

# SPA Newsletter

Higher Education and Student Affairs

Department of Educational Studies

Winter 2016

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*We can't wait to hear from you!*



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY  
COLLEGE OF  
EDUCATION AND HUMAN ECOLOGY

## HESA Alumni Mentorship Program

**Guest column by Jesús Meléndez**  
(1st year MA student)

The Graduation and Alumni Engagement Committee of The Higher Education Student Personnel Association (HESPA) recently launched the HESA Alumni Mentorship Program! The program was developed to give HESA alumni the opportunity to mentor and engage with current graduate students as they begin to embark on their professional journeys into student affairs. This initiative will support our organization's mission of creating a meaningful networking opportunity for both students and alumni in which both parties are enriched personally and professionally by this experience.

### Program Design

Graduate students were contacted in the Fall semester about the program and were prompted to designate their preferred functional area of interest and administrative role within the field of Higher Education and Student Affairs. After collecting this information, participating students were paired up with alumni of the HESA program that are working in a functional area, faculty position, or senior level administrative role that coincided with the specific interest of each student. The student/alumni pairs

were contacted in mid-January about their respective mentor/mentee. Graduate students were then expected to reach out to their mentor by February 1st to set up a meeting. Student/Alumni pairs are required to meet at least once per semester – either in person or through an online platform for a full academic term. The student/alumni pairing may choose to meet with this person more than once if it so desired by the pair. We hope that these interactions serve as a way for students to learn from their mentors about their professional journeys in the field.

### Future of HESPA

We hope that the HESA Alumni Mentorship Program serves as a bridge to connect students with alumni of the HESA program. We hope for the program to grow and develop in the upcoming year and to create more innovative ways of developing our Buckeye Network. If you would like more information about this program, please contact: Alexandra Lawrence at [lawrence.593@osu.edu](mailto:lawrence.593@osu.edu) or Jesús Meléndez at [melendez.50@osu.edu](mailto:melendez.50@osu.edu) (Graduation and Alumni Engagement Co-Chairs). Go Bucks!

## They're on the Market!

We are excited to have a phenomenal cohort of masters students getting ready to graduate this spring and they are on the market and eager to network with our equally wonderful alumni. Keep an eye out for these masters students at spring conferences:

**Matthew Altendorf, Morgan Bell, Janae Cruz, Taylor Dodge, Ivory Douglas, William Edmond, Andre Hebert, Lisa Hedlund, Trevion Henderson, Greg Hollinger, Ava Kwasnieski, Alex Lawrence, Anna Ly, Elizabeth Paice, Paul Rehn, Maria Sanchez, Thelma Santiago, Lauren Tyger, Katie Wagner, and Jessica Wilson.**

## Awards Applications Reminders

Nominations for the 2016 Emerging Professional Award and the 2016 Maude A. Stewart Award are being accepted through February 12, 2016. More information for both of these awards is below:

### Emerging Professional Award

#### Criteria for Award Selection:

- \* Graduate of the Ohio State Higher Education and Student Affairs M.A. program;
- \* No more than five years of professional work and/or advanced studies since completion of Master's degree; and,
- \* Potential for significant contribution to the field of higher education in one or more of the following areas: administration, teaching, research, publication, service, and/or leadership in professional organizations. Contributions might be at the campus, local, state, regional, national or international levels.

Last year's winners were Sam Al-Khoury (MA '12) and Justin Samuel ('12).

HESA and SPA alumni are encouraged to nominate individuals for awards. Self-nominations are welcomed. A letter of nomination including a current resume or curriculum vita should be sent to Dr. Jennifer Gilbride-Brown [gilbride-brown.1@osu.edu](mailto:gilbride-brown.1@osu.edu) by **February 12, 2016**. Selection of award winners will be made by a committee of HESA faculty, current students, and alumni.

### Maude A. Stewart Award

The Maude A. Stewart Award is presented annually to alumni of the Student Personnel Assistantship program at The Ohio State University. In the tradition begun by Dr. Stewart, recipients demonstrate exceptional leadership, service, or innovation in the profession of Higher Education and Student Affairs. Their contributions may be in teaching, practice, or professional organizations.

Last year's recipient was Dr. Elisa Abes (PhD '03).

If you would like to nominate a SPA alum befitting the criteria of the award as described above, please forward by **February 12, 2016** the name of your nominee along with a brief statement of nomination, 500 or fewer words to [gilbride-brown.1@osu.edu](mailto:gilbride-brown.1@osu.edu). In your statement, please tell us why you believe the nominee to be deserving of this honor. The award will be presented at the annual NASPA and ACPA conferences, but is typically kept confidential (a surprise to the recipient) until such time as the award is made. We appreciate your discretion in making nominations.

## ACPA & NASPA Receptions

If you are attending spring conferences, please join us for our Friends of Ohio State Receptions hosted by the Vice President for Student Life's Office.

### ACPA

3/7/2016

7 – 8pm

Le Westin Montreal - Reporter

### NASPA

3/15/2016

7 – 8pm

JW Marriott  
Indianapolis – Room  
302/303

## Humans of HESA - Spotlight

Check out some of the exciting things happening on our Humans of HESA Instagram page and learn more about the day to day lives of our students and alumni!

Humans of HESA Instagram account: <https://www.instagram.com/humansofhesa/>

Sign-up to participate: <http://goo.gl/forms/Zqv3LeVbH2>

## Faculty & Current Student Updates

Our faculty and students have been busy! Here are some selections of what they've been up to!

- Watson, A., & Hollinger, G. (MA Student) (2015, November). #ItsOnUS: Creating bystander intervention programs in the residence halls. Presented at the Annual Conference of the Great Lakes Association of College and University Housing Officers, Flint, MI.
- Matt Couch (PhD Student) was recently awarded a \$2,000 grant from the ACPA Foundation for his dissertation research, "A Phenomenological Study of Over-Involvement in Undergraduate Students."
- Taylor, K. B. (PhD Student), & Baxter Magolda, M. B. (HESA Alum) (September/October, 2015). Building educators' capacities to meet twenty-first century demands. *About Campus*, 16-25.
- Shalka, T. R. (PhD Student) (November/December, 2015). Toward a trauma-informed practice: What educators need to know. *About Campus*, 21-27.
- Marshall, B. (PhD Student), Walterbusch, T (PhD Student), Suddeth, T (HESA PhD Alum). & Rice, K. (2016, January). Considering the Doctorate: A Candid Discussion. Presented at the Ohio College Personnel Association (OCPA) Conference. Columbus, OH.
- Strayhorn, T.L. (Faculty), Johnson, R.M. (HESA PhD Alum), Henderson, T.S. (MA Student), & Tillman-Kelly, D.L. (HESA PhD Alum) (2015). Beyond coming out: New insights about GLBQ college students of color. Columbus, OH: Center for Higher Education Enterprise, The Ohio State University.
- Strayhorn, T. L. (Faculty) (2016). *Student development theory in higher education: A social psychological approach*. New York: Routledge.
- Metcalf, M., & Barnes, A. (Faculty) (2015). *Innovative leadership workbook for college students*. Tucson, AZ: Integral Publishers.
- Lu, C., Reddick, R., Dean, D., & Pecero, V. (PhD Student) (2015). Coloring up study abroad: Exploring Black students' decision to study in China. *Journal of Student Affairs Research and Practice*, 52(4), 440-451.
- Henderson, T. S. (MA Student) & Travers, C. S. (PhD Student) (2015, October). Investigating students' perceptions of race in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) majors. Paper presented at the 2015 annual meeting of the Mid-Western Educational Research Association.
- Vlasnik, A. L. (PhD Student) (2015, November 12). Intersectionality at work: Negotiating identities within the women's center. Paper presented at the Women's Centers Committee pre-conference at the annual conference of the National Women's Studies Association, Milwaukee, WI.

# Alumni Updates

- **Mauriell Amechi (MA 2013)** is the inaugural Director of the Community Outreach, Retention, and Engagement (CORE) Program at the University of Minnesota Twin Cities and is continuing doctoral studies in the higher education program at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He recently co-authored (with **PhD alum Michael Williams**) a chapter titled “Understanding the unique needs and experiences of Black male subgroups at four-year colleges and universities” in the new book, *Advancing Black Male Student Success from Preschool through PhD*.
- **Adrian Huerta (MA 2009)** was awarded the AERA Minority Dissertation Fellowship for the 2015-2016 academic year for dissertation work about Latino male high school students’ gang knowledge and college knowledge.
- **Dr. Daniel Newhart (MA 2006)** co-founded and is co-editor of the *Journal of Student Affairs Inquiry*, an open access journal intended to advance the field of inquiry (research, evaluation, and assessment) in student affairs. The first edition is available here: <https://submissions.scholasticahq.com/sites/the-journal-of-student-affairs-inquiry>.
- **Kelly Kowatch (MA 2005)** is now the Associate Director of Engaged Learning at the University of Michigan School of Information. She and her husband, Michael, welcomed a new baby girl, Claudia Frances Anna in April.
- **Elizabeth Zimowski (MA 2013)** received a research fellowship in education policy at UNC and is a fulltime PhD student and qualitative research fellow with the Education Policy Initiative at Carolina (EPIC).
- **Laura Arthur (MA 2009)** is now Senior Associate Director of Career Development at the Johns Hopkins University Carey Business School.
- **Gina M. Ginn (MA 2005)** was appointed Executive Director of Columbus Early Learning Centers, received her Doctorate in Workforce Development and Education in December 14' and was married in June of 14'.
- **Dr. Brian L. McGowan (MA 2007)** is an assistant professor of higher education at UNC Greensboro, and recently co-edited a book titled, “Black men in the academy: Narratives of resiliency, achievement, and success.”
- **Eve Esch (MA 2002)** recently left OSU to be the Director of Student Centers at the University of Houston.
- **Dr. Tara Spalla (PhD 2012)** was recently appointed Academic Dean at the Mount Carmel College of Nursing.
- **Dr. Jacqueline Loversidge (PhD 2012)** presented a poster (Loversidge & Demb), “ Faculty Perceptions of Innovation and Change Dynamics in Interprofessional Education”, at the 43rd Biennial Convention of Sigma Theta Tau International, in Las Vegas on November 10, 2015.
- **Gina Hnytka (MA 2008)** was recently promoted into a dual-appointment as Managing Director for the Environment, Economy, Development and Sustainability (EEDS) Major Program and Program Manager for AEDE Undergraduate and Graduate Programs.

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