



www.myacpa.org/sid/mn

February 12, 2009

MINNESOTA COLLEGE PERSONNEL ASSOCIATION HONORED AS STATE/INTERNATIONAL DIVISION OF THE YEAR

On the brink of their 40th anniversary, the Minnesota College Personnel Association (MCPA) has been selected to receive Outstanding State/International Division of the Year by its parent organization, the American College Personnel Association (ACPA.) ACPA oversees 30+ statewide divisions, as well as the Caribbean, advancing professional development among employees within Higher Education. The award will be presented among all state and international division leaders at the upcoming ACPA Convention in Metro DC this March.

MCPA is celebrating a year full of accomplishments: a new 3-team Board structure focusing on equitable inclusion, executive leadership, and professional stewardship; a revamped Strategic Plan and Affirmative Action Plan; the greatest response for Board positions resulting in 20 institutions represented across the state; greatest number of elected professionals of color; highest representation of for-profit institutions and career colleges; inauguration of the Association's first Latino President, Matthew Antonio Bosch of North Hennepin Community College.

Inclusive leadership rings throughout MCPA's Board - 20 institutions, 5 Delegates representing institutional diversity, and 4 Commissions focused on networking professionals of color, GLBTA professionals, newer professionals, and professionals with disabilities. Delegate for Private Institutions, Shvonne L. Johnson of the College of St. Catherine affirms, "I am honored to be part of an organization that is not just doing groundbreaking work in the state of Minnesota, but to be acknowledged on the international level makes all the efforts and planning worth it. I really thank Matthew Antonio for modeling integrity, commitment, and leadership, which is what hopefully we stand for. Keep up the good work, MCPA!"

Regarding their annual conference, 2008 marked the first MCPA Fall Conference held at a professional school (William Mitchell College of Law.) Among the statewide divisions of ACPA, Minnesota is the only state with their entire Presidential Team (Past President, President, and President-Elect) representing 2-year institutions. Aligning with intentional commitment towards inclusion of 2-year institutions, 2009 will mark the first MCPA Fall Conference held at a 2-year institution, Minneapolis Community and Technical College. Webmaster and 2008 Conference Co-Chair, Kimberly Klein of Normandale Community College remarks, "The values we hold of inclusion and life-long learning have paved the way, not only for our students, but for other professionals. Receiving this award upon our 40th anniversary marks the accomplishments we have made and the great strides we have taken. I am excited and grateful to be a part of this amazing group. To MCPA, be proud of the work you do each day, the students you help, the lives you impact."

The last time Minnesota received this honor was 1984, exactly 25 years ago. In 2007, former President of MCPA, T. Todd Masman received the Outstanding State/International Division Leader of the Year from ACPA. Regarding MCPA's recent recognition, Masman reflects, "What a thrill it is to learn of MCPA's recognition at the international level for its continued commitment and passion for professional development and social justice for members at all levels of their career, whether the new graduate student, mid-level manager or seasoned professional. I'm proud to be witness to the energy, innovation, and dedication of this year's board in carrying on the high level of programs and services MCPA has been providing for the past 40 years."

For more information on the Minnesota College Personnel Association, please visit <http://www.myacpa.org/sid/mn>