

DEVELOPMENTS

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

Student Affairs in
Higher Education

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2009 RONALD LUNARDINI DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD WINNER

Indiana University of Pennsylvania's Department of Student Affairs in Higher Education (SAHE) is pleased to announce Dr. Julie B. Elkins as the recipient of the Ronald Lunardini Distinguished Alumni Award for 2010. Julie is a 1985 graduate of SAHE who went on to earn her doctorate at the University of Massachusetts, Boston. She is currently the Director of Academic Initiatives for the National Campus Compact. Her professional experience also includes positions at the University of Connecticut, Framingham State College, the University of Delaware and Indiana University of Pennsylvania. Julie's accomplishments go beyond her fine work as a practitioner and faculty member. She has held many leadership positions in both ACPA and NASPA, has been involved numerous collaborative activities, has been honored with multiple awards including one bearing her name for outstanding community service, and has presented numerous educational programs. Most prominent in the letters of nomination and support for Julie were her dedication to students, her unwavering commitment to social justice, her skills as a mentor, her outreach efforts to her community, and her leadership on campus and in many professional organizations.



Julie Elkins

The award was presented IUP Reception for Alumni and Friends on March 22, 2010 at the annual convention of the American College Personnel Association (ACPA) in Boston, MA. The award selection committee (comprised of faculty, students, and alumni) reviewed nomination materials from several fine individuals, all of whom have exceptional accomplishments in and contributions to the student affairs profession. In her review of Julie's nomination, one of the selection committee members affirmed, "It seems she doesn't just leave her job at 5:00pm, but truly lives out the values of the being a graduate of the SAHE program and a student affairs professional every day and night."

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 (18 as a SAHE faculty member), the award title was changed to honor him. Previous recipients include: (2006) Bob Gatti ('78), (2007) Peter C. Groenendyk ('94), and (2008) Becky L. Verzinski ('94), (2009) Kevin W. Bailey ('90).

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

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Visit us on the web
<http://www.iup.edu/sahe>

Inside...

- Page 2 -

Message from the Chair
Application Deadline Change

- Page 3 -

Recognition /Awards

- Page 4 -

ACPA Reception
Faculty Updates

- Page 5 -

Faculty Updates

- Page 6 -

SAHE Visitation & ACPA student
presenters

- Page 7 -

SAHE Facebook Fan page
Electronic Resumes

Western NY Placement Exchange

- Page 8 -

Twitter and Student Affairs
Alumni Updates

- Page 9 -

Alumni Updates

- Page 10 -

Nominations and Contributions



End of the Year Reflections

Submitted by Dr. Linda Hall

Greetings from SAHE!

It is a gorgeous April Fool's Day today, 72 degrees, and sunny. My office windows are wide open and I am simultaneously engaged in writing this note to you and eavesdropping on the chatter between construction workers hanging off the building just outside my window. The new construction on and just-off-campus is amazing, providing students so many living options. If you haven't seen the campus lately, you'd be amazed at the difference. It has been an interesting year, and we are all feeling the pressure of economics and budget decreases on campus. However, our dean, Dr. Mary Ann Rafoth, is incredibly creative and resourceful in financial matters and we have appreciated her support for our program so very much.



Soon there will be 30 plus new SAHE alums! They are counting the days and of course looking for professional positions in student affairs. They are an incredibly sharp bunch of people who are well prepared for the new positions they will assume. Their mini-resumes can be found on our SAHE webpage at www.iup.edu/sahe and I hope that you will check these out if you are hiring or know someone who is. (This class decided NOT to send out hard copy mini-resumes as one good step toward sustainability, so please rely on our web information.)

I hope that this letter finds you well and looking forward to wrapping up the academic year. We know that you lead very busy professional and personal lives, but it is always wonderful to receive a brief email update with information about you or your campus. We also appreciate the referrals you've made to our program of your finest undergrads who are thinking about a career in student affairs. We are doing well and we love to hear your news. We appreciate your loyalty to and support for the SAHE program.

Keep in touch!

SAHE Application Deadline Changed

As many of you may be familiar with, the application deadline for IUP's SAHE program has traditionally been February 1st. From this point forward, the date has been moved to January 15th. We are currently working to update our website and materials to reflect this change. If you know of any students who are interested in the program or are planning to apply, or if you come across someone who you feel would be a great addition to the SAHE program, please make sure they are aware of this new deadline.





Current Students Receive Second Annual Dodge/Kelly Scholarship

Karl Bluemel, Brynn Cunningham, and Margaret Hammond each received financial support from SAHE alumni Michael Dodge '06 and Deena Kelly '06 to cover the cost of their registration for the ACPA convention.

“Mike and I are really excited to have three award winners this year and look forward to joining them in Boston,” wrote Kelly in announcing this year’s scholarship recipients. “It means a great deal to us to help SAHE students in the next step of their career planning. Congratulations to Brynn, Karl, and Margaret!”

This is the second 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 Boston in March.



From left to right: Michael Dodge , Margaret Hammond, Karl Bluemel, Brynn Cunningham, and Deena Kelly.

The Nancy Newkerk Award and ASD Elections

Congratulations go out to the Nancy Newkerk Award recipient, Brynn Cunningham. 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 2009.



From left to right: Dr. John Mueller, Dr. Linda Hall, Ms. Nancy Newkerk, Brynn Cunningham, Dr. Holley Belch, and Dr. John Wesley Lowery

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

Laura Deely – President
Kyle MacDonald – VP Administration
Martin Sagendorf – VP Professional Development
Shauna Sergent – VP Programming
Megan Stahl – VP Public Relations

Congratulations to Brynn and the new ASD executive board!





SAHE Reception at ACPA



Dr. Mueller presenting Alumni Award to Julie Elkins ('85)
 Photographs contributed by Jessica Speece ('10) and Craig Pickett ('10)

IUP SAHE Alumni and Friends Reception was held this year at the ACPA Convention in Boston, MA. The event recognized Julie Elkins ('85) as the Lunardini Distinguished Alumni Award winner as well as 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 you next year at ACPA in Baltimore, MD.

Faculty Updates

Dr. John Wesley Lowery

Greetings from western Pennsylvania where spring seems to be slowly arriving. After one of the worst winters in history, the spring's arrival is welcome. Margaret, our 6 year old daughter, made the most of the snow including sled riding, snowmen, and snowball fights. She has also embraced winter sports like ice skating and hockey.

This has been another busy semester for me at IUP as I am teaching Assessment and Evaluation which I have been working to revise after teaching it for the first time last year. I continue to coordinate the SAHE Comprehensive Exam, but this has proven easier this year in light of my growing familiarity with the program. This semester has also been busy with conference travel, presentations, and consultation work. I attended and made multiple presentations at the ASCA Conference in Florida, the Linda B. Floyd Campus Safety Conference in Charleston, and the NASPA Conference. I have also been involved at consulting projects with Lafayette College, Northern Illinois University, the University of San Diego, and Security on Campus. Added benefits of all this travel include the opportunity to meet IUP alumni from around the country and to help promote the SAHE program.



Dr. John Wesley Lowery

My upcoming professional activities will include the ASCA Donald D. Gehring Academy for Student Conduct Administration in June at the University of Utah. In addition to presenting, I am serving as the coordinator of the Training Institute which offers 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. After the Gehring Institute, I will travel to the University of the Redlands to participate in the NASPA Small Colleges & Universities Institute.

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





Dr. Holley A. Belch

It's official. . . the icecap has melted and you can actually see Indiana, PA again. How appropriate that this winter brought unprecedented (at least in my time in PA) snowfall, particularly in February, to the Christmas Tree Capital of the World!

Spring arrived and the memories of being one with my snow blower began to fade. The spring semester each year seems to pass quickly. I enjoyed hosting the departmental reception at ACPA in Boston this year and it was wonderful to those of you who attended. I particularly enjoyed meeting my "Flat Stanley" look-alike and hearing all about those adventures. I continue to serve as the Associate Editor of ACPA's Books & Media Board along with my other responsibilities in service to the University, my teaching, and my scholarship. Recently, with a colleague I have initiated a national research study about the experience of student affairs professionals with students with psychiatric disabilities. Hopefully, I'll be presenting those results at next year's APCA convention in Baltimore.

Summer plans include teaching the American College Student and analyzing and writing about the results of the new research study. Although plans for travel haven't been finalized, I know I'll be visiting New England and suspect that my travels will take me to new places as well. Once again, I vow to play more golf!



Dr. Holley A. Belch

Dr. John A. Mueller

Way back in February (Groundhog's Day, in fact) it was predicted that we would see six more weeks of winter. What they didn't predict was the four (snow) days of cancelled classes! It's certainly been a challenging semester and I welcome the warm breezes, soft spring rains, budding trees, and sundowns late into the evening. The highlight for me this spring, as always, was the ACPA convention in Boston; seeing our alumni as they grow in their professional careers and watching our current students volunteer at the convention, work the Career Center, impress prospective employers, and attend (and present) many educational programs. One particular highlight for me was, on behalf of the department, presenting Julie Elkins ('85) with the Ron Lunardini Distinguished Alumni Award. I also got to attend a reception where Raechele Pope ('81) was inducted in to the Diamond Honoree Class of 2010. My semester will wrap up with singing in the Renaissance City Choirs' 25th anniversary concert and then presenting with Mara Iverson ('11) and Stacie Mann ('10) at IUP's first-ever Gender and Sexuality Symposium. Summer will include facilitating the practicum course and moving along on some writing projects. At the end of May, I'll be joining my classmates for a reunion of St. Alexander's (my grade school) class of 1975. Who would have known 35 years ago we'd be arranging this reunion on something called Facebook! Best wishes to all SAHE students, graduates, alumni and friends as we move into summer—shake off the cold, relax, and enjoy!



Dr. John A. Mueller





SAHE Visitation Weekend

In March, SAHE held the annual Visitation Weekend. Forty-nine prospective students joined us from California, New Jersey, North Carolina, Ohio, Michigan, Indiana, New York, Connecticut, Massachusetts, Maryland, Texas, West Virginia, Virginia, and Pennsylvania. We also had nearly 30 different undergraduate majors represented from Biology and Psychology to Music and Business 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 2010

Photographs courtesy of
Laura Deely ('11)

SAHE Students Present at ACPA Conference in Boston

A number of second year students from the SAHE department presented at the American College Personnel Association (ACPA) convention in Boston on March 20-24, 2010.

Presenters included:

Brynn Cunningham, co-presenting with Pete Mather of Ohio University, presented "Service-Learning as Professional Development."

Margaret Hammond, joined by *Jared Hammond*, presented her thesis research, "Faculty Perceptions of Student Affairs' Role in Student Learning."

Jason Lee presented his thesis research, "Debt Management and the First Generation Student Thinking Beyond Access."

David Tiscione presented his thesis research, "Attitudes, Behaviors and Possible Effects of a Lower Drinking Age."

Congratulations to the presenting students!





RIT Hosts the Western NY Placement Exchange

Submitted by Harold Fields ('08)

The Western NY Placement Exchange (WNYPE) was recently held in Rochester, New York on the campus of the Rochester Institute of Technology. This regional placement exchange sponsored by the RIT Center for Residence Life and NEACUHO has been slowly growing over the past 6 years as more employers discover the quality candidates this placement exchange attracts and candidates become aware of this unique economical experience. WNYPE, a one day placement experience took place on March 1, 2010. WNYPE is a great value for candidates who are interested in institutions in the Western New York Region as registration, lunch and overnight accommodations at the RIT Inn & Conference Center are all complimentary. This year several SAHE students, including Jason Lee ('10), Daniel Pretz ('10), Michael Mullen ('10) & Kelly Hojnacki ('09), traveled to Rochester to take advantage of this great opportunity. These SAHE students were just a few of the over 80 candidates who interviewed for 30+ positions at more than 20 institutions. Dates for next year's WNYPE will be published in the fall.

SAHE Mini-Resume Program Update

Submitted by Brynn Cunningham ('10)

The Mini Resume program underwent some significant changes this year. The Associates for Student Development executive board made the decision to increase the half-page resumes to one full page and forego printing and mailing the resumes for solely electronic versions in an effort to make the program more environmentally friendly and cost efficient. A number of Senior Student Affairs Officers received postcards announcing the availability of the resumes online.

A second change made was the creation of functional area categories, which are as follows: Academic Advising, Admissions, Career Planning/Placement, Commuter Services, Disabled Student Services, Financial Aid, Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual Awareness, Greek Affairs, Health/Drug and Alcohol Education, International Students, Intramural/Recreation, Judicial Affairs, Leadership Development, Multicultural Affairs, Orientation, Religious Programs, Residence Life/Housing, Service Learning, Student Union and Activities, and Women's Resources. Cohort members could choose up to three functional areas under which their resume would be placed on the SAHE web site.

Currently, the 2010 cohort members' resumes are available on the SAHE web site (<http://www.iup.edu/sahe>). The functional area categories will be available on the web site by the end of the spring semester.

SAHE is on Facebook

IUP's Student Affairs in Higher Education program has joined Facebook! With the increased use of social networking platforms entering the field of student affairs, SAHE has created a fan page on Facebook to keep better connected with alumni, staff and friends of the program. Next time you are logged in, search for IUP Student Affairs in Higher Education (SAHE) and become a fan to stay connected to the program!



facebook





Twitter and the Student Affairs Field

Submitted by Brian Root ('06)

We are all aware that student affairs departments across the country are being forced to eliminate financial resources that were at one point dedicated to sending employees to conferences, seminars, and workshops. Professional development resources are all too often the first to get eliminated.

If you're looking for some FREE professional development, now you can join hundreds of other student affairs professionals on Twitter from the comfort of your own office or home! Each week, professionals from across the country gather for student affairs chats, or, in Twitter terms, #sachat.

For those of you not using Twitter, you're missing out on a fabulous professional development and networking opportunity. Not only is it free, but it's a very effective tool for the sharing of ideas and resources.

I completely understand that if you're not using Twitter, then this probably doesn't make any sense to you. The question I commonly get is, "How is Twitter any different than Facebook?" My answer: "While Facebook is a great tool to let you keep in touch with people you already know, Twitter allows you to meet people you don't yet know."

If you think you're up to the challenge, I would encourage you to start by checking out <http://thesabloggers.org/>, which is home to The Student Affairs Collaborative – a student affairs blog bringing together the thoughts and knowledge of professionals across the country.

One of these bloggers – known as @edcabellon on Twitter and Ed Cabellon in real life – recently put together an intro guide for student affairs friends new to the Twitter world. This article, "Teaching Twitter to Your Colleagues" (Jan. 10, 2010), can be found on The Student Affairs Collaborative website.

I would encourage you to start there. Then, join us for one of our upcoming #sachat. We chat every Thursday from 12-1 p.m. CST and 6-7 p.m. CST.

Accomplishments & Accolades

Alumni

Amanda Anderson ('07) co-presented a session titled "Creative Accountability for Millennial Minds" at ACPA this year.

Harold Fields ('08) was named the R.I.T. Special Interest House Advisor of the 08-09 academic year.

Chanel Greene ('98) was selected as a member of the Alice Manicur Symposium for Women Aspiring to be Senior Student Affairs Officers, sponsored by NASPA.

Warren Hilton ('99) wrote an article on Summer Melt for the March 2010 issue of *Student Affairs Today*.

Faculty

Dr. Mueller, was acknowledged by IUP for several publications in 2009 at an Annual Scholarship Dinner.

Publications included a commentary in the *Chronicle of Higher Education*, two book chapters, and three journal articles, each coauthored with a SAHE alumna or alumnus, including Raechele Pope ('81), Jennifer Cole ('05), and Bradley Webb ('07).

Convention Presentations by SAHE Faculty

Dr. Belch, ACPA, presented "Students With Psychiatric/Psychological Disabilities: Acquired Knowledge = Effective Practice."

Dr. Lowery, NASPA, presented four programs including, "The Legacy of the Sit-in Movement and Student Rights"

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





Professional Updates

- Jennifer Cole ('05)** lead a group of seven Gettysburg College students to Leon, Nicaragua on a community development trip. A blog of the trip is available at: <http://nicaraguatrip2010-ic.blogspot.com>
- Bethany DeSalvo ('04)** earned a Ph.D. in Demography from Texas A & M University.
- Meredith Denton ('03)** was recently promoted to Senior Assistant Director of University Housing at Texas Woman's University.
- Michelle Donohue-Mendoza ('96)** earned a Doctorate in Educational Leadership from San Francisco State University. Her dissertation focused on the topic of supervision and the career advancement of women in community college administration.
- Jennifer Gronsky ('02)** accepted the position of Director of Student Programs and Leadership at Thomas Jefferson University.
- Chad Jurica ('09)** accepted a position as the Assistant Director of Admissions for Argosy University Online.
- Melissa McBrayer ('01)** recently accepted a position as the Academic Advisor for the College of Liberal Arts at Penn State, University Park.
- Christina Montville ('07)** was recently promoted to Associate Director of Residential and Card Services at Columbia University.
- Morgan Rizzardi ('09)** has been promoted to the position of KEYS (Keystone Education Yields Success Program Facilitator at Butler County Community College as of January 2010.
- Sharon (Heider) Snow ('96)** is now working for Career Services in the College of Computing, Engineering and Construction at the University of North Florida.
- Amber (Sherman) Valentine ('03)** successfully defended her dissertation examining participation in dual enrollment and/or advanced placement programs and its effects on student success. She will be conferred the degree of D. Ed in Administration and Leadership from IUP.
- Bradley Webb ('07)** accepted a position at the Pennsylvania College of Technology as the Coordinator of Matriculation and Retention for the School of Business and Computer Technologies.
- Dana (Puglisi) Winters ('08)** has begun her Pd.D. program at the University of Pittsburgh in Social and Comparative Analysis in Education.

Personal Updates

- Bob Beyer ('00)** and his wife Karen welcomed Kayla Elizabeth, their second child, on November 3, 2009.
- Harold Fields, Jr. ('08)** married his wife Felicia (Johnson) Fields on November 24th, 2009.
- Jennifer (Browning) Jacoby ('04)** recently married Phil Jacoby on October 14th, 2009 in Orlando, Florida. Sara Adams ('04) served as Maid of Honor.
- Michelle Donohue ('96)** and Graciano Mendoza were married on June 16, 2009.
- Chris Lemasters ('08)** and his wife, Erica are expecting their first child in July of this year.
- Julie (DeMoss) Makuta ('05)** married Brian Makuta on October 24th, 2009. Julie currently works as Assistant to the Dean of Students at LaRoche College in Pittsburgh and Brian is a technical support analyst for WECO Distribution, also in Pittsburgh.
- Holly (Reynolds) Mason ('98)** and husband, Jamie, welcomed Emma Rylee into the family on March 26, 2009.
- Mary Miller ('08)** is engaged to Rob Meyer. They are to be married in Washington, DC on April 2, 2011.
- Lauren (Kieliszak) Wilusz ('06)** and her husband, Joe married in Washington DC in October 2009. They recently purchased their first home in Alexandria, VA.





Nominations and Contributions

Alumni Nominations:

Please email names and addresses of students you would like us to send 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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