

Developments



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

Fall 2015
Volume 28
Issue 1



A Warm Welcome for the Class of 2017

The SAHE Department welcomed the Class of 2017 into the program on August 28, 2015 during the annual Kick-Off program at the IUP College Lodge. Kick-Off included presentations by the faculty and social events planned by Associates for Student Development (ASD). Incorporating theory into his presentation, Dr. John Mueller spoke to students about the four stages of graduate student adjustment into academic life. Through a brainstorming activity, Dr. Mimi Benjamin helped students find their niche in Student Affairs. During a visual example involving her own juggling skills, Dr. Holley Belch presented about “juggling” the responsibilities of graduate school and your assistantship. Finally, Dr. John Lowery wrapped up the presentations with some words of advice for new students.

After the faculty presentations, second year students joined the first years for a pizza party and some bonding. Later in the evening, faculty and students had a chance to cut loose and have some fun playing Noodle Ninja, a game involving foam noodles and Jenga pieces. The night concluded with the first year class receiving IUP SAHE pins, an official sign that they are joining a comprehensive community of over 700 alumni.

Now adjusted to graduate school, the class of 2017 is hard at work in their graduate assistantship positions that include Student Life, Office of Housing, Residential Living & Dining, Greek Life, Academic Advising and the SAHE Department. The Class of 2017 is excited and ready to take on graduate school while finding their role in student affairs.

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

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Chair's Corner

Greetings from Stouffer Hall!

I hope that your fall semester is off to a wonderful start and that you are finding both challenge and support in the work that you are doing. As I write this message to you, we are enjoying a week of surprisingly warm weather for this late in the fall.

Here at IUP, the semester is off to a wonderful start and 31 new students joined us this fall. Our overall enrollment remains strong. I fully recognize that we have you to thank for that success. Again this year, the majority of incoming SAHE students described how SAHE program alumni were an important factor in their decision to apply to the program. We graduated a solid group of students last spring and as you will see from the list of their new positions on page 5 of this issue of *Developments*, they have been incredibly successful.

We have had the opportunity to celebrate the accomplishments of several SAHE alumni this semester. Dr. Kevin Bailey (SAHE '90) was recognized as the College of Education & Educational Technology's Alumni-Scholar Award recipient for 2015 during a ceremony in October. I was honored to present this award to Bailey whom I have known for more than two decades. Tom Baker (SAHE '05) was recognized in November as one of IUP's recipients of the 2015 Young Alumni Achievement Award.

We have already begun actively recruiting the next cohort of SAHE students and hope that you will continue to refer your best and brightest students to us. Students who are interested in the program should be encouraged to visit the [SAHE website](#) for more information. They can also email us with any questions they may have at sahе-admissions@iup.edu. At your request, we can send you posters to display in your office and materials to share with prospective students.

On a more personal note, I am having a great semester. I am enjoying my continued involvement in APSCUF as the Chair of the Meet and Discuss Team which meets each month with the senior administration to discuss important issues. I have been traveling as my schedule allows. The most rewarding recent activity was undoubtedly my participation in the [Roundtable on Addressing Violence Against Women in the Campus Student Conduct Process](#) organized by the U.S. Department of Justice's Office of Violence Against Women in partnership with the Victim Rights Law Center and the Mississippi Coalition Against Sexual Assault. The invited participants included representatives of the U.S. Department of Justice and U.S. Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights, the Office of the Vice President of the United States, attorneys from law firms specializing in higher education law as well as campus-based attorneys, national advocacy groups, national consultancy groups, and representatives of colleges and universities across the country. We spent two days discussing the difficult problem of sexual violence on campus. I was also excited to participate in the [Clery Center for Security on Campus' 25th Anniversary Clery Conference](#) in Washington, DC this November.

I look forward to crossing paths with many of you in the spring at ASCA and NASPA. With NASPA nearby in Indianapolis and ACPA meeting in Canada, we will have our annual alumni reception at NASPA this year.

Warmly,



John Wesley Lowery, Ph.D.

Professor and SAHE Department Chair



Mimi Benjamin

Summer, fall and winter are all on my mind as I write this update for *Developments*. Summer, which seems long ago now, included teaching Practicum and Interpersonal Sensitivity, participating in a [Learning Communities Think Tank](#) at Elon University in North Carolina, and finalizing a manuscript on RA learning outcomes that is slated for publication in spring 2016. Fall, which we're enjoying as I write, has found me teaching my usual courses, meeting with new advisees (and returning ones as well), and starting new projects while trying to finish existing ones (one manuscript on a study of what peer judicial board members learn MUST be finished before long so that I can finally check it off my list!). And then there's winter, more about temperatures and weather than an academic season for me, which will include wrapping up another semester, enjoying the holidays, and preparing for another new course for the Spring semester. As we make a curriculum change, moving the Assessment and Evaluation course to the final semester of the second year, we need one year where we offer four sections of the Interventions course. Dr. John Mueller and I will each teach two sections during this transition year – thus, another new course for me to learn from and about! During all of these seasons, I continue to work on projects with a variety of colleagues on the transition experiences of student affairs administrators who become tenure-track faculty members (like me!), learning community studies which include a continued project with Dr. Holley Belch as well as a potential book about residential learning communities which resulted from my participation in the summer think tank, and a new project about what students who work in academic libraries learn as a result of their employment. There is certainly no shortage of opportunities in my world!

My most exciting “opportunity” this year, though, was hosting family and friends for our October wedding! The wedding was wonderful, thanks in no small part to alums Shannon O'Reilly (Class of 2014) and Zac Saeva (Class of 2014) who both helped out with what was essentially a large-scale program! Shannon's day-of coordination and Zac's excellent DJ-ing helped make it a fun and memorable day. I'm grateful to all of my colleagues, current students, and alums for their kind wishes on our special day, and I look forward to seeing those of you who will be attending NASPA in Indianapolis in the Spring!



Holley Belch

Hello All! As I compose this update to you on an early November day, with blue sky and sunshine (yes, I am in Indiana, PA) that bring 70+ degree temperatures, I am uncertain whether that means a more harsh winter, a less harsh one, or it simply means it is a beautiful day. Honestly, it really does not matter if you simply enjoy what you get or have on any given day.

The rhythm of college campuses in the fall, the changing landscape signaling the transition to winter, and the anticipation of a holiday break combine to assure us that what we know, what we anticipate, and what we look forward to are all part of the process of living and working.

The annual fall update for me includes a trip to ACPA last spring and presenting a program with Mimi Benjamin. Commencement time took me to Boston to watch my oldest niece graduate from college at Gillette Stadium (where the Patriots play) – impressive (both her graduation and the stadium). Many of us spend each spring attending a graduation ceremony and the feeling is a familiar one. When it is family though, there is something special and profound about it.

Summer offered an opportunity to teach the American College Student in June again as well as time to renew. The family visit to Vermont preceded visiting some of my favorite places in New England (Rockport, MA, the old neighborhood in western MA, Portland and Kittery, ME) and dear friends, and included the pursuit of the perfect cup of chowda and abundant lobster. Other travel took a backseat this year because of the need for new landscaping (don't ask).

A new group of students has arrived and are really terrific. The second year students, as is typical, are trying to prepare for the transition from graduate school to the professional world – one foot in each world I suppose for many of them. As expected, it is the rhythm of SAHE.

I look forward to seeing some of you at NASPA this year and catching up on what's happening with you. Wishing you all well and hope you are looking forward to seeing the new Peanuts movie as much as I am.



John Mueller

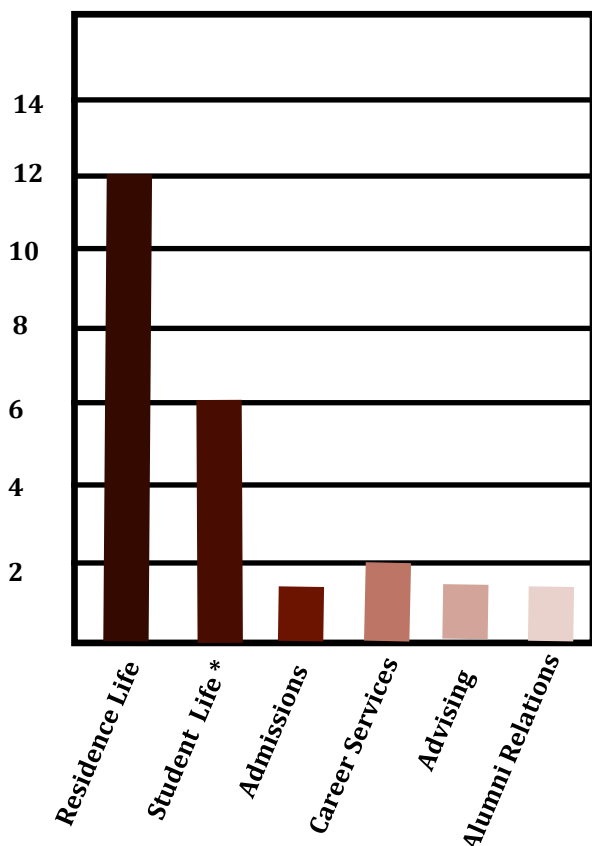
Greetings from western PA where autumn is about as fall-like as it can be. Speaking of fall...this past spring I got to experience it in the month of May in the southern hemisphere of our planet. With students and colleagues from Bowling Green State University, I participated in a two-week study tour of higher education in South Africa. The tour included institutional site visits at Tschwane University of Technology, University of Pretoria, University of the Witwatersrand, University of the Free State, University of the Western Cape, University of Cape Town, and Stellenbosch University. The tour also included a number of natural, cultural, and historical sites, including the Pilanesberg National Park, the Apartheid Museum, the Institute for Justice and Reconciliation, Cape of Good Hope, and Robben Island (where Nelson Mandela was imprisoned). A highlight of the trip was a three-hour hike up Table Mountain in Capetown (thank goodness for the cable-car ride down!). There were many lessons on the trip, but for me one of the biggest takeaways was the lingering effect of apartheid on all aspects of the South African society, including higher education. The rest of the summer (and well into the fall) has been occupied with a number of home improvement projects. Fortunately, there was time for short get-aways (e.g., riding the Hoodlebug Trail) and bigger get-aways (e.g., Put-in-Bay, OH and a White Sox/Cubs match-up in my hometown of Chicago).

I'm back in the swing of things with our Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion class (formerly "Pluralism") and Student Development in Higher Education I (formerly "Theories"). My work with colleagues at the University of Iowa developing a measurement of defenses in response to privileged identity is also keeping me busy. We are steeped in data collection and analysis (my favorite part of any research project!). On the professional development front, I'm busy with my new role on the ACPA Foundation Board of Trustees.

Away from all things student affairs, I continue to sing with the Renaissance City Choir as we prepare for our annual holiday concert this month which has become a wonderful way to wrap up the year. I'm loving fall, anticipating what winter will bring, and looking forward to spring and ACPA in Montreal!



A Comparison of
Employment by Functional Area
For the Class for 2015



85%
of SAHE graduates from 2015
secured a job in the area of
student affairs by
December 2015

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IUP
SAHE
Stats

* Includes: Student Activities, Study Abroad, Greek Life and Student Conduct



Are They Where They Now?!

Paul Bliss- Morrisville State College (NY)
Residence Hall Director & Assignments Assistant

Michael Botts- Oklahoma State University
Assistant Coordinator of
Student Conduct, Education & Administration

Alyssa Caffareli- Pace University- Pleasantville (NY)
Residence Director

Brandon Carta- Pennsylvania State University
Erie - The Behrend College
Coordinator of Student Involvement for Fraternity & Sorority
Life

Brenda Cruz- Widener University (PA)
Area Coordinator

Jay Cusick- Coastal Carolina College (SC)
Community Coordinator

Ashley Daniels- Maryland
Governor's Office on Service and Volunteerism

Thomas DiRoma- Lynchburg College (VA)
Assistant Director of Student Involvement

Jacklyn Fisher- University of Georgia
Education Abroad Advisor

Britany Gallagher- Keene State College (NH)
Coordinator for Student Activities & Organizations

Devvon Horn- Georgia State University
Residence Hall Director

Jasmine Lee- Thomas Jefferson University (PA)
College of Biomedical Sciences
Admissions Counselor

Christina Moreschi- Allegheny College (PA)
Assistant Director of Career Education

Anna Moronski- Old Dominion University (VA)
Residence Hall Director

Meghan Olbrys- Bridgewater State (MA)
Research Assistant

Sarah Piejko- Morrisville State College (NY)
Residence Director

Emily Savoie- Georgia Southern University
Resident Director

Alyssa Stasicky- University of Southern Mississippi
Residence Life Coordinator

Mitchell Steffey- Saint Anselm College (NH)
Assistant Director of Student Activities & Leadership Programs

Brandi Stretavski- La Roche College (PA)
Student Academic Support Services Program Assistant

Patrick Thomas- Seton Hill University (PA)
Assistant Director of the Annual Fund

Cayla Turner- University of Pittsburgh (PA)
Resident Director

Kathryn Wahls- Westfield State University (MA)
Residence Director

Lauren Watson- Pennsylvania State University
Smeal College of Business
Career Coach

Julia Werkmeister- Duquesne University (PA)
Residence Director

Congratulations
Class 
2015

Alumni Updates

Professional

Jim Kerrigan '87- was appointed as the Director of the Division of Tobacco Prevention for the state of West Virginia.

James Baldwin '93- formerly Assistant Dean of Academic Affairs, registrar and Director of Science in Motion, Baldwin will assume responsibility for the newly created office of Enrollment Management at the University of Pittsburgh at Bradford as its Vice President of Enrollment Management.

Holly Hippensteel '96- has been named Interim Director of Title IX Initiatives and Title IX Coordinator at Carnegie Mellon University in addition to her role as Assistant Dean of Student Affairs.

Rob Levrant '99- became the Director of the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) at University of Nevada, Las Vegas in late September. OLLI at UNLV currently serves over 1,500 retired and semi-retired lifelong learners with 80 courses per semester in subjects ranging from classic literature, history, science and the arts.

Holly Slotterback '04- began a new position as an Academic Learning Specialist for the Student Success Center at Misericordia University on July 1, 2015.

Alicia K. Davin '06- accepted a position at Carnegie Mellon University as an Academic Advisor in the Dietrich College of Humanities and Social Sciences. She is excited to join a team that will be rewriting the general education curriculum and assessing the advising delivery model for the College.

Brad Webb '07- accepted a position as the Assistant Dean, School of Industrial, Computing & Engineering Technologies at Pennsylvania College of Technology.

Amanda L. Lippincott '07- was promoted to Assistant to the President at Ithaca College.

Harold Fields '08- was promoted to Associate Director, Technology & Systems in the Center For Residence Life at The Rochester Institute of Technology.

Margaret Hammond '10- is now the undergraduate academic adviser for the Psychology and Women's Studies programs in the College of the Liberal Arts at Penn State University, University Park.

Ian Reynolds '10- changed jobs in June 2015 to the Assistant Director of Residence life for Facilities and Housing Operations at Elon University in Elon, NC.

Kate (Adams) Colyer '11- began working at Lehigh University as their new Assistant Director of Community Service in July 2015.

Hannah Skarin '12- started at the School of American Ballet at Lincoln Center, in New York City as the Assistant Director of Student Life for Education Programs.

Caitlin Jones '12- is now serving as an Academic Program Specialist for Exploratory Programs at the University of Tampa.

Deana Kalcich '12- was promoted to Assistant Director of Residential Life at Binghamton University in July 2014.

RC Stabile '12- accepted a position at Vanderbilt University as an Area Coordinator.

Emilie (Campbell) Dye '12- now works at Duke University as the Senior Program Coordinator for Education at Duke's Innovation & Entrepreneurship Initiative.

Amanda Cowan '13- became the Assistant Director of Residence Life at Washington & Jefferson College.

Kristin Brewer '13- changed jobs from Hall Director at Bowling Green State University (July '13-June '15), to Area Coordinator at Baldwin Wallace University (July '15)

Are you going to the
NASPA Annual Conference in March?



Make sure to stop by the
IUPSAHE social!

More information to follow

Accomplishments/Accolades

Liz Sechler '97- completed her PhD in Human Development with a concentration in Higher Education, from Marywood University in Scranton, PA. Her dissertation title was "Social Entrepreneurship in Housing and Residence Life Departments."

Mysti Dinger '99- was selected as the 2016 Conference Chair for the Annual Pennsylvania Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (PASFAA) conference. The conference will take place October 24 - 26, 2016 in Hershey, PA.

Jana Valentine '03- served as the conference co-chair for the Association for Student Affairs at Catholic Colleges and Universities Annual Conference hosted at Providence College in 2015.

Dana (Puglisi) Winters '08- received a grant from the NASPA Foundation to fund her dissertation research entitled, "College Student Development: Self-Authoring in an Era of Increased Parental Involvement." Dana was also appointed to the review board of the Research in Brief/On Campus section of the *Journal of College Student Development*.

Morgan Rizzardi '09- graduated from Leadership Butler County on September 9th, 2015. The class raised \$30,000 for MHY Family Services in Mars, PA for an outdoor classroom for students who live on their campus.

Caitlin Jones '12- won the University of South Florida Staff Pride Award at the annual Community LGBT Gala.

Kristin Brewer '13- was the Bowling Green State University (BGSU) recipient of "Administrative Staff Rookie of the Year" Award, which recognizes an employee who has been with BGSU between one and three years and who has played a key role in implementing a new idea, program or procedure designed to enhance student recruitment, retention or engagement.

Personal

Rob Levrant '99- lives in Henderson, Nevada with his wife Christi, an elementary school teacher and his sons Noah, 15 and David, 7. Previously, he served as Neighborhood Outreach Specialist for the city of Las Vegas, and Director of Housing and Residence Life for Rocky Mountain College in Billings, Montana.

Holly Slotterback '04- became engaged to Randi Lightcap on July 31, 2015. Their wedding is set for June 25, 2016.

Ginny (Naglic) Krumme '05- married Dr. John Krumme on August 29, 2015, SAHE alumnae Erin (Theil) Caporellie '05 and Laura Flynn '05 were bridesmaids.

Councilman Tom Baker '05- was elected to serve on the Board of Visit Pittsburgh and the Board of Breathe, Pennsylvania

Mary (Miller) Meyer '08- in late September Mary, Rob, and their two children, Parker, and Caity moved to Canada for a 3 year PCS (permanent change of station) in affiliation with the US Embassy in Ottawa.

Margaret Hammond '10 & Jared M. Hammond '10- welcomed their first son, William Avett Donohoe Hammond, on January 6, 2014.

Ian Reynolds '10- and wife Tracey are expecting to welcome Baby Reynolds to the world on February 18, 2016.

Daniel Percopo '12- in September, Daniel passed the Designer Society of America, Residential Interior Design exam, making Daniel a DSA Certified Residential Interior Designer.

Caitlin Jones '12- became engaged to Rachel Preston, USF Victim Advocate.

Deana Kalcich '12- married in June of 2015.

RC Stabile '12- completed the Dumbo Double Dare in California (19.3 miles) and placed first in the David & Goliath Crossfit Competition in DeLand, Florida.

Call for Nominations

The SAHE department is now accepting nominations for the **Ron Lunardini Distinguished Alumni Award**. This award is presented to an alumni of the SAHE department who has been a student affairs professional for at least five years and whose practice reflects the standards and values of the SAHE department.

Details on the nomination criteria and process are available on the SAHE website below. Nominations are due by February 1, 2016 and the announcement of the recipient will be made prior to the NASPA and ACPA conventions.

Please consider nominating one of your SAHE colleagues and/or mentors who is deserving of this recognition. If you're considering nominating someone and/or have any questions, feel free to contact John Mueller at jmueller@iup.edu.

Please visit our website for more information: <http://www.iup.edu/page.aspx?id=87997>



Last year's recipient:

TiRease Holmes '02

Director of Off-Campus and Commuter Communities

LaSalle University

Alumni Honored by The College of Education & Educational Technology

Bailey Receives 2015 Alumni Scholar Award

On October 27, **Dr. Kevin Bailey '90** received the 2015 Alumni Scholar Award from the College of Education and Educational Technology. Bailey, who also received his bachelor's degree from IUP, currently works at the University of West Florida as the Vice President of Student Affairs. Recognized by his numerous leadership roles in student affairs professional organizations, Bailey has received the Ronald Lunardini Distinguished Alumni Award in 2009 from the SAHE department, and was honored by NASPA as a member of the 2015 Pillars of the Profession Class. As a presenter, author, consultant, and educator, he speaks passionately about his experiences, particularly working with crisis management. While visiting campus to receive his award, Bailey took time to speak with current graduate students of the SAHE program. He spoke in the Management of Organizational Behavior course where he shared his experience at Tulane University during the time of Hurricane Katrina. In addition, Bailey offered his professional advice about entering the field of student affairs.



Bailey returned to Bowling Green State University, where he received his doctorate in higher education ('99), to deliver the 26th Annual SaddleMire Lecture, "Reflections on a 25-year Career."

Baker Receives 2015 Young Alumni Achievement Award

On November 8, **Tom Baker '05** received the 2015 Young Alumni Achievement Award as a graduate of the College of Education and Educational Technology.

Sponsored by the IUP Ambassadors, students who provide support to the Alumni Relations Office, the Young Alumni Achievement Award was created to recognize recent IUP graduates who have made an outstanding contribution to their professions and introduce these alumni to current IUP students as examples of exceptional achievement.

Baker was one of six distinguished alumni who graduated from IUP in the past 15 years, chosen by the deans of their respective colleges to receive the award.

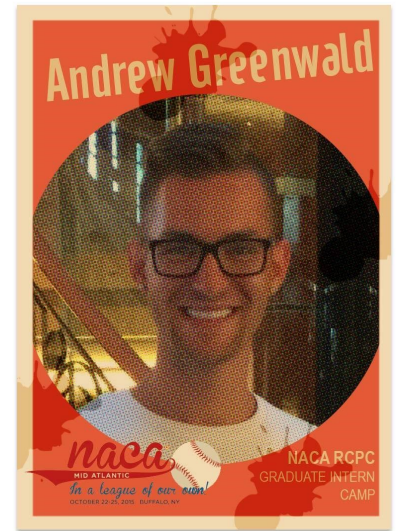
Baker serves as the Allegheny County Councilman and Chief Community Affairs Officer at Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Pittsburgh. He returned to campus on Sunday, November 8, to attend the Young Alumni Networking Dinner, where he was seated with current undergraduate students and shared career advice.

On Monday, Baker spent time with current students of the SAHE program to speak about the importance of getting involved and finding their passion.



Student Accomplishments

Andrew Greenwald '16- was one of four Graduate Interns selected for the Mid Atlantic regional conference planning committee for the NACA (National Association for Campus Activities) Mid Atlantic conference in Buffalo, NY, with the theme of "In a League of Our Own." Andrew also had the opportunity to present an educational session, titled, "How to Make Sure your Program/Service is a Homer: The Value of Conducting Peer Audits."



Andrew Greenwald '16 at the NACA conference

Anthony Majer '16- and Li Teng, Residence Director, presented a session titled "Gender-Neutral Housing: Stay Neutral when Accommodating Gender-Nonconforming Students" at the annual MACUHO (Mid-Atlantic Association of College and University Housing Officers) Conference, hosted by Pennsylvania State University, University Park on October 29-30.

Brandon Sousa '17- presented at the University of Pittsburgh Greensburg Leadership Conference, on November 14. His presentation titled, "Ready. Set. Goal!" assisted undergraduate student with creating and acting on goals.

Joe Corcoran '16- presented at the Association of International Educators' (NAFSA) region VIII conference in Alexandria, Virginia in November. He presented with Li Teng, a Resident Director at IUP, on "Effective Collaboration to Decrease the International Student Involvement Gap" and again with Jocelyn Amevuvor and Jessica Dories from the Office of International Education, in a presentation titled, "Assessing the Needs of IUP's African Student Population."

Jessica M. Fitzpatrick '16- presented at the 34th Annual Pennsylvania College Personnel Association (PCPA) Conference in Gettysburg, PA about the next cohort generation of students entering higher education with a program titled, "Understanding #GenZ: A Millennial's Perspective."



Jessica Fitzpatrick '16 Presenting at the PCPA conference

Jamaal Gosa '17- presented at the 8th annual mentoring conference of The Mentoring Institute at University of New Mexico. The 2015 conference theme was New Perspectives in Mentoring: A Quest for Leadership Excellence & Innovation. His presentation focused on a peer-mentoring program for higher education used at IUP called "Creating Higher Standards."

Kristen DeGraff '16- was awarded the 2015 Get Involved! SAHE Student Leadership Award. This award was created by Tom Baker '05, who encourages students to make a sincere difference on the campus where they work, and to better serve the SAHE community.

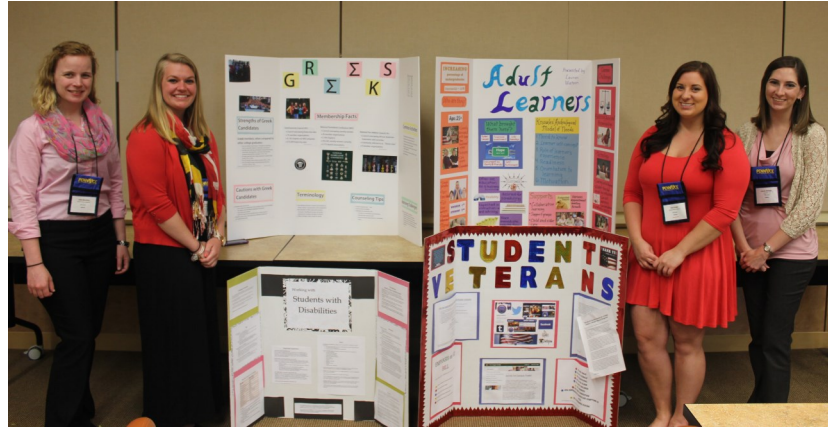


Kristen DeGraff '16 poses with Tom Baker '05

Student Accomplishments

Melissa Gaskill '16 and Lauren Watson '15- presented at the Pennsylvania Association of Colleges and Employers (PennACE) conference in May 2015. Melissa's poster presentation was on how Career Services professionals can reach, utilize, and better serve Greek students.

Michele Magliulo '17- was selected to be a TPE (The Placement Exchange) Ambassador, which will take place in Indianapolis, (IN). She also serves as an ACPA Ambassador.



Melissa Gaskill '16 (second from the right) and Lauren Watson '15 (first on the left) at PennACE

Steven Marks '16- was selected by Tom Borellis (Office of Special Projects) to serve on the IUP Bike Committee. The Committee focuses on developing safe and effective bike routes through IUP's campus. He also was elected by the Indiana Borough Council Members into the Indiana Borough Shade Tree Commission. The commission focuses on tree maintenance and planting on public property. Additionally, Marks along with Betsy Sarneso ('94) and Downtown Indiana, received recognition from U.S. Senator Pat Toomey for their initiative, the Hawk Walk; a campus/community "Welcome to the Neighborhood" program.

2015 Nancy Newkerk Scholarship

On November 4, 2015, the department announced the recipient of the Nancy Newkerk Scholarship for 2015: Jackie Hackett.

Jackie Hackett is a graduate of Marshall University located in Huntington, West Virginia, and is a current SAHE graduate student. She holds a graduate assistantship in Greek Life in the Center for Student Life at Indiana University of Pennsylvania. At the scholarship presentation, Dr. John Lowery shared quotes from letters in support of Hackett's nomination: "I very much enjoy collaborating with Jackie, as she is a gifted scholar and skilled practitioner. I trust Jackie, her abilities and her values. She is a strong, positive role-model." Another letter of support described Jackie as possessing "promise in the profession" who "conducts deep, sophisticated and theoretically grounded interventions with students."

Awarded since 1999, the Nancy Newkerk Scholarship is awarded to a second-year SAHE graduate student who demonstrates outstanding contributions to college students, student affairs activities, the SAHE Department, and the broader higher education community.

Nancy Newkerk served as Dean of Women at IUP (then Indiana State Teachers College) from 1957 to 1967 and as Associate Dean of Admissions at IUP from 1978 until her retirement in 1994. She was awarded the IUP President's Medal of Distinction in 2009.



Jackie Hackett '15 stands with the faculty

Associates for Student Development



Playing Noodle Ninja at the Kick-Off event!

The graduate student organization specific to SAHE, Associates for Student Development (ASD), welcomed the incoming class at the Annual Kick-Off event. The theme for this year's Kick-Off was based on the Olympics. The event allowed first and second years to relax together after the first week of classes.

Throughout the semester, the Vice President of Professional Development, Jessica Fitzpatrick '16 organized several professional development opportunities for students that included guest appearances by a variety of alumni. Past Pennsylvania College Personnel Association (PCPA) president, **Morgan Rizzardi** '09, joined an event focused on joining professional organizations, and attending and budgeting for conferences. Utilizing technology, **Ben Falter** '05, was able to video chat with students about the unique functional area of crisis management.

Jessica also organized a series of events, called "Panel of Professionals", in which alumni were able to give advice to students about different functional areas and institutions they currently work in. Alumni participants included: **Cynthia Rose** '10, Northwestern University; **Kristin Brewer** '13, Baldwin Wallace University; **James Barricelli** '04, University of North Carolina, Chapel-Hill (Kenan-Flagler Business School); **Nicki Croly** '09, California State University Sacramento; **Megan Albidrez** '02, North Carolina State University; and **Carleen Pallante** '04, St. Lawrence University. When visiting campus to present a Six O'Clock Series, alumna **Jamie Piperato** '13 stopped in to talk with students in a presentation titled *Discovering the Leader Inside*.



2014 alumna Jamie Piperato takes a selfie with students after presenting at a brown bag event.

Elections for the new ASD E-Board were announced in November and the current E-Board is excited to transition their leadership roles over to the Class of 2017 and see what new leadership they will bring to the organization.

Wrapping up the semester, ASD hosted its annual Thanksgiving dinner where students were encouraged to bring food items to donate to a local food pantry. To celebrate the holiday season, ASD will also host a festive themed party at the end of the semester.

ASD thanks all the alumni who took time out of their schedules to assist students with professional development. We also thank Dr. Mimi Benjamin for her outstanding support and reassurance serving as the faculty advisor.



The new E-Board (front row) stands with their predecessors

ASD Executive Board

	Current	New
President	Kristen DeGraff	Gail DeShields
Vice President Administration & Finance	Keith Davidson	Kathy Alvarado
Vice President Professional Development	Jessica Fitzpatrick	Jessica Tallant
Vice President Programming	Julie Cogley	Brianna Rojas
Vice President Public Relations	Carmine Biancamano	Amy Sawdey

A United Cohort

Written by Michael Squirrel '17

I've been a SAHE student for nearly two months. I'm new to the Indiana area. Before I moved here, I knew that I would thrive in this program because of my passion for student affairs. While I certainly have thrived for that very reason, there was something unexpected and significant that has truly enabled me.

That unexpected thing was my cohort. The SAHE cohort is comprised of some of the most incredible people I have ever met. It goes without saying that the folks I work with at my assistantship and the faculty of the program are themselves wonderful, but my experience so far has been largely defined by the immense bonds of friendship I have formed with my cohort.

The cohort of people who surround me are beyond uplifting and empowering, seemingly without any effort at all. At no point yet have I ever felt awkward, uncomfortable, or hurt by another student in the cohort. It feels as if *The Avengers* have leapt right off the movie screen and become a part of SAHE.

In private or small-group interactions with my cohort, I have heard fascinating life stories and inspiring beliefs and outlooks on life. In the classroom and any larger-size group, collective effervescence rules the day. Students will ask questions to the professor in class, and other students will respond, helpfully and respectfully, or perhaps acknowledge that the question was also on their mind. The culture of support is immense.



Lauren Zahour, Kayla Grosjean, and I volunteering at the homecoming parade.

On a recent Friday evening, no one in the cohort had any plans and all were staying at home, which is no way for any living person to spend a Friday. Through a rapid series of social media interactions, texts, and phone calls, we threw together a game night that a fair number of us attended. While this example is simple, appreciating the time we spend with others is not something to take for granted, particularly in fun social settings that



Creating the "flying wedge" in John Lowery's History in American Higher Education course.

contrast the rigor of the program. The point of this article is not merely to express gratitude for those around me. What I have genuinely experienced and learned by being around such great people is that the culture within a graduate cohort can and will have a substantial effect on each student's overall experience. I would highly encourage all future graduate students, of SAHE or any program, to foster the level of civility and support that my cohort has been so blessed with. This means taking the time to meet and get to know as many cohort members as possible, interacting with them both inside and outside of the classroom, sharing your experiences specifically with them on social media (and inviting them to have new experiences with you!), all well in advance of even *starting* the program. If you feel like your own cohort isn't excellent to the point where you regularly feel inspired, start building bridges and set the example for the type of awesome community you want to be a part of.



Ashley Baksis '17, Ashley Reese '17, and me with Holley Belch during Kick-Off!

Students Travel Abroad

Written by Jackie Hackett '16

In May 2015, **Jessica Fitzpatrick '16**, **Amanda Heflin '16** and I, participated in Bowling Green State University's (BGSU) Study Tour program through the institution's College Student Personnel program. We travelled to England, Wales, and Ireland with 23 other students and the program coordinator, Dr. Mike Coomes. In addition to the BGSU students, there were students from many different institutions from across the United States who joined us.

The trip started in London, England, where we visited with the University of London at Birkbeck and learned about AMOSSHE, the United Kingdom's student services organization. We spent two days in London sightseeing before visiting the historic university, Oxford. From England, we traveled to Wales. Spending four days in Cardiff, Wales, we visited the University of Cardiff, the University the West of England (in Bristol, England), and had free days to explore the cities.

Travelling by ferry and bus, we made our way to Ireland. Our first spot in Ireland was Galway, where we visited the National University of Ireland, Galway. We also toured the University of Limerick, the University College of Cork, Trinity College, Dublin, and Ireland's Higher Education Authority. While on these tours, we had the opportunity to meet with various professionals and students at the institution who spoke to us about their experiences. We went on historic walking tours through fascinating cities, dined in local restaurants and pubs, visited the Cliffs of Moher, and saw various sites and attractions, which created wonderful memories for all of us.



Jessica and I took in the sights at the Cliffs of Moher with students from Bowling Green State University and St. Thomas University.

This experience gave us the opportunity to learn about various higher education institutions abroad while exploring the culture of the United Kingdom and the Republic of Ireland. By comparing and contrasting what student affairs and higher education look like in these countries, we gained a stronger understanding of student affairs and higher education in the United States.

Overall, we had a great experience abroad (for all of us, our first time abroad) and made many friendships with graduate students from across the country.



In Cardiff we had an opportunity to visit historical sights like Cardiff Castle.



Jessica and Amanda pose by the iconic Tower Bridge in London.

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