



The MUSE

ACPA: College Student Educators International
Standing Committee for Women

SCW update and information from the Chair

In late October, the current SCW Directorate members met for our annual mid-year meeting. Each year we select a location, rent a house, and gather for four days of intense SCW work, and much SCW-sisterhood bonding. It is often a transformative time for us as women and SCW members. This year was no different. We gathered in a house just north of Nashville, TN and the work we accomplished was magnificent!

Prior to attending mid-year this year, I had been struggling to articulate the current purpose and passion of SCW. In many different conversations I received feedback about the work of SCW feedback that ranged from strong celebratory pats on the back, to challenges concerning the direction and projects of the current SCW Directorate. As I entered my second year as chair, it felt like the time was right to explore the purpose and function of SCW. And so, mid-year began with a deep exploration of the mission, vision, structure and goals of SCW.

I am pleased to say that after much incredible work the Directorate has written a new mission, vision and statement of inclusion. New goal statements were also written and we shaped all our projects and work for the coming year around those statements. The structure of the Directorate body was assessed and we determined that the membership of SCW would be better served if there are more Directorate body members each year, as such we drafted slight changes to the Directorate and those are also reflected below. We will be asking current SCW members to vote to accept these statements at our business meeting (Tuesday, April 1st) at the upcoming convention in Atlanta. I hope you are as excited as I am to see SCW looking to a future of ongoing commitment to women in higher education and student affairs. Without further ado....

Vision

To transform the culture of higher education and student affairs to empower women.

Mission

As a committee of ACPA, the Standing Committee for Women works to create an environment that supports the lifelong holistic development of women. We accomplish this through coalition building, education, and advocacy for women.

Statement of Inclusion

The Standing Committee for Women embraces the intricate layers of diversity present in all women and their allies. We are committed to providing an inclusive environment, responsive to the various needs and identities of our membership.

This statement is reflected in all that we are and do. We acknowledge that an individual's identity shapes one's worldview. SCW as a committee, celebrates women and their allies.

Goal Statements

Advocacy

Standing Committee for Women advocates and supports all women, across functional areas and over a career span, by providing a platform to identify and address issues salient to our current membership and women who are affiliated with ACPA.

Coalition Building

To increase and strengthen ties with other ACPA entities and Standing Committee for Women membership.

Education

The SCW provides and supports educational opportunities through sponsored program and activities at convention. We recognize research and scholarship through publications and awards. We educate the student affairs community about the resources offered by SCW.

Structure of the Directorate

- We will begin electing 5 members for each new class on the Directorate body.
- Directorate terms will remain at 3 years, with the chair continuing to serve a two year term, with an additional year as past-chair.
- If vacancies occur prior to mid-year, we will attempt to fill them with the candidate who received the next highest number of votes. If after mid-year, the vacancy will go unfilled.

I look forward to seeing you in Atlanta, and invite you to join us as the Standing Committee for Women celebrates 35 years in ACPA! We are thrilled to be partnering with the convention planning team to develop special recognitions of SCW, and hope that you will join us at our 35th anniversary party, and the SCW business meeting among other events.

Are you a current graduate student or new professional looking to get more acclimated to the field and/or ACPA?

The Standing Committee for Women's EmpowerHer Fellowship is for you!

ACPA's Standing Committee for Women (SCW) is now accepting applications for the 2008-2009 EmpowHer New Professional Fellowship. The woman selected as the 2008-2009 SCW Fellow will begin a year-long process focusing on her professional development.

The EmpowHer Fellowship is open to current graduate students and professional staff with less than two years of full-time experience in the field at the time of application. Applicants must be current members of ACPA and able to attend both the 2008 and 2009 ACPA Conventions, in addition, the SCW mid-year meeting (Fall 2008).

The program BENEFITS include:

- ◆ Waived registration fee to the 2008 ACPA Convention
- ◆ Attendance at ACPA leadership meetings
- ◆ Attendance at SCW leadership and general meetings at the ACPA Convention
- ◆ Opportunity to attend the SCW Directorate mid-year meeting in the fall of 2008
- ◆ Monthly mentoring sessions with current SCW Directorate members and past SCW Chairs (post-convention) Publication in SCW national newsletter, *The Muse*
- ◆ Assistance developing workshop proposal based on her experiences for the 2009 ACPA Convention

The DUTIES of the 2008-2009 EmpowHer Fellow include:

- ◆ Writing articles for SCW's newsletter, *The Muse*, about her experience as the EmpowHer Fellow
- ◆ Creating one woman-centered program at her home institution for students, faculty or staff
- ◆ Participating in monthly mentoring sessions (via phone)
- ◆ Submitting a program proposal for the 2009 ACPA Convention
- ◆ Participate in pre/post assessment of the EmpowHER Fellowship

Eligibility requirements:

- ◆ Able to attend the 2008 and 2009 ACPA Conventions
- ◆ Current member of ACPA
- ◆ Current graduate student and/or less than two years of full-time experience in the field at the time of application
- ◆ Capable of fulfilling one-year term as EmpowHER Fellow

All applications are due by Friday, December 14, 2007

To request an application or for further clarification, please contact Heather Kind-Keppel via email at hkindkep@housing.uiuc.edu

EmpowHer

The past seven months have flown by with a jam packed summer internship, one more semester of graduate school almost complete, and recently, joining the women of SCW in Nashville, TN for their annual mid-year planning meeting. I have taken away more from the last few months than I ever could have imagined. Having the opportunity to observe and participate in the planning meeting really gave me a sense of the personal and professional passions of SCW's members and their commitment to the Directorate.

I'll be graduating in just over six months and one of my fears, after being in a program that intensely focuses on expanding individual and institutional understanding of social justice and pluralism, is finding an institution that will support me in campus and community activism surrounding women's issues. What those five days in Nashville taught me is that there are women all over the country who are actively improving their institutions and are immensely devoted to supporting and advocating for all women in ACPA (and that my job search has hope!).

During our first HESA interview weekend last year I hosted a prospective student. After the last day of interviews, as I was driving her from our closing event, I asked how the weekend had gone—what was working for her, what wasn't, etc. She surprised me by saying, "the whole social justice thing" was a little intense but that maybe she could do it, that it could be a good personal challenge. At first I was a little bemused. I mean, didn't the application materials make it clear what we were all about? I let it go temporarily but the conversation kept resurfacing.

This experience, over time, reminded me of a "Sex and the City" episode where Carrie (the main character played by Sarah Jessica Parker) is set up by a couple with "the marrying man." He's described as the "illusive" New York bachelor who buys family friendly property, has already planned "the baby's room"—and is all in and out looking to get married. Carrie spends some time with him and although she's not completely interested when he moves in for a kiss, after buying a cheese grater from William Sonoma, she "tries him on." Like a DKNY dress, she says, you know it's not your style but you try it on anyway.

In my mind this prospective student was looking to "try on" social justice, see if it fit. At first I was a little annoyed. How dare she try on social justice?! But then I realized that one of the reasons I'm so interested in supporting women and girls is because I was able to try that experience on through participating and volunteering with Girl Scouts—and luckily, it fit!

SCW has offered me an opportunity to try on another experience. Through the EmpowHer Fellowship, I've had the chance to gain invaluable insight into a professional organization's standing committee whose number one passion and love is women. To my delight, SCW has been like a pair of bright, red boots that are exactly my style.

Sarah Hoffert, 2007-2008 EmpowHer Fellow

Standing Committee for Women Awards 2008

The Standing Committee for Women (SCW) is seeking nominations for four awards, which will be presented at the 2008 American College Personnel Association convention in Atlanta, Georgia. Below are the descriptions of the awards, along with selection criteria. Nominees must be a member of both ACPA and SCW. Nominations may be submitted on-line at www.myacpa.org/sc/scw. If you have questions about the awards or nominations please contact Cynthia Chapel at c-chapel@northwestern.edu.

Submissions are due Friday, December 14, 2007



Outstanding Emerging Professional

The recipient will be selected based on her recognized potential to be a successful Student Affairs professional. This woman will have made contributions that have positively impacted her respective departments or institutions.

Contributions made include, but are not limited to, the following areas: programming experience, leadership, community development, publications, presentations, community service and/or support for the educational environment on her campus. Nominees for this award have worked in the student affairs profession for three or fewer years.



Wise Woman Award

The recipient will be selected based on the history of her contributions towards women in Student Affairs and on her efforts to promote the professional and personal development of women. Contributions may be made in the areas of programming, engaging in the socialization of women, scholarship, publications, mentoring other women professionals, and the provision of visionary leadership in the advancement of women in Student Affairs. Nominees for this award must have worked in the higher education profession for at least ten years.



Outstanding Service to the Standing Committee for Women

-Given By Chair

The recipient (s) will be selected based on efforts to promote the advancement of programs and services offered by the Standing Committee for Women. The Chair will recognize contributions above and beyond the general reasonability's of a Directorate member. Alumnae members will have contributed to the development of the committee through continued service, guidance, and support.

Standing Committee for Women Awards 2008



Research and Scholarship Award

The recipient will be selected based on a review of research and scholarly activity. Preference will be given to topics relevant to women in Student Affairs. Work may include publications, research, and curriculum or program development. For consideration, nominees must submit a one-page abstract of the research or scholarship.



Ally Award

This award may be given to an individual or a group. The Ally Award recognizes a demonstrated commitment to understanding the experiences of women. Contributions may include but are not limited to; acting as an advocate for women, programming for and around women's issues, and/or the support of women in leadership roles within higher education and Student Affairs.

2007 Award Recipients:

Wise Woman: Mary Howard-Hamilton

Outstanding Service Toward Development of Women: Darlene Biggers

Research and Scholarship: LaTayna M. Purnell

Outstanding Emerging Professional Woman: Janesha Penn

Extra! Extra!

Directorate election nominations are due February 18th. Information to all members will be available January 3rd. Voting for this year's Directorate will begin February 20th and end March 5. If you are interested in running for a Directorate position and want more information, or if you wish to speak to a current member, please visit our website at

<http://www.myacpa.org/sc/scw>



State and International Liaison Update

Currently Seeking State and International Liaisons (SAIL's) for the Standing Committee for Women from the following states:

Alabama
Arkansas
California
Connecticut
Delaware
Georgia
Hawaii
Idaho
Illinois
Iowa
Kansas
Kentucky
Louisiana
Maryland
Michigan
Minnesota
Mississippi

Montana
Nebraska
Nevada
New Hampshire
New Jersey
New Mexico
New York
North Dakota
Tennessee
Utah
Vermont
Virginia
Washington
West Virginia
Wisconsin
Wyoming



Being a SAIL is a great way to be involved on the regional level. What do SAIL's do? Here are some examples:

- Serve in a representative position on their state executive board;
- Encourage members of ACPA to join SCW and indicate it on their renewal application so we can add them to our mailing lists; and
- Keep their eyes and ears open as to issues facing women in higher education on the local and national level and then relate this information to SCW for programming and future convention activities/sessions.

If interested please contact either Heather Kind-Keppel (hkindkep@housing.uiuc.edu) or Shelley Errington Nicholson (shell@wpi.edu) for more information.

SCW Spotlight - Schnell Garrett

There are some amazing women working in our field and this is a new section to recognize some of those women. Our first Honoree is Schnell Garrett, who is a member of our SAIL Group: State And International Liaisons. Schnell is the Assistant Director of Student Life at Howard Community College.

Working in Student Affairs for 10 years now, Schnell is passionate about women's issues. She states "I have been influenced by many great women and I have always wanted to be a role model for young women. I also know the importance of having women's issues in the forefront and making sure that there is a forum for women's issues to be discussed."

Being an active community member at her institution is just one way she gives back to women. She provides mentoring for at risk students at her institution for a program called the Silas Craft Project, she programs and plans networking opportunities for female student leaders, and she is working on the development of a formal mentoring program for female student leaders and athletes. While that might seem like a lot, she is also responsible for the Women's History Month on her campus and she co-sponsors a variety of programs for women on issues like domestic violence, breast cancer awareness, body image, depression, and other cultural awareness programs.

Schnell is an amazing role model for her community at Howard Community College. Because of that, we asked her to give some advice for new professionals and graduate students. "I would encourage new professionals to always remember what brought them to the field because that is what is going to keep you going when they experience challenges. Also, be yourself and feel confident about what you are doing because at the end the day we might not be saving lives but we do have a large influence on the personal growth and development of the students that we interact with. Finally, you should always maintain the highest level of integrity in all that you do and never make a decision that will leave you unsettled or compromised."

SCW thanks Schnell for all she does for women in our field! Stay tuned for the next issue of the Muse to read about another amazing woman in our field!

Written by:

Diane P. Covington



Family Friendly Update

By Bethany Kilgore

The convention chair for this year's annual convention has negotiated arrangements for a Family Friendly room in at least one of the hotel sites. Due to the cost of furniture in the room and space limitations, there may not be a Family Friendly room in each hotel. It is unclear at this point whether or not a second room will be made available. Look in the pre-convention MUSE in March for an update on this.

Please note however, that a changing table and diaper receptacle will not be available in the Family Friendly room. Per Sue Saunders, the convention chair, "The hotels consider dirty diapers hazardous waste and outside of their normal cleaning purview." Therefore, I have been asked to inform all members about this and to encourage you to change babies and small children with diapers in public restrooms. Sue went on to say, "There are changing tables in some of the public bathroom stalls and diapers in those bathrooms don't seem to trigger the hazardous waste response." Because of this, Sue is trying to place the Family Friendly room close to a restroom to aide parents with this request but again, nothing is confirmed at this point. Dirty diapers left in the Family Friendly room will result in a large bill to the convention planning team for disposal of the hazardous waste.

I'm in the process of asking for donations from environmentally-friendly bio-degradable plastic-like bag manufacturers so they are available for free in the Family Friendly room. Members will be asked to put dirty diapers in these bags and properly dispose of the bag in a public restroom or in their own room. It will help alleviate the smell as well as triggering a hazardous waste response.

"The hotels consider dirty diapers hazardous waste and outside of their normal

A list of public restrooms will be made available in the Family Friendly room to help facilitate the disposal of diapers.



Lastly, toys will not be made available to children in the Family Friendly room due to budgetary constraints within the conference budget. The rise of concerns in lead paint in toys has also led to this decision from the conference planning team. Additionally, the Family Friendly room will not be able to be locked so items will be unable to be secured inside.

Members! I need your help! Should you know of a representative at an environmentally friendly plastic bag company, please forward her/his name to me so that I may request a donation. If you have any ideas, questions or concerns about the use of the Family Friendly room, please contact me at kilgoreb@nku.edu

ACPA Convention Highlight

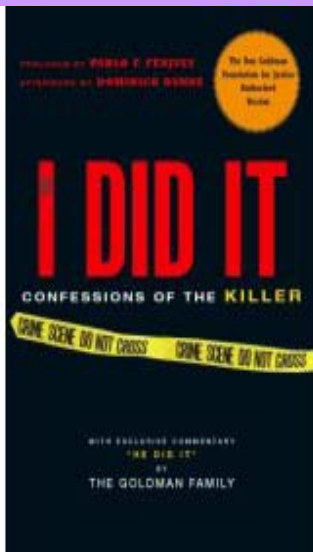
A roundtable discussion presented by Shelley Errington Nicholson, Director of Women's Programs at Worcester Polytechnic Institute and Cynthia J. Chapel, Leadership Development Coordinator at Northwestern University

ACPA's Standing Committee for Women engaged in a lively e-mail discussion about media and societal responsibilities in regards to domestic violence, prompted by the upcoming release of, *If I Did It*, by OJ Simpson. Does society inadvertently condone domestic violence? Is it glamorized in the media? How do we talk to our students about issues of domestic violence? These are some of the questions we pondered and will be asking as we open this discussion to all of ACPA.

Domestic violence is an on-going problem in our society and one that is very real for the students on our campuses. With the release of the OJ Simpson book, *If I Did It*, much debate has occurred as to who should profit from this "work of fiction". However, the debate needs to go further. The issues of how and why this book has been published need to be examined. What does it say about our society that we have let such a publication occur and where do we draw the lines between free speech and the promotion of violence? And most importantly, as educators, what messages are we conveying to our students about domestic violence?

According to the American Institute on Domestic Violence, 85-95% of all domestic violence victims are female, with 5.3 million women being abused each year. When this information is coupled with statistics we know about campus violence and sexual assault, the prognosis is grim for many of our female students. One in four women will be sexually assaulted in their lifetime with a disproportionate number of those assaults happening on college campuses. So, how do we begin to have conversations with our women about domestic violence issues in a climate where violence is often glorified in the media? The fact that domestic violence is the leading cause of injury to women is a sobering fact.

The day after the announcement, an online boycott encouraging Americans to ignore the book commenced at OJbookBoycott.com and similar boycotts began in Australia and Europe. Within four days of the book's announcement, over 58,395 people had signed an online petition developed by Ronald Goldman's family, DontPayOJ.com. Although the Goldman family will receive 90% of the profits of the book sales, there is still a moral issue at stake. Should this book exist? We will ponder this while bringing into the fold issues of censorship, the media and social responsibility. *If I Did It*, now entitled, *Confessions of A Killer*, in and of itself is a testament to both what is both good and bad about today's society. It's publication reinforces our freedoms from censorship, while at the same time compromises our integrity and may indeed glorify an epidemic that is killing women every day.



This presentation will be a roundtable discussion sponsored by the Standing Committee for Women. The Learning Objectives and outcomes are:

- ◆ Stimulate dialogue about freedom of the press vs. societal responsibilities.
- ◆ Brainstorm tools to bring these discussions to our campuses.
- ◆ Bring awareness and insight into the issue of domestic violence on college campuses.

Please attend this lively discussion during the annual convention.

Hope to see you there!

Children's Home Society of Florida

It has become an SCW tradition to fundraise for a local organization in the city we visit each year for convention. This past year SCW donated toys used in the Family Friendly room to the Children's Home Society of Florida. Their mission "Embracing Children, Inspiring Lives" makes a difference one life at a time: Redirecting a troubled teen toward a future with real possibilities; Transforming an addicted mother into a productive parent; Providing safe harbor for an abused toddler; Finding parents for an abandoned child; Helping a family learn to nurture one another.

During the holidays, consider donating to this organization. According to their website (<http://www.chsfl.org/donateFront.php>), here are just a few ways financial support has helped change lives:

- \$148 provides one day of care for one child in a group home
- \$1,317 provides one year of visitation services for one child with his or her family
- \$1,416 provides one year of independent living services for one youth (not including housing costs)
- \$2,106 recruits, trains and supports one foster family for one year
- \$2,434 provides foster care services for one child for one year (not staff salaries)
- \$2,665 matches one child with one mentor for one year through the MODEL Mentoring Program
- \$3,003 provides transitional living services for one youth for one year (not including housing costs)
- \$4,293 rescues one child from an abusive home
- \$5,087 provides Healthy Families services to an entire family for one year
- \$38,161 provides a home and love for one youth in a group residence for one year

**Numbers reflect the average cost for the service. Actual figures may vary slightly according to region.*

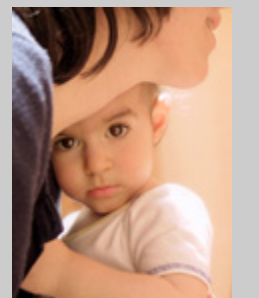
Please check the US Consumer Product Safety Commission's website (<http://www.cpsc.gov/cpscpub/prerel/category/toy.html>) to ensure all toys are safe and appropriate for children in our care. Thank you!

All contributions to CHS are tax-deductible as allowed by law. CHS is a 501(c)3 private, not-for-profit organization.

Charity Navigator has awarded Children's Home Society of Florida with its highest honor, the coveted 4-star rating for sound fiscal management and responsibility. Fewer than a quarter of all charities evaluated by Charity Navigator receive this designation.



For more information about the Children's Home Society of Florida, visit their website at <http://www.chsfl.org/index.php>





Children's Home Society of Florida
 Attn: Development Office
 1485 S. Semoran Boulevard, Suite 1448
 Winter Park, Florida 32792
 Phone: 321.397.3000

www.chsfl.org
 Statewide - - Website

Name: _____

Address _____ Unit# _____

City _____ ST _____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____ Business Phone _____

E-Mail address _____

Donation Amount: \$ _____

___ Check or ___ Money Order payable to Children's Home Society is enclosed

___ My company has a matching gift program. ___ Information included or please contact me by: ___ phone ___ e-mail ___ mail.

Special Instructions:

___ Use my gift where it will help the most

___ My gift is for a favorite program/service _____

___ My gift is (*please circle one*) in memory / honor of _____

Please send a gift acknowledgement card to:

Name _____

Address _____

City, State _____ Zip _____

Please contact me about:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Leaving a legacy by making a planned gift | <input type="checkbox"/> Contributing goods or services |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Making a gift of stock | <input type="checkbox"/> Scheduling a speaker |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hosting a CHS event for friends / colleagues | <input type="checkbox"/> Becoming a volunteer |

Please contact me by: ___ phone ___ e-mail ___ mail

Thank you!

Donations to Children's Home Society of Florida are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

CHILDREN'S HOME SOCIETY OF FLORIDA, REGISTRATION NUMBER CH180, IS REGISTERED WITH THE STATE UNDER THE SOLICITATION OF CONTRIBUTIONS ACT, 1991. A COPY OF THE OFFICIAL REGISTRATION AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE DIVISION OF CONSUMER SERVICES BY CALLING TOLL-FREE (800-435-7352) WITHIN THE STATE. REGISTRATION DOES NOT IMPLY ENDORSEMENT, APPROVAL OR RECOMMENDATION BY THE STATE.

SCW Directorate Board 2007-2008

Chair: Jodie Castanza
University of Illinois

Cynthia J. Chapel
Northwestern University

Linda Contreras-Bullock
University of Houston—Clear Lake

Diane Covington
University of California—San Diego

Shelley Errington Nicholson
Worcester Polytechnic Institute

Jody Jessup Anger
Michigan State University

Bethany Kilgore
Northern Kentucky University

Heather Kind-Keppel
University of Illinois

Melanie Lawson
University of Connecticut

Melissa McDonald
University of Illinois

Tanesha Nooner
Lehigh University

Sandy Tilford
University of Delaware

EmpowHer Fellow:
Sarah Hoffert
University of Vermont



The SCW is governed by a Directorate Board of twelve which is currently elected by those attending the annual business meeting. Each member serves a three year term. Nominations are solicited prior to the business meeting at the Spring Conference, via the MUSE and ACPA Developments. Self and/or floor nominations are also welcome. (The SCW elections process will be changed for the upcoming 2006-09 class)

SCW Vision:

The Standing Committee for Women exists as a centralized resource and advocate for the needs and concerns of women in the American College Personnel Association and the field of higher education in general. SCW serves to address issues of gender inequity and discrimination in higher education for students, staff, and the profession as a whole.

SCW Mission:

Women often have different needs, aspirations, and life priorities than men, particularly while pursuing a career. Women frequently have less access to employment opportunities and leadership positions in higher education. For more than twenty years, the SCW has served to examine the subtle manifestations of sexism within the ranks of ACPA, and to educate the members about sexism and its professional effects.

Through round-table discussions, sponsored programs, publications, representation on ACPA boards and commissions, sponsored research projects, and networking, SCW brings women's issues to the forefront and empowers and supports women in their professional aspirations in higher education. Through education, empowerment, advocacy, and support, SCW works in collaboration with the ACPA membership at large to effect positive change for women in higher education.

