk of conference expenses have since been paid off and we now stand at 65% of budgeted monies for year

MA and institutes have brought in money. Conference will be the bulk of the region's revenue

D. Golden is forming a Finance committee for the region. ME, MA, CT, RI are currently represented. He is still looking for professionals from NH or VT – looking for folks interested

With registration numbers being low, the conference will likely not break even, however there is no reason for alarm

**X. Silent Auction Update**

**G. Regan**

Silent auction currently stands at 130 items with a value of \$9,500

Last year there were 160 with value of \$20,000

Less speakers and coaching this year – more tangible items

Only about 50% of Regional Advisory Board has donated, despite it being a requirement

There will be three live auction items this year. Alex Cabal will be conducting live auction

Bidding for good information will be posted in silent auction area

Auction closes Tuesday at 7pm – pick up is after banquet on Tuesday night

Less books than in years past – because KCs are no longer required to donate, those items are no longer there

There are several experience packages – i.e. museums, Newport mansion tours, etc.

\$937 has been raised so far

**XI. Membership Update**

**Davis**

17 institutional members have not renewed- National Office working on that.

Current Membership Numbers:

Total – 1514

MA – 744

CT – 229

RI – 122

NH – 80

VT – 78

ME- 70

Canada- 18

Other - 31

**XII. Strategic Planning Update**

**Parkinson**

A survey was conducted over the summer, but only 27 responses were received (between the Regional Advisory Board and Knowledge Community Representatives). The data did not provide any significant new insight.

It underscored 5that we do well in the area of professional development.

Based on the results, we do not do as well as an organization in the areas of advocacy for student success, social justice, and research. Additionally, folks feel that we can do a better job at assessment. Results stated that we look at effectiveness quite often, but learning outcomes assessment.

The work group in place met earlier today to review the survey data and the overall plan. The group's discussion generated a number of additional questions. Parkinson will be sending some questions out to the Board. Due to

limited time, members of the Regional Advisory Board and Knowledge Community Representatives are asked to review and respond to the questions from the group.

### **XIII. NASPA Hill Days Initiative**

**Davis & D. Golden**

NASPA Hill Days is an opportunity for members to take their engagement in public policy arena to a higher level. In early December, professionals from across the region will go to Washington D.C. advocate to political leaders from their respective states

This year the focus is on sexual assault prevention, financial aid, and undocumented students.

Participating will be two individuals from Maine and six from MA. The MA professionals have secured meetings with Sens. Markey and Warren, Rep. Moulton's office and have a tentative meeting scheduled with Rep. Pressley's office

Individuals will be advocating on behalf of association – not just individual beliefs

Monday 12/2/19 –intensive training on how to emphasize points

Tuesday 12/3/19 – first day on the hill meeting with legislators

Wednesday 12/4/19 – final meetings with legislators

The group going to Washington D.C. is comprised of 90-100 NASPA members broken into teams by state

Important that we share this initiative and information with the membership!

### **XIV. Knowledge Community Updates**

**Stanley**

Stanley reminded the board that Knowledge Community (KC) leadership terms are in line with Regional Advisory Board terms. National KC chairs are on alternating years similar to some of our state directors. This can be confusing.

Stanley made brochures that individuals will find placed around the conference along with pens, post-its, etc.

There are currently 13 KC representative vacancies; however, the current terms only last through March

There is an Intro to Knowledge Communities session on Monday. Stanley asked the Board and KC representative to direct interested individuals to attend the session.

Stanley shared that here is a multi- kc drive in scheduled for Friday, February 28, 2020 at Boston University sponsored by the Latinx Knowledge Community (LKC), Asian Pacific Islander Knowledge Community (APIKC), and Indigenous Peoples Knowledge Community (IPKC). The topic is Significance Over Success

Stender shared that the Alcohol and Other Drug (AOD) KC will be hosting a webinar in early 2020 on how individuals that work in higher education settings can use/work with local boards of health

Fisher (Spirituality KC) reminded individual about the KC engagement breakfast on Tuesday an encouraged folks to attend

There are currently 36 KCs, and there is a possibility that some new ones may be coming on board

### **XV. Engagement Opportunities**

**Stoops**

Stoops shared that she is working to create the advisory board for her upcoming term as Regional Director and working to get opportunities posted on Volunteer Central. She is working to put together a board that is a combination of new and returning members. Deadline to apply for positions is 12/31/19

Stoops expectation for new board is that it operates from a perspective of inclusion. Her expectation is that Advisory Board members will represent themselves from a spirit of inclusion at events. She highlighted the importance of engaging members from underrepresented groups – this includes historically underrepresented states in our region.

Stoops mentioned that recently, a group of retirees from the Region reached out to her with questions about how to stay involved after they were retired. NASPA does have a retiree membership category – emeritus member.

The individuals are looking to do things such as participate in institutes, contribute to newsletters, presenting sessions, etc.

The next board will have a role tasked to engage regional retirees in meaningful ways.

### **XVI. State Updates**

#### **a. Rhode Island**

**Raffaele**

Raffaele shared that the Rhode Island State Board has one representative from each institution in the state and the group meets bi-monthly.

There was a successful drive-in on the topic of mental health and suicide prevention held on 10/3/19 at the Roger Williams University Conference Center. There were 70 individuals in attendance from RI, MA, CT and NH.

The next even will be a Holiday social at Salve Regina in December. This event includes a can drive to support the food pantry at the Community College of Rhode Island.

A Vice Presidents panel will eb held on 2/20/20 at the University of Rhode Island's brand new welcome center

The State Board hopes to host a social with the Mid-Level Institute during their April session

**b. Massachusetts**

**K. Golden**

Massachusetts currently has no active events scheduled for the remainder of the calendar year and is working to solidify spring events

The Board has focused on social media as a method to engage members

Currently the Board is collaborating on the annual All Of The Above Conference with BACHA, a brunch social event, and exploring an event for professionals working with graduate and non-traditional populations at the Boston University School of Dental Medicine

**c. Maine**

**True**

True shared that the Maine Board recently Co-sponsored the Darrigo Student Leadership Conference which had eight schools and 87 participants in attendance

The group is planning a social event in the southern part of the state in the near future.

True reminded the group of the geological and weather barriers that make gathering in person a challenge for the Main Board, so they are exploring online opportunities to connect.

The group is also exploring a program to match Senior Student Affairs Officers with current graduate students.

**d. Connecticut**

**Holmes-Hope**

Holmes-Hope and the Connecticut Board members been pushing to have state representation in at the regional conference and in award nominations. The board is small but comprised mostly of young professionals so they are currently exploring balance of roles.

Holmes-Hope shared concerns regarding when individuals do not update their NASPA profiles to reflect their correct state as they move in or out of states. In addition to creating challenges with member engagement, it also effects budgets through national office

Deburro noted the limitations of national office tools, such as past requests by regions to be able to receive notification when members enter region to provide welcome

Davis also noted the challenge with graduate students who may "live" in one state but attend school in another. The suggestion was made that the National Office send a periodic reminder to members to update their profiles.

**XVII. Foundation Update**

**Flynn**

Pillar publicity will be around the conference

Dip jar will be available at the conference – each dip is \$5

Reminder that it is an expectation that RAB members donate

We have four Pillars form Region I this year - Pauline Dobrowski, David Zamoiski, Maureen Keefe and Angela Batsista

**XVIII. Certificate Conversation**

**DeBurro**

Please plan to be at the town hall on Tuesday and share feedback on this topic. DeBurro will be sharing Kruger's presentation on the process.

**XIX. Other Updates/Announcements**

SALT reception will take place following the meeting

The Board Dinner is in room 557 – it is also the conference committee office so please be respectful

**XX. Adjourn**

Motion to adjourn by Flynn

Seconded by Connors

Motion passes

**Next Scheduled Meeting: Friday, January 24, 2020 – 10am via RingCentral**

**National Conference Meeting: Sunday, March 29<sup>th</sup> at 1pm in the JW Marriott**