

DEVELOPMENTS

A semi-annual publication of the Department of Student Affairs in
Higher Education for SPS/SAHE alumni and friends

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2011 RONALD LUNARDINI DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD WINNER Colleen Ruefle ~ Class of 1989

Indiana University of Pennsylvania's Department of Student Affairs in Higher Education (SAHE) is pleased to announce Colleen Ruefle as the recipient of the Ronald Lunardini Distinguished Alumni Award for 2011. Colleen is a 1989 graduate of the SAHE Program. She is currently the Vice President for Student Life and Dean of Students at La Roche College in Pittsburgh. In the letters of nomination and support, Colleen is described as "genuine," "optimistic," "quietly but constantly making a difference in other's lives," and "seeing students as the true heart of campus." Perhaps most common across the letters of support for Colleen were observations of how professionally and compassionately she has handled several tragedies at the college, most recently the sudden death of basketball coach, Scott Lang. Writes one colleague, "Colleen personally spent the night with students in the fitness center, holding students in her arms, dealing with the media and assisting the entire community come to grips with tragic event. Just as she has always done, Colleen gave of her time, her wisdom and her heart that night and helped this community to heal and stay together."



The award selection committee (comprised of faculty, students, and alumni) in their review of the nomination materials for Colleen unanimously affirmed that she exceeds the award criteria, particularly in the areas of promoting community, fostering student development, and mentoring students and colleagues. As one of the committee members noted, "Her letters of recommendation clearly reflect her impact on students and her contributions to the institution's which she has served, including letters from several alumni who also know Dr. Lunardini."

The award was announced at the IUP Reception for Alumni and Friends on March 28, 2011 at the American College Personnel Association (ACPA) annual convention in Baltimore. Colleen will formally be presented the award at the annual SAHE Banquet on May 5, 2011 at the Indiana Country Club in Indiana.

The Ronald Lunardini Distinguished Alumni Award was created in 2006 to acknowledge an alumnus of the SAHE department whose experiences and accomplishments as a student affairs professional significantly reflect the standards and values of the SPS program/SAHE department. In 2008, in recognition of Ron Lunardini's 37 years of service to IUP, the award title was changed to honor him. Previous recipients include: Bob Gatti ('78), Peter C. Groenendyk ('94), Becky L. Verzinski ('94), Kevin W. Bailey ('90), and Julie Elkins ('85).

Editor: Megan Stahl ('11)

m.e.stahl@iup.edu 724-357-2107

Advisor: Dr. John Wesley Lowery

jlowery@iup.edu, 724-357-4535

Please let us know what you think about this semester's Developments. Your feedback and suggestions are welcome and greatly appreciated.

SAHE Faculty:

Linda M. Hall, Chair: lmhall@iup.edu
724-357-4656

Holley A. Belch: habelch@iup.edu
724-357-6288

John Wesley Lowery:
jlowery@iup.edu, 724-357-4535

John A. Mueller: jmueller@iup.edu
724-357-4541

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<http://www.iup.edu/sahe>

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Chair's Corner

Greetings!

It was great to see so many of you at ACPA in Baltimore and join us for our annual SAHE Alumni reception at the conference. It is always a good opportunity to catch up with one another, honor award winners, applaud those who are presenting at the conference, and begin to socialize our graduating students to the ranks of SAHE alums. Our students report having had a productive conference with many job interviews and appreciate those alums who have helped in that process. Thank you for sending your position announcements so we can help you fill positions and also advertise positions to our strong alumni group. Again, we have a strong group of students completing the program and if you are interested in looking at the mini-resumes of our graduating students, please check out our web page at www.iup.edu/sahe



I would especially like to thank Deena Kelly ('06) and Michael Dodge ('06) for generously financially supporting the attendance of three current second year students at the conference. The three recipients were Erin Perna, Martin Sagendorf, and Don Brennan. There are now two alumni financed awards within the department and we welcome additional ideas and sponsorships either independently or through the Foundation for IUP.

The new Pennsylvania Governor has proposed a down-sized budget for next fiscal year that demonstrates his lack of support for publicly funded higher education in the state. We are very concerned about the potential impact and anxiously await information about the final budget and its impact on the university and department. We know we are not alone and that many states (and probably many of you) are in similar straits. Please see information on page 10 about opportunities to support the SAHE program through making a contribution to the IUP Foundation, earmarked for SAHE, if you are so inclined.

I hope that this letter finds you well and getting ready to wrap up the academic year. For some that means you are moving into your most hectic times — while for others, there is a bit of a reprieve. I know that your lives are very busy and full, and it is always special to hear your news. We also appreciate the referrals that you have made to our program — several of them will be joining our next cohort this summer or fall. We appreciate your good work, your support, and your loyalty to SAHE!

Best to you,

Linda

Attention Alumni: Join The Jersey Alliance - Student Affairs Educators of New Jersey!

Contributed by Courtney (Stone) O'Connell ('08)

If you are alumni living/working in the state of New Jersey, join the Jersey Alliance: Student Affairs Educators of New Jersey! The Jersey Alliance was officially chartered by ACPA as a state division on January 14, 2011. It creates an exciting new opportunity for New Jersey professionals and graduate students to connect, get involved in new leadership opportunity and to take advantage of new learning and development opportunities. Visit thejerseyalliance.org to find out more information, including how to join!

Current Students Receive Third Annual Dodge/Kelly Scholarship

Donald Brennan, Erin Perna and Martin Sagendorf are the recipients of the third annual Dodge/Kelly Scholarship. This scholarship provides financial support to deserving second year SAHE students from SAHE alumni Michael Dodge ('06) and Deena Kelly ('06) to cover the cost of their registration for the ACPA convention.



From left to right: Deana Kelly, Erin Perna, Martin Sagendorf, Donald Brennan and Michael Dodge

"It means a great deal to us to help SAHE students in the next step of their career planning. Congratulations to Donald, Erin and Martin!"

This is the third year Dodge and Kelly have provided this scholarship in support of SAHE students' professional development. The SAHE department is grateful to their loyal alumni who support students in all ways, but especially in this very tangible way. The ACPA convention took place in Baltimore in March.

The Nancy Newkerk Award and ASD Elections

Congratulations go out to the Nancy Newkerk Award recipient, Kyle MacDonald. The Nancy Newkerk Award is given to a second year student who demonstrates outstanding contributions to student affairs activities including students, the SAHE program, the institutions they have interacted with and the community. Nancy Newkerk was once again kind enough to attend the program and share her experiences in student affairs with the attendees at the ceremony in November of 2010.

The ASD election results were also presented at the Awards Ceremony. The new executive board is as follows:

Emilie Campbell — President

Jean Barnard — VP Public Relations

Joe Benyish — VP for Programming

Francesca Catalano — VP for Administration

Tory Rowlands — VP for Professional Development

Congratulations to Kyle and the new ASD executive board!



Left to Right: Dr. John Wesley Lowery, Kyle MacDonald, Dr. Linda Hall, Miss Nancy Newkerk, Dr. Holley Belch, and Dr. John Mueller.



Left to Right: Joe Benyish, Jean Barnard, Tory Rowlands, Emilie Campbell and Francesca Catalano.

SAHE Reception at ACPA



Photographs contributed by Jean Barnard ('12)
and Megan Stahl ('11)



The IUP SAHE Alumni and Friends Reception was at the ACPA Convention in Baltimore this year. The event recognized Colleen Ruefle ('89) as the Lunardini Distinguished Alumni Award winner as well as provided an opportunity for alumni, faculty, and current students to catch up. Congratulations to all who presented at NASPA and ACPA and we look forward to seeing next year at ACPA in Louisville!

Faculty Updates

Dr. John Wesley Lowery

Greetings from western Pennsylvania where winter is reminding me of the old country song, "How can I miss you, if you won't leave." Snow in April, however light, just does not seem right. Margaret, our 7 year old daughter seems unfazed and has embraced ice hockey as her winter sport of choice and completed her first full season. A highlight for her was skating on the Pittsburgh Penguins ice at intermission and her U10 girls team, the Indiana Ice Minks, winning its first game.

This has been another hectic semester for me at IUP. I am teaching Assessment and Evaluation which I have been continuing to work to revise after teaching it several times along with Practicum. I continue to coordinate the SAHE Comprehensive Exam, which has gone smoothly. I have also become more active on campus this year working close with the Code of Student Conduct Review and as the chair of the IUP-APSCUF Nominations & Elections Committee. This semester has also been busy with conference travel, presentations, webinars, and consultation work. I attended and made multiple presentations at the ASCA Conference in Florida and the NASPA Conference in Philadelphia. I was honored at NASPA to join the NASPA Faculty Fellows and am excited to work with this group over the next three years. I have also been involved in consulting projects with Boston College, EDMC, and Stanford University. A benefit of this travel is the opportunity to meet IUP alumni from around the country and to help promote the SAHE program.

My upcoming professional activities will include the ASCA Donald D. Gehring Academy for Student Conduct Administration in July at the University of Louisville. In addition to presenting, I am serving as the coordinator of the Training Institute which is designed to offer an intensive four-day competency based curriculum intended for student conduct and conflict resolution administrators new to the field, as well as seasoned student affairs professionals new to the area of student conduct and conflict resolution. This is my third, and final year, as the coordinator of the Training Institute, but I expect to remain involved in the Academy in the years to come.

Please do not hesitate to call me at [(723) 357-4535] or e-mail me [jlowery@iup.edu], if you have any questions or I can assist you any way.



Dr. John Wesley Lowery

Dr. Holley A. Belch

Greetings from rainy Indiana, PA! Warmer weather has finally arrived and I hope you are getting a chance to enjoy it. As seems to be the case each year, the spring semester was a busy one. It was great to see some of you at ACPA in Baltimore - I always look forward to our social gatherings at national conferences each year. Spring semester teaching (Student Development Theory and Topical Areas in Student Affairs) kept me busy, presenting two programs at ACPA, and serving as Associate Editor of ACPA's Books & Media Board had me running at full speed. Several weekend jaunts away soothed my spirit while other projects tested my inner strength!



Dr. Holley A. Belch

This summer I'll be supervising Practicum students, continuing research on college students with psychiatric disabilities, working on several collaborative projects, and welcoming the next group of new students. I'll definitely be on the golf course and have a vacation planned that will take me on an adventure out of the country. As always, keep us informed as to how and what you are doing and continue to send us good students!

Dr. John A. Mueller

Comps, clarifications, conferences, and campus visits—it must be spring! Winter 2011 was like the guest that wouldn't leave. Despite the harsh winter weather that has lingered long into March and early April, it's been a good spring semester. We had a wonderful group of prospective students descend on campus for our annual visitation weekend. ACPA was, as always, both tiring and invigorating as well as a great opportunity to catch up with alumni/colleagues and learn about the wonderful things they're doing on campus and in the profession. As May quickly approaches, the excitement that precedes the SAHE banquet and graduation is building. By June, I'll be back in the classroom, teaching the American College Student, right after I return from the whirlwind BGSU/Miami University UK-European Union tour. I'll join faculty and students from several programs, including our own, as we learn about different European cultures and examine the effects of those cultures on various systems of higher education. Part of the trip includes a transatlantic conference in Luxembourg where I'll be co-facilitating a program on "What is Culture?" At the end of July, I'll be traveling to Illinois to be with my family and celebrating my 50th birthday. Then I'm back to western PA to gear up for the start of a new academic year by the time August gets underway. Best wishes to all SAHE students, graduates, alumni and friends--enjoy the spring, embrace the summer, and we'll touch base again in the fall!



Dr. John A. Mueller

Current Students, Alumnus Recognized by IUP

First year students Emilie Campbell and Tory Rowlands were both awarded the Dean's Merit Scholarship from The College of Education and Educational Technology.

Jason Lee ('10) received an Outstanding Graduate Student Research Award for his thesis research, "Student Loan Debt Literacy: A Comparison of First-Generation and Continuing-Generation College Students." This award recognizes and celebrates outstanding achievement in sponsored programs and graduate student research.

Congratulations Emilie, Tory and Jason!

SAHE Visitation Weekend

In March, SAHE held our annual Visitation Weekend. Fifty prospective students joined us from Arizona, California, Illinois, Indiana, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, Ohio, Oklahoma, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Virginia, Wisconsin, and Pennsylvania. We also had nearly 30 different undergraduate majors represented from Biology and Psychology to Art History and Management. Graduates from large public universities as well as small private colleges were in attendance. Several students are currently in the work force and many students have recently graduated or will be graduating soon. As always, alumni involvement is a critical element in the recruitment of prospective students. Our admission efforts depend greatly on the assistance of alumni in the field. Many of our prospective students have stressed how instrumental alumni have been in their choice to attend IUP's SAHE program. Our sincerest thanks!

Visitation Program 2011



Photographs contributed by Francesca Catalano ('12)

SAHE Students Present at the ACPA Conference in Baltimore

Two graduate students from the SAHE department presented at the 2011 American College Personnel Association (ACPA) convention in Baltimore in March.

Presenters included:

Ashley Fowler, presented her thesis research, "The Significance of Feminist Identity in Psychologically Abusive Relationships"

Megan Stahl, presented on her involvement in social norm campaigns, "The Social Norms Approach"

Congratulations to the presenting students!

SAHE Mini-Resume Program is Online

The graduating class of 2011 mini-resumes are now online! If you or others in your division have staff vacancies, please consider sharing this information with colleagues. The Associates for Student Development have continued with a full-page electronic version of student's mini-resumes to make the program more environmentally friendly and cost effective. A selected list of Senior Student Affairs Officers received postcards announcing the availability of the resumes online.

Many categories of functional areas were continued this year and include the following: Academic Advising, Admissions, Alumni Relations, Career Services/Development, Disabled Student Services, Greek Affairs, Health/Drug and Alcohol Education, International Education, Judicial Affairs, Leadership Development, Multicultural Affairs, Orientation, Residence Life/Housing, Service Learning, and Student Union and Activities. The class of 2011 choose up to three functional areas under which their resume has been placed on the SAHE website.

The 2011 cohort members' resumes are available on the SAHE web site at (<http://www.iup.edu/sahe>). They can be viewed by interest in functional areas and alphabetically by students' last names.

Giving Back to SAHE

Contributed by Deena Kelly ('06)

Greetings SAHE students and alums,

I write to you having just returned from the ACPA conference where the message was B-more in Baltimore. It was an exciting conference and I have returned to my position with renewed enthusiasm for my work and for my role in student affairs.

With the B-more message seen everywhere at conference, I reflected on what I have accomplished in the past five years as a student affairs professional and how my successes were based not only my dedication to what I do, but also to what I learned at IUP in the SAHE program. My experience in my cohort was supportive and nurturing. Because of this positive experience, another member of my cohort, Michael Dodge, and I decided that it would be nice to give something back to the program that enhanced our lives professional and personally. We decided to create an opportunity for future 2nd year SAHE students to attend ACPA by providing funds to attend the conference. This year was our third year of support for this initiative.

While attending the SAHE reception at ACPA, colleagues mentioned that due to the current economic issues, many universities have cancelled their receptions. I feel privileged that SAHE still hosts a reception so that we can see friends, colleagues, faculty and have an opportunity to network. The reception is an expensive endeavor each year. So as I was thinking about what it means to B-more, I thought that maybe this was an opportunity for me to reach out to other alums and encourage you to join with another colleague, or several, in your cohort and think about sponsoring a scholarship or donating money to the next SAHE reception at ACPA. Whatever you think would be an opportunity to help future practitioners in our field.

There are ways to make your donations tax deductible, so if you are interested in this opportunity to help your SAHE program, please contact Dr. Hall at 724-357-4656.

SAHE Student Wins Order of Omega Case Study Competition

Submitted by Emilie Campbell ('12)

At the Northeast Greek Leadership Association Conference, students and staff have the opportunity to participate in the Order of Omega Case Study Competition. This competition serves as an opportunity for undergraduate students and graduate or professional staff members to provide solutions to a social dilemma or problem within a fraternity and sorority community. Participants gain practical experience in problem solving in areas of risk/harm reduction, chapter empathy, and media relations. Emilie Campbell partnered with IUP's Panhellenic President, Meagan Graff, to create a risk-diffusing plan regarding sorority recruitment and social policy violations. Emilie and Meagan were awarded first place after their presentation to the panel of judges, which included Order of Omega Executive Director, Kent Gardner.

Accomplishments & Accolades

Alumni

Holly (Alexander) Agati ('93) was recently awarded The Chambers-Reid Award for Professional Excellence at The College of William and Mary where she has worked since 2001.

Sean Bridgen ('99) received the Outstanding Advising Award Certificate of Merit from NACADA at the 2010 National Conference. Sean has also been appointed the Managing Co-editor of *The Mentor*, an academic advising journal.

Michael Dodge ('06) was elected to be a directorate board member of ACPA's Commission for Student Conduct and Legal Issues from 2011 to 2014.

Jennifer M. Gronsky ('02) presented a session at NASPA Annual Conference in Philadelphia this year on building and effectively using interdisciplinary teams on campus as a means to overcome limited budget and staff resources.

Michele (Hosey) Jenkins ('02) was appointed to the Director of Student Success, a newly created position at Radford University.

Jason Lee ('10) was awarded Outstanding Graduate Student Research Award for his thesis research, "Student Loan Literacy: A Comparison of First-Generation and Continuing-Generation College Students."

Joyce Lewandowski ('07) received the 2011 Administrator of Distinction Award.

Dora Elias McAllister ('00) successfully defended her Ph.D. dissertation proposal in December.

Courtney (Stone) O'Connell ('08) was honored with the Annuet Coeptis Emerging Professional Award at the 2011 ACPA Conference in Baltimore. She joins SAHE's Dr. John Mueller and Dr. John Wesley Lowery in ACPA's Annuet Coeptis Honor Society.

Kellie Perkowsky ('06), presented "Making the Fit Just Right: Living in a Cohort Model" at the 2011 ACPA Conference in Baltimore, Maryland.

Darlene (Beherns) Poirerier ('06) recently became the Assistant Bursar at the University of Albany.

Eric W. Owens ('97) successfully defended his dissertation and will be graduating with a Ph.D. in Counselor Education and Supervision from Duquesne University in May.

Michelle (Marchand) Rebholz ('08) received the Association of Fraternity/Sorority Advisors' Gayle Webb New Professional Award at the annual meeting in December. Michelle also presented "Spiritual Development and its Relevance to Our Work" with two colleagues at NASPA in March.

Chrissy Smith ('08) is the Chairperson for Organizations and Activities for the ACPA Commission for Student Involvement. Anyone interested in involvement with the commission should contact Chrissy at smithc14@wpunj.edu

Gerald Tang ('08) is co-chairing the Eastern Association of Colleges and Employers' Professional Exchange Committee serving to connect career services professionals with employers.

Faculty**Accolades**

Dr. John Wesley Lowery was named to both the NASPA Faculty Fellows and NASPA Editorial Board.

Dr. John Mueller was elected to serve as Chairperson (2012-2013) of ACPA's Commission on Professional Preparation.

Convention Presentations

Dr. Holley Belch, ACPA, presented "Educating Students with Psychiatric of Disabilities: Needed Practitioner Skills and Competencies."

Dr. John Wesley Lowery, NASPA, presented several sessions including, "Student Religious Groups' First Amendment Rights after Hastings."

Dr. John Mueller, ACPA, presented several programs including "Power, Privilege, and Oppression: Analyzing Difficult Dialogues."

Professional Updates

Sara Adams ('02) recently accepted a position at her alma mater, Susquehanna University, as the Music Admissions Coordinator and Assistant to the Department of Music.

James Barricelli ('04) started a new position as the Associate Director for Employer Relations at the George Washington University School of Business.

Jarrod Cruz ('06) has accepted a position as the Director of Multicultural & Diversity Affairs at the University of Florida.

Joyce Lewandowski ('07) was promoted to Director of Orientation and Activities at Barnard College.

Kristin Marshal ('10) accepted a residence director position at the University of San Francisco.

Mary Miller ('08) has accepted a position at The George Washington University in the Columbian College of Arts and Sciences as an academic advisor.

Aretha Milligan ('05) was promoted to the position of Assistant Director for Residence Education at The University of Memphis.

Carrie Payne ('00) is now the Coordinator for Strategic Proposal Development at Penn State Erie, The Behrend College. She will also be assisting the Chancellor's office in sponsored faculty research proposals and teaching at Penn State Behrend as she begins her doctorate in Information Systems and Communications at Robert Morris University.

Morgan Rizzardi ('09) accepted a position as the Assistant Director for Admissions at Butler County Community College (BC3) effective May 2, 2011.

Gerald Tang ('08) accepted a position as the Assistant Director of Undergraduate Career Development at Columbia University—Center for Career Education.

Holly Wilson ('09) was recently promoted to Assistant Director of Student Services and Compliance of Financial Aid at the University of Houston- Clear Lake.

Lauren (Kieliszak) Wilusz ('06) was recently promoted within the DeVry, Inc. family to Student Services Supervisor for Chamberlain College of Nursing at the Arlington, VA location.

Personal Updates

Tracy (Chverchko) Anderson ('03) and her husband, David, welcomed Jack Anderson to their family on December 7th, 2010. Their daughter, Lily, turns four in April.

Brynn (Cunningham) Burton ('10) and her husband, Andy, will be moving to Napoli, Italy.

Mary Miller ('08) married Rob Meyer on April 2, 2011 in Washington DC. They recently purchased their first house in Burke, VA.

Erin (Hutley) Yokum ('05), her husband, Steve, and four year old son, Jacob, welcomed Emily Katherine Yokum on December 26, 2010.

Nominations and Contributions

Alumni Nominations:

Please email names and addresses of students you would like to nominate to receive a SAHE information packet to sahe-admissions@iup.edu. Thank you!

The **Nancy Newkerk Scholarship** – Awarded to a second-year master's student whose contributions during the first year of their program demonstrated the greatest promise for the profession of student affairs. **(Acct # 0374)**

The **Hadley Outstanding Student** – established to recognize outstanding 2nd year students on the basis of academic performance and professional involvement in the SAHE program. **(Acct #0140)**

The **SAHE Development Fund** – Supports the needs of the SAHE program that are not covered by funds from the University (e.g., student support for professional development activities, research support to students, Outstanding Scholar Award, Outstanding SAHE Alumni award). **(Acct # 4647)**

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