



MINNESOTA  
COLLEGE  
PERSONNEL  
ASSOCIATION

# MCPA Pathways

VOL. 5, ISSUE 3

MARCH 2009

## President's Corner

### MCPA goes Ruby Red for our 40th Anniversary!

It was at the ACPA Convention in 1969 where MCPA's charter was approved and declared an official organization. So at the 2009 ACPA Convention, we celebrate our 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with a Convention Showcase and Reception highlighting the values of MCPA – sustainability, inclusion, and creating opportunities for networking in the field. Our January Drive-In on immigration, internationalism, and undocumented students as well as our Feb. Drive-In Workshop on careers in student affairs successfully promoted these values with high regard. Sustainability: Keeping with the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary stone – MCPA is going Ruby Red. We are honored that Target Corporation has chosen to donate nearly 200 red cloth sustainable Target Tote Bags to MCPA, in honor of being chosen as "Outstanding State Division of the Year" on our 40<sup>th</sup>.

If attending ACPA, please mark these concurrent events on your schedule so you can come connect with us MN folks:

- Monday, March 30 ~ 6:00-8:00PM: ACPA Convention Showcase – Potomac Ballroom (every state & committee holds a table; food is present; lots of free giveaways; come visit the Minnesota table!)
- Monday, March 30 ~ 7:00-8:30PM: MCPA & Friends Social/Reception – Gaylord 6176 Presidential Suite (food will be present; ACPA Vice President, Dr. Tom Jackson, Jr. will be hosting us)

Also, congratulations to the following ACPA awardees!

\*Michael Grewe – Augsburg College – selected for the Val DuMontier New Professional Award from ACPA's Standing Committee on LGBT Awareness – given to a professional with 1-5 years of experience who has made significant contributions in the area of LGBT awareness.

\*Tiffany Lane – University of Minnesota & North Hennepin Community College – selected for an ACPA Scholarship as well as the Dr. Tom Jackson, Jr. ACPA Honorarium.

\*Anna Dolney – Minnesota State University, Mankato – selected for an ACPA Scholarship.

\*Minnesota College Personnel Association – selected for Outstanding State/International Division of the Year

If you're unable to attend the ACPA Convention this year, we hope to see you at our upcoming In-Service on American Indian students in mid-April as well as our 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration in early May. Check the listserv for details!

Matthew Antonio Bosch  
President of MCPA  
North Hennepin Community College

American College and University Presidents Climate Commitment: Taking the Lead  
by Erika Bailey-Johnson, Sustainability Coordinator, Bemidji State University

The first time I heard the term ACUPCC (which some had pronounced "acupuc"), I can recall ignoring the seemingly complex acronym. Little did I know and understand that the American College and University Presidents Climate Commitment (ACUPCC) would become an essential guiding document in my new position of Sustainability Coordinator at Bemidji State University.



Andrew Spaeth, President of the Students for the Environment club, and Trent Nelson, Assistant Residence Hall Director of Pine Hall at Bemidji State University with the "Do it in the Dark" energy competition trophy.

*Continued on page 5*

"MCPA—selected for Outstanding State / International Division of the Year"

-Matthew Antonio Bosch, MCPA President

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

"Save-these-Dates" 2

One Perspective on the Jan. '09 Drive-In 3

"Careers in Student Affairs" Review 4

Climate Commit. 5  
(cont. from front page)

MCPA Presenters at ACPA Convention 6

Editor  
Tara Martinez  
MCTC-Mpls Comm. & Technical College

To submit articles, e-mail Tara at Tara.Martinez@minneapolis.edu

Please join us for the  
**New Professionals Happy Hour**  
Tuesday, March 24, 6:00 PM  
Psycho Suzi's Motor Lounge  
2519 Marshall Street NE  
Minneapolis, MN 55418  
(612) 788-9069



Hosted by the New Professionals Commission of the MCPA

Join us for an evening of FUN! There will be opportunities for networking, conversation and snacks hosted by the New Professionals Commission. Be sure to bring business cards in case there are people you would like to continue your conversations with...

#### **Social Justice Educators need reflection time too**

by Ben R. Falter ([falte011@umn.edu](mailto:falte011@umn.edu)), Housing & Residential Life, University of Minnesota-Twin Cities

Amongst our busy schedules, a group of people working in higher education in Minnesota recently gathered for themselves. Yes, there was no agenda of planning some staff retreat or student program. Housing & Residential Life at the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities hosted this, the second meeting of interested persons who work directly or indirectly with issues of diversity and social justice. The goals of the meetings are to connect educators engaging and struggling with social justice issues and education efforts on area campuses with one another by creating a space for relationship building, information sharing, and dialogue. The informal meetings have focused on personal reflection; asking questions like "How do you incorporate D/SJ into your daily work life?" and "How is it different in your personal vs. professional life?". The group has also been discussing current items at their institutions, in their cities, and on-line. While we do not provide answers or a list of must-do's we have provided comfort in those times that we get frustrated, that although your partner at home or the person in the next office might not "get it" that we are allies for each other and can provide some hints, best practices, or just a space to vent.

Persons interested in these gatherings should contact the person who is hosting/facilitating the next meeting, which will be at St. Cloud State University; Jessica Lauritsen ([jslauritsen@stcloudstate.edu](mailto:jslauritsen@stcloudstate.edu)) is the host contact. The April meeting will take place in the M'de Wakan Room in the Atwood Student Center on Friday, April 24 from 2-4p. Some attendees may be connected to MCPA or ACPA's Commission for Social Justice Educators (CSJE). You do not have to be a member of MCPA, ACPA or the CSJE in order to participate. The meeting is open to all members of higher education.

#### **SAVE-THESE-DATES for the 2009 FALL CONFERENCE: OCTOBER 15-16, 2009**

We are proud to announce that Minneapolis Community and Technical College will host our 2009 Fall Conference October 15-16, 2009. This will mark the 1st time MCPA will hold an annual conference at a 2-year institution. The Conference Planning Committee, co-chaired by Mary Beth Thompson ([mbthompson@csbsju.edu](mailto:mbthompson@csbsju.edu)), College of St. Benedict & St. John's University & Ashley Bowes ([abowes@stthomas.edu](mailto:abowes@stthomas.edu)), University of St. Thomas, has already met to start the planning, and the theme will be finalized at the next meeting. Highlights at the conference will include: a Celebration of MCPA's 40th anniversary; Conference break-out sessions for new professionals, mid-level staff and senior student affairs officers; Representation from a wide variety of public, private, for-profit, professional, 2-year, & 4-year schools; Professional development and networking opportunities; & much, much more!

# A Few Updates...

## GLBTA COMMISSION-OUT AFTER WORK

**Out After Work** by Ben R. Falter

Has it been a long work week? The GLBTA Commission of MCPA hosts occasional outings for MCPA members and friends to get to casually connect to people across the state at the end of the Friday workday over some libations & snacks. We'll even buy the snacks! This past *Out After Work* was at Tickles Bar in Minneapolis where members of the ATCCHA's (Associated Twin Cities College Housing Administrators) Social Group and the U of MN's Employee *Pride @ Work* group joined MCPA members to kick back, relax and chat. Past *Out After Work*'s have been held at the former Pi Restaurant in Minneapolis, Red Carpet Bar in St. Cloud and Pub 500 in Mankato. This is an opportunity for all who want to be involved in the commission. If you are interested in these events or leadership opportunities in MCPA, contact Ben R. Falter (falte011@umn.edu) or Michael Perry (perryml@augsborg.edu), GLBTA Commission Co-Chairs.

## INCLUSION TEAM-ONE PERSPECTIVE ON THE JAN. '09 DRIVE-IN

The New Pilgrims: A journey where bright Latino students struggle to find opportunity in higher education  
by Oscar Bohórquez, Director of Intercultural Services, Alexandria Technical College

The Minnesota College Personnel Association Immigrant Student Conference (that took place at Anoka Ramsey Community College on January 23, 2009), with the participation of undocumented students, marked a difference. Silence was broken and the students were able to share their story, dreams and frustrations. Sandra and Carolina were the paradigm of many students that have struggled daily in order to access Higher Education in the United States. These Latino students assimilated to American culture and demonstrated good skills, becoming the best students at their school, receiving many awards and recognitions, not only for their academic skills, but also for their leadership and willingness to create a better community in the state. These two model students face many obstacles today to get access to a College or University. Carolina, one of the students, said "My mother works full time as an office cleaner and we do not have money to go to College, and even with the scholarships we are able to get because of our good GPA, we still are not able to start a career. We know College is the best path we can take." "Why are not we able to get an education, we are immigrants as everyone else in this country; we are hard working and honest people." "While all my friends will graduate and go to college, we will not be able to continue, it is very sad and frustrating not having a chance; we know education is a human right and the path for success" they shared. Their family came to this country running away from extreme poverty and inhumane living conditions. Sandra said: "My mother is a single parent, we are four girls and my brother is going to College with the scholarships he received plus the money my mother makes. However, he will be the only one who will get an education. My sister and I will have to work and save money. We want to help our mother and we know education is the best way to do it. We would like to get a better future for ourselves and our family. My mother works really hard, and we really want to help her. As the pilgrims, Jews, Germans, Swedish, Italians, Irish and all those who came to this country for an opportunity, we are here for the same reason, for an opportunity to succeed.

Human Rights should not be denied to anyone, especially in a country that values family, opportunity and freedom. The United Nations Universal declaration of human rights clearly establishes in Articles 21 and 22: "Everyone has the right to education. Education shall be directed to the full development of the human personality and to the strengthening of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms."

We all came to the United States to be part of that American dream of opportunity and freedom that was denied back in our country of origin. We face a big paradox: we have good Americans, who love this country, who think like Americans, act like Americans and do not have the same rights of Americans. Imagine yourself being a bright student, studying hard for many years and at the end when you are more than ready for College you cannot continue, that your dream has vanished with no fair explanation. What would you do?

According to Scott Miller from the National Research Center on the Gifted and Talented (NRCGT), "Compared to White and Asian Americans, Latinos, African Americans, and Native Americans are severely underrepresented among top students in the U.S. at all levels of the educational system. If there is to be substantial progress in this area, it will be necessary to give considerable priority to the design, testing, and rigorous evaluation of strategies that are explicitly concerned with increasing the number of top students from these groups".

This forum opened many questions to all Universities and Colleges in Minnesota. This kind of conference opens the gate for the creation of prompt solutions to problems that face our American youth who deserve the right to get an education.

*If you would like to read this article in Spanish, please contact Tara Martinez, MCPA newsletter editor or Oscar Bohórquez, author.*

# MCPA Careers in Student Affairs Review

By Pam Boersig, Ai Minnesota

The University of St. Thomas—Minneapolis campus was the site of a very successful Careers in Student Affairs workshop that took place on February 6, 2009. Participants had the opportunity to learn more about the field of student affairs and higher education while networking with others.

## Conference highlights:

- 78 participants including undergraduate & graduate students, new and seasoned professionals from 16 different private and public institutions in Minnesota were involved in the event
- 13 diverse workshops were facilitated by student affairs/higher education professionals
- Career panelists representing three institutions provided insights about different fields within higher education and varied career paths to those areas
- Nine professionals conducted 31 mock interviews / resume evaluations
- 21 new MCPA memberships were generated from this event

## Workshop participant feedback:

- Learned so much about the field and appreciated the networking opportunities
- Helped relieve anxieties; good to see others who were interested in the field
- Friendliness of presenters and participants
- Fun to meet new people and network, great to connect with professionals
- Took place at a great time of year; the day was refreshing
- Great information was provided in the program sessions
- Program sessions were of great quality, to the point and interesting
- Wonderful variety of professionals from diverse institutions
- Career panel was very insightful and provided lots of wisdom & knowledge
- Mock interviews and resume evaluations provided great insight
- Enjoyed the relaxed atmosphere and the downtown location
- Please provide this event on a regular basis



## THANK YOU TO OUR MANY Presenters and Panelists:

Pam Boersig, Ai Minnesota  
Chris Buckley, University of Minnesota  
Rickey Hall, University of Minnesota  
Jess Lauritsen, St. Cloud State University  
Tori Svoboda, University of St. Thomas  
Sarah Sampolinski, University of Minnesota  
Katy Hinz, University of Minnesota  
Katie Justis, Hamline University  
Darren Kaltved, University of Minnesota  
Kim Klein, Normandale Community College  
Katie Kustritz, College of St. Scholastica  
Tam Knapton, University of Minnesota  
Katie Koopmeiners, University of Minnesota

Matthew Antonio Bosch, North Hennepin Community College  
Steve Fox, Minnesota State University-Mankato  
Bryan Helminiak, University of St. Thomas  
Drew Puroway, University of St. Thomas  
Jill Pravatiner, University of Minnesota  
Mary Tosch, Bemidji State University  
Shona Ramchandani, Rasmussen College  
Adam Riegle, St. Olaf College  
Tasia Tigue, University of St. Thomas  
Rachel Rask, St. Olaf College  
Saif Ullah, St. Cloud State University  
Mandi Soderlund, University of Minnesota

ACUPCC began as an idea to address global climate change brought forth among a group of college and university presidents and their representatives at a conference in October 2006. A vast body of evidence suggests that the Earth is warming at a dangerous pace and that the burning of fossil fuels is largely to blame. The signatories to the ACUPCC realize that colleges and universities play a major role not only mitigating climate change locally, but also educating future leaders about the impacts of their individual decisions. The ultimate goal of the ACUPCC is to neutralize greenhouse gas emissions on campus.

Once institutions have signed the commitment, they must have a plan within two years of how they will achieve this zero-carbon goal. The plan will include:

- Completing a greenhouse gas inventory;
- Setting a target date and interim milestones for becoming climate neutral;
- Taking immediate steps to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by choosing from a list of short-term actions such as: Establishing a LEED (Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design) building policy; Adopting an Energy Star appliance policy; Establishing a policy to offset all campus-funded air travel; Providing access to and encourage the use of public transportation; Begin purchasing at least 15% of electrical needs from renewable sources;
- Integrating sustainability into the curriculum and making it part of the educational experience;
- Making the action plan, inventory and progress reports publicly available.

To date, the commitment has garnered the support of over 600 colleges and universities across the nation, including the following institutions in Minnesota:

Augsburg College, Paul C. Pribbenow, President  
Bemidji State University, John Quistgaard, President  
Carleton College, Robert A. Oden Jr., President  
Century College, Lawrence P. Litecky, President  
College of Saint Benedict, MaryAnn Baenninger, President  
College of St. Catherine, Andrea Lee, President  
Dakota County Technical College, Ronald E. Thomas, President  
Gustavus Adolphus College, James L. Peterson, President  
Inver Hills Community College, Cheryl Frank, President  
Lake Superior College, Kathleen Nelson, President  
Macalester College, Brian C. Rosenberg, President

Metropolitan State University, William J. Lowe, President  
Minneapolis Comm. & Technical College, Phillip Davis, President  
MN State Comm. & Tech. College, Ann M. Valentine, President  
Rochester Comm. and Tech. College, Donald D. Supalla, President  
Saint John's University, Dietrich Reinhart, President  
University of Minnesota, Robert H. Bruininks, President  
University of Minnesota, Morris, Jacqueline Johnson, Chancellor  
University of Saint Thomas, Dennis Dease, President  
Vermilion Community College, Joe Sertich, President  
Winona State University, Judith A. Ramaley, President

So, how does one go about achieving carbon neutrality? Schools have undertaken a variety of strategies to accomplish emissions reduction goals, with the two least complex solutions involving conservation and efficiency. Currently, Bemidji State University is participating in the Minnesota Campus Energy Challenge with Carleton College, the College of Saint Benedict and Saint John's University, Gustavus Adolphus College, Macalester College, Saint Olaf College, and Winona State University. The goal is to reduce electrical consumption and heat usage compared to the previous three Februaries. For many on our campus, it simply involves educating about turning off lights and unplugging computers. The Union has taken the initiative of turning off two of the three banks of lights in the hallway.

Many schools are turning to renewable energy sources. For example, the University of Minnesota, Morris, has already erected a wind turbine to provide approximately 40% of the campus's electrical needs and has plans to erect another. They also recently began operating a new biomass gasification facility that should assist with campus heating and cooling and help them reach their goal of carbon-neutrality by mid 2010. Other campuses are installing solar panels and purchasing carbon offsets from reliable sources.

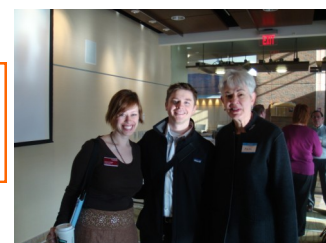
Other projects initiated to reduce campus carbon footprints include free-bike programs, local food initiatives, tray-less policies, green roofs, and composting facilities. Campuses are also investing in green building design and energy efficient appliances, realizing that a higher initial cost should not be the sole determining factor in decision-making. In order to fund some higher capital projects, many campuses are turning to grants and partnerships.

The ability to think long-term is key when it comes to sustainability. I believe we envision humans as inhabitants of this planet far into the future, yet we still are utterly dependent on an energy infrastructure that is based on a nonrenewable resource. Colleges and universities have become visionary leaders to take a different path. I am extremely excited about that!

"We are like tenant farmers chopping down the fence around our house for fuel when we should be using nature's inexhaustible sources of energy - sun, wind and tide. ... I'd put my money on the sun and solar energy. What a source of power! I hope we don't have to wait until oil and coal run out before we tackle that." -- Thomas Edison to Henry Ford and Harvey Firestone (1931)



*Candid photos from February MCPA Board meeting at Augsburg College.*



## **2009 ACPA Convention ~ MCPA Presenters**

compiled by Aarin Distad

**Presenters:** Trenda Boyum-Breen/Kathe Pelletier

**Program Title:** Supplemental Instruction Online: Innovation that Works

**Date:** Monday, March 30

**Time:** 7:30 AM - 8:30 AM

**Location:** National Harbor 12

**Presenters:** Laura Knudson and Lisa Novack (in conjunction with 2 other presenters as part of the National Clearinghouse for Commuter Programs sponsored presentation)

**Program Title:** More Than a Place to Park

**Date:** Monday, March 30

**Time:** 11:45am-1:00pm

**Location:** Chesapeake 11 & 12

**Presenters:** LeeAnn Melin

**Program Title:** Imagination to Action: Leveraging Technology to Enhance Student Success

**Date:** Tuesday, March 31

**Time:** 7:30 AM - 8:30 AM

**Location:** Chesapeake 5

**Presenters:** Signe Harriday, Donna Hauer and Amanda Niskode-Dossett

**Program Title:** Seeing You, Seeing Me: Engaging in Meaningful Dialogues About Inclusivity

**Date:** Tuesday, March 31

**Time:** 10:15 AM - 11:30 AM

**Location:** Maryland Ballroom 5

**Presenters:** Aarin Distad, Dara Hagen and Jenn Rassett

**Program Title:** Inspiring Students to Take Action Through the GPS LifePlan

**Date:** Tuesday, March 31

**Time:** 10:15 AM – 11:30 AM

**Location:** Chesapeake 7, 8 & 9

**Presenters:** Trenda Boyum-Breen/Kathe Pelletier

**Program Title:** PTME: A Quantitative Approach to Evaluating Student Affairs Resources

**Date:** Tuesday, March 31

**Time:** 10:15 AM - 11:30 AM

**Location:** Chesapeake D

**Presenters:** Anna Dolney, Chandra Johnson, and Dr. Holly Breitreutz

**Program Title:** Soldier to Student: Orienting a New Generation of Veterans

**Date:** Wednesday, April 1

**Time:** 9:30 AM - 10:45 AM

**Location:** Chesapeake 11 & 12

**Thank you to all of these presenters for sharing their valuable experiences with others! If you are attending the ACPA Convention, please consider attending one of these presentations, facilitated by a fellow MCPA colleague!**