HESA Shines in Vegas at ASHE

HESA students and faculty recently attended the annual ASHE conference in mid-November. This year’s conference was in Las Vegas. Vegas’ bright lights and constant energy made the conference very memorable.

Members of the HESA community chaired, discussed, and/or presented on a wide variety of issues. The socialization of doctoral students of color, international education, women’s studies, undocumented students’ identities, and secrets of the search committee process were just a few of the many topics HESA’s students and faculty highlighted at the conference.

Sharon Stein, a second-year MA student, attended ASHE for the first time and presented thesis research at a session, which is very rare for a master’s student.

“ASHE provided a wonderful opportunity to communicate with students and scholars with similar research interests in higher education. In particular, I had valuable discussions with others who utilize critical qualitative approaches to inquiry,” Sharon said.

HESA students and faculty are already gearing up for the next slate of conferences: ACPA, NASPA, AERA, and more. We will see you there! 🌟
Dr. Bonnie Thornton Dill Visits OSU

Dr. Bonnie Thornton Dill (right), Professor and Dean of the College of Arts and Humanities at the University of Maryland, College Park, led a very well-received symposium on October 5 in Ramseyer Hall. Over 100 people attended her talk, entitled “Fostering Dialogue, Creating Change: The Promise of Intersectionality in Addressing Diversity Issues in Higher Education.” Students, faculty, alums, and colleagues—including those who drove in from Indiana and Michigan—gave Dr. Thornton Dill’s keynote high praise.

Deirdre Rosenfeld, a PhD student, said, “Thornton Dill challenged the audience to pursue social justice and change informed by intersectional analysis by complicating identity, unveiling power and centering the lived experiences of marginalized groups, while guarding against ‘diversity fatigue,’ the microaggressions that often result from increasingly subtle modern racism and other isms, and avoiding the use of internationalization to supplant racial inequality work within the United States.”

In addition to the keynote, Dr. Thornton Dill joined several Ohio State colleagues for a panel discussion, which HESA’s Associate Professor Dr. Terrell Strayhorn moderated. The panel included Dr. Javaune Adams-Gaston, Vice President of Student Life; Dr. Patti Lather, Professor in the Department of Educational Studies; Dr. Joe Ponce, Associate Professor in the Department of English; and Professor Vincene Verdun from the Moritz College of Law.

For Dr. Susan Robb Jones, HESA Section Head and Associate Professor, Dr. Thornton Dill’s visit was both personally and professionally rewarding.

“It was very special for me to bring Dr. Bonnie Thornton Dill to Ohio State. As a member of my dissertation committee at the University of Maryland, she was a great intellectual mentor to me and I continue to learn from her thinking and ideas. I have a great deal of respect for both her scholarship and also the generosity and humility she exhibits for one who has accomplished so much,” Dr. Jones said.
Dr. Terrell Strayhorn (left), Associate Professor in HESA, gave an acclaimed talk at the fourth annual TEDx event in Columbus on October 5. The event, which is a local and independent conference modeled after the well-known TED Talks, featured speakers from a variety of disciplines and backgrounds.

Dr. Strayhorn gave a talk entitled, “The Power of Belonging in Success: We All Wanna Belong” to a capacity crowd at COSI. In addition, his talk was streamed live online.

It received praise from attendees, students, and university colleagues, including President Gee.

In the talk, Dr. Strayhorn noted that academic factors only account for 25% of postsecondary outcomes. Money, of course, matters as well. But those two factors combined still leave a large gap in explaining why some students succeed in college and others fail.

That large gap, he said, is mostly explained by students’ sense of belonging. If students feel as if they belong with their peers, in the classroom, or on campus, they are more likely to succeed in college. Belonging is a basic human need, he added.

To view the entire talk and learn more about belonging, click the YouTube button.

Right: Crowds listen to Dr. Strayhorn at TEDx at COSI on October 5.
Dr. Ada Demb, Associate Professor Emerita, recently published “Daring the Doctorate: The Journey at Mid-Career.” This new book illuminates the challenges and opportunities doctoral students at mid-career face when pursuing their degree.

“As I began working with my doctoral advisees and through the following years, I felt that the experience of folks who had left substantial jobs, or were continuing to work full-time in professional positions, or who had families (spouses, partners and/or children), was substantially different than the experiences of younger students who had progressed directly from BA, to MA, and to PhD,” Dr. Demb said.

Dr. Demb assembled a focus group to explore these students’ experiences. “The conversation was astounding, exciting, stimulating, heartfelt and important. Those 15 hours of focus group discussion became the basis for the book,” Dr. Demb added.

The book provides valuable insight for mid-career students considering a doctorate. It also benefits those who work with mid-career doctoral students, according to Art Levine, President of the Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation and President Emeritus of Teachers College, Columbia University.

Levine said, “This book is essential reading for faculty who teach doctoral students, administrators at institutions with doctoral programs and people who are considering becoming doctoral students. I have taught doctoral students for nearly 20 years and this book provided me with an education I wish I had two decades ago.”

Dr. Demb joins two other HESA colleagues who have recently published books. Associate Professor Dr. Susan Robb Jones, along with HESA alum Dr. Elisa Abes, published “Identity Development of College Students: Advancing Frameworks for Multiple Dimensions of Identity.” Associate Professor Dr. Terrell Strayhorn published “College Students’ Sense of Belonging: A Key to Educational Success for All Students.” If you wish to learn more about each book, please click on their covers. Join us in congratulating our HESA faculty for their accomplishments!
New Year’s Resolution: Paying Forward

Most of us have made resolutions for the New Year—eating well, exercising more, watching less TV, etc. Another popular resolution is volunteering or giving back to help others. At Ohio State, we tend to call that kind of resolution “paying forward.” We “pay forward” to create opportunities for students, build community, and generate pride for our campus and profession.

Many HESA alums have “paid forward” by volunteering their time and/or making gifts to the program. We appreciate those efforts greatly and humbly. With over 1,000 alumni scattered across the world, we have a diverse and talented community to support the program. This year, the 65th anniversary of the program, we really want to increase the amount of alums who join us in “paying forward” to the HESA community.

How can you “pay forward” to HESA? The easiest and most popular ways are to meet with prospective students in your hometown and direct them to us; volunteer at conferences or grad school/career fairs; and make a gift—of any value—to SPA’s funds. Any way you can pay forward will be appreciated more than you will know! ★

“I’ll ‘pay forward’ by . . . “

Volunteering my time
- E-mail SPA at spa@osu.edu
- Tell us where you’re volunteering or ask us about opportunities
- We’ll send you free materials
- Refer students to us via email or call us at 614-292-4322

Making a gift to SPA
- Visit http://giveto.osu.edu
- Support the Porterfield-Dickens Award (Fund #605884)
- Support the SPA Professional Development Fund (Fund #301377)
- Contact Jeff Byars at byars.1@osu.edu for details
Meg Gulick won the 2012 OCPA Robert F. Rodgers Graduate Student of the Year Award in late October.

This award is presented annually by OCPA. As graduate students become more actively involved in creating the future direction of Student Affairs, OCPA has committed to recognizing their professional achievements. OCPA presents The Graduate Student of the Year Award in recognition of the dedication and unlimited energies of a full-time Ohio graduate student, masters or doctoral candidate, in the field of student affairs, college/student personnel or a related field. Below is the text of Meg’s award citation:

Meg has demonstrated dedication, leadership, and high ethics in the pursuit of equality and access for all students. Meg’s undergraduate and graduate career has focused on working with their institution’s Economic Access Initiative, recognizing hurdles that face first-generation and low-income students and tries to find ways to help these students and their families.

One nominator wrote, “Meg remains 100% positive, everyday, even when faced with challenges, that to me, appear overwhelming. I have always admired Meg’s bravery when it comes to standing up, even when it goes against the majority opinion.”

In addition to promoting access for all, Meg’s passions, both in and outside of the classroom, focused on a population of students who feel ostracized, ignored, and facing discrimination: students who identify as transgender.

Meg serves as the adviser of Pi Alpha Kappa, a gender inclusive LGBTQ–friendly fraternity and is working on a MA thesis, focusing on the experience of non-cisgender student affairs professionals. Meg hopes to see a future in Student Affairs where every student—female, male, transgender, and genderqueer, feels safe and appreciated on their campus. It is clear to me that Meg will continue to influence Higher Education and its transgender college students.

Help us congratulate Meg for this achievement!

Nominations for Emerging Professional Award

SPA has extended the deadline to nominate a HESA alum for the Emerging Professional Award. If you know of an outstanding alum who has graduated in the last five years, please send a nomination letter to us at spa@osu.edu by January 31, 2013.
Save the Date: SPA’s 65th Anniversary!

SPA is pleased to announce that Friday, October 18, 2013 is the SPA 65th Anniversary Celebration! The agenda is still under development, but rest assured there will be plenty of time to reconnect with friends and colleagues and see the great work from current HESA students.

The celebration coincides with Ohio State’s Homecoming Weekend.

“Homecoming is the perfect time to welcome alumni and friends back to Columbus,” said Dr. Jen Gilbride-Brown, SPA Coordinator and Senior Lecturer. “We really look forward to linking our alums with students as well as fellow alumni. This is a chance to network, learn, and give back—all in one weekend.”

Please share the date with other alumni. We will be in touch soon!

If you would like to help, please email spa@osu.edu!
Alumni News

- **Sarah Odum (MA ‘06)** is the curriculum coordinator in the College of Education and Human Ecology at Ohio State.
- **Stephanie Baker (MA ‘11)** is an Education Analyst for the Maryland Higher Education Commission.
- **Sara (Stonewater) Kirby (MA ‘05)** and her husband, Chris, welcomed two baby boys on September 21: Charlie Gerard and Graham Bradley!
- **Monroe France (MA ‘00)** is the Assistant Vice President for Student Diversity/Director of the Center for Multicultural Education and Programs at New York University.
- **Carey Clinton (MA ‘05)** is a Regional Recruiter for the Peace Corps in the New York Regional Office.
- **Marissa Lin Cirker (MA ‘08)** won the 2012 Edith D. Cockins Memorial Award in the Office of the University Registrar at Ohio State.
- **Cory Shapiro (MA ‘06)** earned his Doctor of Education degree from Arizona State University.

Current Student News

- **Jillian Baer (MA ‘13) and Dr. Amy Barnes** presented "Using the Social Change Model to Encourage and Develop the Student Leaders of TEDxOhioStateUniversity" at ACPA’s Leadership Education Institute in December. They will give a comparable presentation at ACPA and NASPA this spring. Additionally, Jillian gave a talk on career-to-classroom transitions at OCPA’s “Careers in Student Affairs” conference at Miami University in October.
- **Tara McCarron (MA ‘13) and Danielle Manning (MA ‘13)** also presented at the “Careers in Student Affairs” conference. Their presentation trained undergraduates to prepare for graduate school interviews and visits.
- **Mauriell Amechi (MA ‘13)** was a speaker and moderator at the University of Illinois’ “Morrill Act at 150: The Future of Public Higher Education Symposium.” Mauriell will also present a paper at NASPA, entitled “A Case for Single Parent Students in College: Exploring the Impact of Campus Activities and Social Integration.” He received a $500 grant from the National Association for Campus Activities to support this research. Mauriell also led a session at the EHE Research forum on January 18.
- The following HESA doctoral and MA students presented at the College of Education and Human Ecology’s 3rd Annual Research Forum on January 18:
  - **Mei-Yen Ireland**, “Exploring Theoretical Frameworks for Understanding the Identity Development of Undocumented Students”
  - **Annabelle Estera (MA ‘14)**, “Racial and Ethnic Identity Development of Asian American Student Leaders of Ethnic Specific Organizations”
  - **Marjorie Dorime-Williams**, “Exploring the Effects of College Outreach Programs on Black Student Development and Learning Outcomes”
  - **Seth Gordon**, “Attitudes and Perceptions of Student Loan Debt in Independent Students”
  - **Deirdre Rosenfeld**, “Insiders Within the Margins: What Women's Centers Can Learn from Black Women's Studies”
  - **Derrick Tillman-Kelly**, “Impact of College and Church on Black Gay Male Collegians”
  - **Joey Kitchen**, “Socialization of College Admission Professionals (CAPs): Survey and Analysis”
Coming Soon: SPA Days!

It’s that time again! SPA Days are February 7 and 8. Round two begins on February 21 and ends on the 22nd. Please help us welcome our prospective students!

Approximately 60 master’s and doctoral students will visit campus over these two weekends. We had a record number of outstanding applications this year to the MA program: 197! The doctoral program had an equally impressive pool of 32 applicants.

“We have a talented and diverse group of students coming to campus, and I for one can’t wait to meet them. I know our students, faculty, and SPA supervisors will really enjoy meeting them too,” said Dr. Jen Gilbride-Brown, SPA Coordinator and Senior Lecturer.

If you’re on campus and would like to escort students around campus or volunteer in other ways, please email us at spa@osu.edu.

Thank you for your support!

Please send all news, job changes, family updates, publications, awards, and more to spa@osu.edu and we’ll put them in the next newsletter!