

WAVES

The official newsletter of the

Western Association of College and University Housing Officers

Hello WACUHO!

I hope you are past the hump of check-in and are enjoying the new academic year! I think we are all keenly aware that this year will bring unprecedented new challenges and opportunities. I recently heard one of our professors in Cal State Northridge's graduate program in College Counseling talking to a group of students about the challenges of the day. He told them that they are entering the field during one of the most exciting eras in higher education history. Higher education policy and practice, he said, are being reengineered and reinvented today – right now – in ways that will profoundly impact the future. New professionals in particular have a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity early in their careers to shape this future.



And though it may not feel like an exciting opportunity every day to those of us who are already doing the work of the profession, clearly this professor is right. We are in uncharted territory that, while difficult and scary to navigate at times, will allow us rare freedom and flexibility to do business differently and thereby be more effective, more purposeful, and more viable in the future.

I am confident that WACUHO will play an integral role in helping members connect in ways that will facilitate new knowledge and innovative ideas and practices for the next era of university housing and student affairs work. The 2009/10 WACUHO Executive Committee has given a great deal of thought and time to identifying goals and laying plans that will move the Association toward meeting its mission. We have paid special attention to finding new ways of meeting the membership's need of having affordable, purposeful and timely access to programs and networks.

Some of the goals the Executive Committee has set for this operating year are:

- To explore opportunities to expand scholarships to WACUHO programs and events
- To review the Annual Conference and Exposition structure to make sure it is financially viable and cost-effective for members
- To explore new sources of support and revenue
- To support a learning outcomes approach with WACUHO programs in order to be sure that these offerings are meeting the needs of the Association
- To review the central mission of the Association – determining the extent to which it accurately reflects the Association today and making shifts and adjustments to the mission as appropriate
- To automate the committee sign-up and membership renewal processes
- To promote the expanded use of our newly acquired registration system as a means for facilitating easier conference registration for the membership
- To explore alternative methods for program delivery
- To launch the new WACUHO website

Highlights

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WACUHO AFFIRMATIVE ACTION STATEMENT

WACUHO recognizes the benefits derived from the inclusion of diversity in the Association. Significant contributions are made by members from all areas of higher education and at every level of responsibility. The quality of perspective and experience shared by our members, inclusive of ethnicity, age, gender, religious preference, sexual orientation, or differing abilities, adds a dynamic that enriches the character of the Association. WACUHO encourages all to actively participate in its programs, events and activities.

I sincerely hope that you will be involved in the many initiatives and programs WACUHO will undertake this year, whether as a committee member or as an attendee at one of the Association's many events. While I realize that this may be a year when you are inclined to pull back on your professional development activity in response to growing economic uncertainty and resource restriction at your home campus and in your personal finances, let me suggest that it is exactly during these uncertain times that involvement in professional development activities becomes most vital. Association activities will help you think innovatively about pressing issues, connect and collaborate with colleagues about using limited resources wisely, and share new found solutions with others.

Please take this year as your opportunity to invest in your development and the development of our profession by tapping into the WACUHO network, attending WACUHO programs, and participating in the work of the Association. The return on your investment promises to be significant.

Thank you for the good work that you do, both on your home campus and in WACUHO! Best wishes for the start of this new academic year!

Sincerely,

Tim Trevan

WACUHO President

2009-2010 Executive Board

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New Pros, New Plans

Hello new and seasoned professionals of WACUHO! This year's **New Professionals Committee** is excited about the fresh energy that the members are putting in for the improvement of connections and outreach to new professionals in our field. Led by Leslie Datchuk and Kayla Nuss, our committee has been putting our heads together and has come up with new and exciting plans that will rock your WACUHO socks off!

RAPs are around the corner and our committee is working on providing a New Professionals Track at each **RAP** so that you can enjoy development sessions and meet other professionals in your area. We hope you enjoyed the roundtable discussion opportunity for those who are attended **Careers in Student Affairs Day!**

Are you interested in becoming a mentor to new professionals? We are looking for seasoned professionals with 5+ years of experience to help create a welcoming and helpful experience to our new pros. All we require for mentors is a minimum of one phone conversation per month!

If you are a new professional and would like a mentor, please complete our survey and we'll take care of the rest! The website is <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=S6u0gDWs2ew5sH9SNSropw3d3d>

Last but not least, we know that **Facebook** is an obsession for some and also a way to catch up with each other. How about seeing it as a chance to reach out to other professionals, especially new pros in our field, by checking out our New Professionals group page? Type **"WACUHO New Professionals"** into the Search field and request to join the group! We post discussion topics that we think can benefit everyone, so we hope that you will take a quick minute to reply and contribute to our discussions.

We are also starting up a Facebook video professional development plan for our WACUHO New Professionals Facebook Group! Here's how it works:

- Each month, we will request information on a new topic or question from new or seasoned professionals.

- You can record 2-minute video responses and email them to leslie_datchuk@redlands.edu

- We will post these videos on our Facebook group for new pros to see and learn from each other.

Here are our first questions:

- For New Professionals – How are you managing to find a work/life balance? What are your challenges and/or successes in this area?

- For Seasoned Professionals – What advice do you have for new professionals about establishing a work/life balance in Housing and Residence Life?

There you have it! Let's see your faces and responses and we hope that you enjoy these video responses!

We, the New Professionals Committee, are so excited about jump-starting this year with so many great plans and we hope that you take a lot from these awesome opportunities for getting involved!

Thanks,

Erica Alcantara, New Professionals Committee Member

And the rest of the New Pros Committee: Leslie Datchuk, Kayla Nuss, Jorge Arroyo, AJ Johnson, Noah Kaloostian, Steven Lerer, Ben Medeiros, Chad Myers, Kyle Smith, Susan Berry

(YOUR name could be here too. Contact us if you're interested!)

ADVICE FROM EXEC: What advice would you give to a new professional

OR a seasonal professional to "keep it exciting?"

New Professionals – Create a collateral assignment for yourself outside of your job

Seasoned Professionals – Join a committee; start a network group and create your own "cohort" in WACUHO

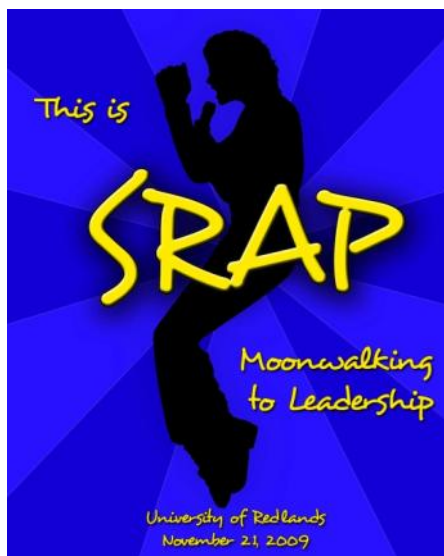
~Kris McPeak, Member-at-Large South

Moonwalk your way to Leadership on Saturday, November 21, 2009 at the University of Redlands for SRAP 2009.

This is SRAP is an all day drive in conference where student leaders can find inspiration for programming and development opportunities. This is an occasion to meet paraprofessionals from around Southern California to realize "You are Not Alone" as you share your experiences, ideas, and questions on how to make your communities "BAD."

Have fun all day, attend sessions, display your talents at our lunch time MJ themed Karaoke and "Don't Stop Till You Get Enough."

Come Rock With Us!



For more information go to the WACUHO website at:

<http://www.wacuho.org/index.html> and click on our link.

Liz Hagen a.k.a. Pretty Young Thing (University of California, Riverside)

LaKisha Tillman a.k.a. Billie Jean (Scripps College)

And the Smooth Criminals of the 2009 SRAP Committee

THOUGHTS FROM EXEC: Why do you enjoy being part of Exec Board?

- Meet wonderful people
- Promote advancements in the field
- Help develop professionals
- Keep myself up-to-date

~ Tim Trevan, President

Interested in some free professional development? Care to share your views with the region? Are you an expert or just have a fresh perspective? Write for the WAVES!!!

The deadlines are as follows:

Winter WAVES articles deadline: January 29, 2010

Spring WAVES articles deadline: April 9, 2010

Pre-Conference WAVES articles deadline: May 28, 2010

If you need are interested and aren't sure where to start OR if you have a great idea for an article but want someone else to write it, let me know at editor@wacuho.org!

2009 Corporate Partners

Gold Plan

ASI Campus Laundry Solutions
Capstone Development Corp.
Collegeboxes, Inc.
Collegiate Concepts, Inc.
Foliot Furniture, Inc.
KLN Steel Products Company
Micro 101 Solutions, Inc.
Southwest Contract
Web Service Company

Silver Plan

A-1 Textiles & Hospitality
Products
AMF Support Surfaces, Inc.
National Student Services, Inc.
On Campus Marketing

Diversity & Affirmative Action Committee

Submitted by Shimina Harris & Cristal Wallin, Co-Chairs

Greetings fellow WACUHO Friends and Family! The Diversity & Affirmative Action (D&AA) Committee is off to a productive start to the Fall 2009 semester. Although some of us have just completed another year's opening season, we already have lofty expectations for our committee. With every new year, there are renewed energies and refreshed ideas.

Out of all the ideas we've discussed, we've narrowed our "to-do" list to the following goals:

- We are looking forward to supporting and working with the other WACUHO Committees.

We've already begun to communicate with the Northern, Central and Southern RAP Committees regarding recognitions for presentations that highlight issues of diversity. We anticipate seeing some great work come from our students!

- As issues of diversity and social justice encompass all aspects of our campus positions and the work we do in WACUHO, we want to remind everyone to keep an eye out for resources related to diversity and forward them to our attention. As our committee begins research on putting together a resource collection, we need your help!

Please send us any and all resources/materials you may have (i.e. websites, books, articles, speakers, etc.) so we can begin building our collection that will serve to benefit all of WACUHO.

- As always, we will be participating in the Annual Conference at the end of the year. Please keep a look out for information on scholarships and our Annual Conference plans in future WAVES issues.
- Find us on Facebook! In an effort to keep each other abreast of issues and ideas that we are confronted with on a daily basis, our committee has created a Facebook page. If you would like to be a part, find us at "DAA – WACUHO".

D & AA Committee Goals:

- Support WACUHO committees
- Collect articles relating to social justice
- Participate and provide scholarships to the Annual Conference
- Find them on Facebook, "DAA-WACUHO"

This year we will also be brainstorming ideas on keeping our committee current, in our news, discourse, working relationships, etc. Stay tuned, as changes to the D&AA Committee may be on the horizon.

Finally, we are excited about all the year has to offer and look forward to closely working with you all! If the D&AA Committee can be a resource to you in any way, please let us know.

Shimina Harris & Cristal Wallin, D&AA Co-Chairs, daa@wacuho.org

THOUGHTS FROM EXEC:

What inspired you to run for Executive Board?

Having experience on a few committees, chaired a RAP and really felt a call to be a representative for the central region, and to exercise ideas I had for WACUHO's success.

~ Chris Williams, Member-at-Large, Central



Save the Date!

Western Training Institute 2010 is excited to be returning to Los Angeles for the second year. WTI 2010 will be hosted in a small retreat like setting just off the UCLA campus at a Westwood mansion.

For those of you who have never been, but have always wanted to, WTI is a chance to get connected with professionals of all levels from across the region and to deepen our professional skills. This year we will be focusing on Maximizing – our potential, our resources, and our impact.

Because we know that these are difficult economic times, we've made an effort to keep the conference affordable, registration - includes 3 nights lodging and most meals - will start at \$300 a person for shared accommodations.

WACUHO members who have worked in housing for three years or fewer are encouraged to apply for the Joan F. Mortell award that grants one new professional \$500 towards institute registration and travel. For award application or if you have questions, please contact Kayla Nuss, WACUHO New Pros Committee co-chair kjhapton-stall@usfca.edu. Completed applications are due by 5:00 PM on Friday, November 20.

So block your calendars for January 31 – February 3! For further information please visit the WACUHO site or look us up on Facebook! Registration will be opening soon, and space will once again be limited to 45 participants so don't delay! If you have questions about the institute, contact co-chairs Briana Maturi (bmaturi@imu.edu) and Carmen Nasr Lybrand (cnasr@imu.edu). We're looking forward to this year, and hope you are too!

Life after WACUHO Presidency!!

As I sit here on my yacht sipping a virgin piña colada watching the dolphins jump in and out of the water, I reflect on my year as WACUHO President...oh wait, I'm in my office at 9pm at night dealing with budget cuts and furloughs! But yes, I can still reflect and share what life has been like post presidency!!

As shared previously, my time as President was filled with lots of laughter, thoughtful dialogue, creative problem-solving and a bunch of motions and seconds! Truly, it was an experience I will cherish for the rest of my life and I am so grateful to WACUHO for allowing me to serve the Association as your President!

Since passing the torch to the fabulous Tim Trevan, I have taken on some additional responsibilities at work and have stepped up some of my personal goals. I'll start with work first (of course!) – This Fall, UCLA embarked on a few new initiatives primarily geared at new students. UCLA has a new “virtual” Volunteer Center that was launched with an amazing Volunteer Day. Residential Life played an integral role in getting 4600 new Bruins to participate in this day of service throughout Los Angeles. Check out our coverage on Katie Couric <http://www.cbsnews.com/video/watch/?id=5337976n>! In addition to our day of service, we also invested a great deal of time in our first ever common book experience. All new residential first year and transfer students received copies of *Mountains beyond Mountains* by Tracy Kidder and were asked to participate in book discussions during our welcome week. It was remarkable to engage our students in dialogue about service, access to healthcare, global issues and more. I definitely recommend the book! We, like most of you, are managing shrinking budgets and furloughs. I'm very humbled to work with such a dedicated staff who continue to make a difference in the lives of our students.

On the personal front, after our annual conference, I began a new healthy living regiment! I've been hitting the gym at 6:30ish in the morning (quite an accomplishment since I'm typically a night owl!). I changed some eating patterns and downloaded “lose it” on my new iphone (yea!) to help me keep track of these changes. These changes definitely have given me more energy. Robin has appreciated me being able to hold a conversation while walking up hill to our apartment. Let's just say Seppy has more pep in her step these days!!

Again, I truly thank the association for the opportunity to serve as your President. And now, I'm riding into the WACUHO waves and proud to join the company of Past-Presidents, so many of whom are dedicated colleagues and dear friends.

Thank you WACUHO!!



Greetings WACUHO

WACE Programs Committee

The Programming Committee has already started working on the upcoming WACUHO 2010 annual conference and exposition. As you may or may not know, we are going back to our roots.

This year's conference will be held on the campus of Stanford University from June 20 to 23rd.

Our Conference theme is WACUHO – Grounded in Innovation; Pursuing Opportunity. Before long, our thoughts will be turning to the three days where we can spend time with our colleagues, friends, and mentors.

With this in mind, we would like to update you on a few important things.

First and foremost, the program submission deadline is set for April 1st, 2010. Our program format will remain similar; look for roundtables, lecture-style presentations, large program/keynotes, etc...

Regardless of your level within your organization, new professional or CHO, each school is innovative in its own right. Consider taking this opportunity to highlight the unique or ground breaking way your school or you serve your student population or are able to get work done on a daily basis.

The committee is looking for a wide range of topics from facilities, business and finance, residence life, to crisis management, diversity, and professional development programs.

We want you to join us next June to continue the wonderful tradition of learning, fun and connection that is WACUHO. So put on your innovating hats and consider this opportunity.

SAVE THE DATE:

Program Submission Deadline:

April 1st 2010



“If opportunity doesn't knock, build a door.” ~ Milton Berle

My NHTI Experience

Submitted by Robin Hershkwitz

Arriving at the University of Maryland this past June, I checked into the front desk for my residence hall assignment. It was my first time at NHTI!

I made a very purposeful decision to attend the James Grimm National Housing Training Institute (NHTI) this past year instead of the larger professional conferences because, I wanted more attention paid to me as a professional. I had just completed my first year in a new, management position in my department, and was really looking forward to getting some personal attention on my career advancement in housing and student affairs.

When I moved into my residence hall suite, I found that my faculty mentor was a Director at a Christian University, one of my suite-mates worked at a Catholic University, and my other suitemate worked



at an institution in South Africa. Here I was, living in the Bay Area and working at Berkeley. What would I be able to learn professionally from these colleagues?

I quickly realized was humbled and reminded why it is bad to assume!

My mentor, Craig Allen, from Texas Christian University shared with me multiple experiences from throughout his career that helped me in the spots that I was getting stuck in. My other colleagues and I traded best practices, hilarious stories, and ways of performing in their positions that have proven to be invaluable to my work.

I now have colleagues from all over the US and abroad, despite only spending a few days with, I know that I can always call up and ask for advice, provide support and catch up with wherever they are.

Along with the personal attention from my mentor, I received so much valuable information from other directors, vice-presidents, and

executive directors based on identified competencies. We engaged in conversations, case studies, and sage advice on Human Resource Management, Leadership, the Higher Education Political Process, Budgets, and Crisis Management. The faculty gave personal anecdotes and tailored the information to professionals who already work in the field, and needed the extra information to pull themselves forward to be highly talented in all these areas.

Although I am sure professional development budgets are tight this year, I encourage everyone and anyone who is interested to apply. The camaraderie, connections, and information I received was well worth it- and provided me with enough recharging and reinvestment to last me many years of wanting to excel in the field.

For more information regarding NHT 2010, got to the website: <http://www.acuho-i.org/brEventsbrPrograms/JamesCGrimmNHTI/tabid/749/Default.aspx>

WACUHO SPOTLIGHT: Member at Large



Southern Region: Kris McPeak

Greetings WACUHO! My name is Kris McPeak and I am representing the

South Sub-Region as Member at Large for the WACUHO Executive Committee. Being elected to Exec was a career milestone for me – I had always wanted to be involved in Residence Life in a larger way. With WACUHO, I can represent my university and also give back to the region. It's been very rewarding.

In these challenging budget times, I'm finding that being part of the regional execu-

tive committee allows me to role model collaboration and creativity for my staff and my university. And in reverse – using my skills as a Director of Residence Life at a small university helps me to support the Executive Committee in all our endeavors. Even though my tenure with the 2009-2010 Executive Committee has just been a few months, I am confident in the ways we are all helping to make WACUHO stronger and a great support system for the member institutions.

As the Member at Large for the Southern Region, I'm liaison to the following committees: New Pros, Substance

Abuse, Southern RAP, and co-liaison to WTI with Chris Williams.

These committees are working hard to serve the region and have some great programs on the horizon. SRAP is at the University of Redlands on November 21. I am really enjoying working with all the committee chairs – they are all doing great work for WACUHO!

Until next time – I hope everyone had a successful opening and is looking forward to this new academic year. If you need to reach me, you can contact me at kris_mcpeak@redlands.edu or southmal@wacuho.org

MAL Spotlight continued on p.9

MAL Spotlight cont'd from p.8



**Northern Region:
Josh O'Connor**

My name is Josh O'Connor and I am your

Member-at-Large, North representing WACUHO and you! It is an honor to be on the Executive Board and have the privilege to work with each of you.

Despite the budget, I find myself to be very lucky to have connected with an array of professionals from public and private, large and small institutions in our region. As we continue throughout this year, I will do everything in my power to assist you and your institution with questions or concerns, but most of all, to help carry on the proud tradition of WACUHO.

Throughout my first couple of months as Member At Large, North, I can see that the budget crisis has taken a toll on our departments. Your role/position/supervision has become greater; yet so has the furloughs!! We are all becoming accustomed to the phrase "do more with less."

As Member at Large, I am committed to do my part in making WACUHO stronger as well. I will do this by being a source for each institution and by supporting our new & seasoned professionals. Please let me know if there is anything I can do to help you or your institution!

As the Member at Large for the Northern region, I am the liaison to the following committees: Diversity & Affirmative Action, Judicial Affairs and Northern RAP. These committees are working hard to serve the region and have some great programs on the horizon.

Diversity & Affirmative Action Committee is working with each of the RAP's regarding recognitions for

presentations that highlight issues of diversity.

Judicial Affairs Committee is working on starting up some type of networking system to discuss judicial issues and receive feedback/network with one another throughout the region.

Northern RAP will be moved to the month of February, the committee is still looking to finalize a host institution. Please stay tuned for more information and if you would like to join this committee, please contact Rachel Herrmann rherrmann@housing.sfsu.edu or myself. All the committees are doing such great work for WACUHO.

It is going to be a great year despite our challenges! If you need to reach me, contact me at northMAL@wacuho.org

How do YOU stay connected with WACUHO? Join the: [WACUHO Friends and Family Facebook site!](#)

**Central Region:
Chris Williams**



Hello Central region! My name is Chris Williams and I am your Member-at-Large representing WACUHO and your institution's interests. This year I hope to serve not only as a liaison between your institution and WACUHO, but also as a resource for departments to utilize when they would like to reach out to others in the region.

Lastly, I want to be a conduit for questions or concerns about the current economic condition and communicating what other departments or the executive committee has done in response to new and very different demands.

Being your Member-at-Large, even after just a few months, I have discovered just how many of us are out there with increasingly complex roles and doing much more with much less. I have realized how important it is that I get to know you and your departments. This will allow me to do my part in connecting new and seasoned professionals and those new to the association or just the central region, not only to our organization, but to one another. Please let me know if there is anything I can do to help!

As the Member at Large for the Central region, I'm liaison to the following committees: Academic Relations, Central RAP and co-liaison to WTI with Kris McPeak.

These committees are working hard to serve the region and have some great programs on the horizon. WTI will be held January 31 -February 3, 2010 on the UCLA campus. Central RAP will be hosted by Loyola Marymount University on Saturday, November 14th.

I am honored to be working alongside all the committee chairs!

Chris Williams

centralMAL@wacuho.org

Remember When?



*Case study judges and winners
celebrate their success.*

Recognize a friend? Send
them a quick “hello!”



*Don't you hate coming to a function to find someone
else is wearing your outfit?*



*Exhibits committee members showing off
their sense of style*