

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- A note from Tracy Davis and Sarah Schoper
- New Building Connections Program
- Recruitment Corner
- Homecoming Results
- WISPA Update
- Changes in the Student Services Division

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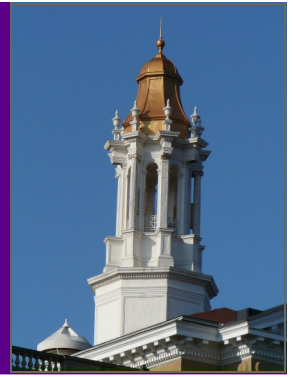
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CSP ALUMNOTES

Western Illinois University



Recruitment Corner with Sara Lytle

Recruitment Corner—Some quick notes and news about recruitment



Thank you for sending your student leaders to the CSP program. Last year we again saw many applications with a letter of recommendation from alumni and friends of the CSP program. Your support helps keep the classroom a diverse and dynamic place. Thank you for your support!

NEW this year! Candidates for the CSP program are now able to upload application materials from the CSP website. We hope this new convenience will help candidates get materials in more quickly and also be more environmentally friendly. Letters of recommendation can also be uploaded so be sure to use our new link if you are sending us an amazing student. Link to upload materials: <https://adobeformscentral.com/?f=ggp5qmBbL0M-0OWXF2b0nQ#>



Just as a reminder we have a January 15th application deadline for the Fall 2013 cohort! With an early set of CSP Days and over 130 applications last year it is always a great idea to apply early to WIU and other programs. The reputation of our program is as strong as ever. We continue to see candidates with very strong undergraduate involvement and academic performance.

This year Jim Fry and Brian Albertsen are the CSP Recruitment graduate assistants. Their office number is 309-298-1183 and they are always checking the CSP e-mail account at CSP@wiu.edu. They would love to talk to you or to any interested student—please feel free to contact them at anytime!



TH  NK
PURPLE
THINK CSP THINK WESTERN

We are already working hard to plan and prepare for CSP Days. This year we will host CSP Days Feb 4-6th and Feb 24-26th and then will host a small visit day for OPE candidates in March. We are also hosting the Student Affairs 101 conference for undergraduate students in October. The conference will help students find a fit in the field through educational sessions, a graduate school/resource fair, and a fun keynote from Garry Johnson during lunch.

Save the Date:

*CSP Student Services Summer Institute
June 27th and 28th 2013 @Western Illinois University*



Dr. Tracy Davis



"Essentially, we spent the year learning, not just about each other, but we learned more about the program."

Dr. Sarah Schoper



A Note From Tracy and Sarah...

The 2011-2012 academic year brought not only the integration of a new full-time faculty member into the College Student Personnel (CSP) program, but Dr. Ron Williams, the Assistant Vice President for Academic Affairs, taught his first course: Higher Education in the United States. Often when people hear "new" they interpret it to mean "change" and sometimes feelings of fear can accompany the word change. James Zull (2002) shares with us an alternative version of the word change. As a trained biologist and someone who has studied how the brain works, he defines change as learning, which we feel is a more accurate term for the experience we had in the CSP program this past year. Essentially, we spent the year learning, not just about each other, but we learned more about the program.

In June, several faculty came together and held a one day retreat during which we clarified the purpose, values, pedagogical framework, and learning outcomes. We present what we created with you below because we want your input. After you take a moment to reflect on it, share with us what you think. Is there anything you would add? Alter? Remove? The values we outlined include:

1. Theories to practice: This is language we selected to convey that not only do we draw from more than one set of developmental theories, but that we also learn organizational theory and critical theory, for example, so that we illuminate both individual and institutional dynamics.
2. Ethical Action
3. Self-Authorship
4. Social Justice
5. Transformative Learning

In addition, we identified 5 learning outcomes for students who graduate from the CSP program. Graduating students will be able to:

1. make meaning of how growth occurs, identify conditions that influence development and create experiences that advance greater interpersonal, intrapersonal, and cognitive complexity;
2. articulate the history of and create approaches that effectively address contemporary issues facing higher education;
3. define and assess an organization's policies, practices, procedures, and structures for the purpose of strategically co-creating quality transformative environments;
4. gather, apply, and evaluate methods of research evidence to improve holistic student learning; and
5. define, implement, and reflect upon transformative learning practices for the benefit of both individuals and organizations.



6. We also more clearly articulated our pedagogical framework for the program as grounded in our belief that people and organizations grow through an experiential process that is mutually shaped, socially constructed, and historically situated.

Finally, as we experienced this process we started to question whether the name of the program, College Student Personnel, best articulates the purpose of the program. Perhaps College Student Educators, Student Learning in Higher Education, etc. would fit us better? A name change is not something that we would make swiftly, so there is time for the conversation, and we are not even sure we will make a name change. What we want to do, however, is begin a conversation. So, if you have an idea for a new program name, please let us know. If you feel strongly that the program name should remain CSP, we want to hear that too.

We hope your school year is off to a positive start, and we look forward to our next interaction with you!

Sincerely,

Tracy Davis

Sarah Schoper

CSP FOUNDATION

Sponsor a CSP Candidate

By giving a gift of \$200 to the CSP Foundation, you would be able to sponsor one candidate for CSP Days this February!

Your donation would cover all expenses including; shuttles to and from the train station or airport, welcome packets, lodging in the University Union Hotel, all meals and candidate transportation around campus

Student Scholarships

By giving a gift of \$100 today, you are ensuring the continuation of student scholarships provided by the CSP Program.

The CSP Student Scholarships affected by alumni giving are:

- The Dr. Nell Koester Memorial Scholarship
- The Dea Forney College Student Personnel Alumni Scholarship

Think about giving today and what impact it would have on a future student affairs professional!

For more information on how to give, see the Alumni Giving article in this newsletter.



**Wetzel Hall
July 2012**

***“It wasn’t about the building. It was about the communities we built and the relationships. And the sense of pride we had for where we lived”
-Jude Kiah***

Saying Goodbye to Wetzel Hall

For over four decades Wetzel Hall stood tall on the Western Illinois University campus. The thirteen story residence hall housed over 22,000 students in its existence.

After the spring semester of 2009 the famed residence hall closed its doors for good, due to extensive maintenance liabilities. Contractors started to dismantle the building and prepare the building for implosion.

A celebration was held for Wetzel Hall the night before the implosion. The celebration included dinner and a eulogy address by former Wetzel Hall Complex Director, Jude Kiah. Jude served as the Complex Director from 1995 to 1999. He began his eulogy for Wetzel Hall by stating, “I’m very honored

to speak tonight at what I consider a funeral.” He continued by commenting on the building layout, “Basically, it was a blueprint for how NOT to build a residence hall. And yet, in the face of those challenges, we found a way to be great.” Jude was speaking of the judicial and vandalism rates dropping while the retention rate increased. Being residence hall of the year in 1997 and of course being Homecoming champs in 1998. “So what did all that prove? It proved that it wasn’t about the building. It was about the communities we built and the relationships. And sense of pride we had for where we lived.” As Jude finished his remarks, he ended with this, “We will close the chapter that Wetzel filled for 42 years

tomorrow. And those pages are filled with stories of glory and friendship and community and success. Goodbye, old girl – you will never be forgotten.”

A crowd gathered at 7am on July 14th, 2012 to view the implosion of Wetzel Hall. Alumni, students, faculty, staff and community members were all in attendance to witness the implosion. Just after 7am the plunger was dropped and the building started to fall.

Future plans for the site of Wetzel Hall include a bus stop and park commemorating the residence hall. The project will be funded through a number of fundraisers.

Watch the implosion video by following this link: <http://youtu.be/UU3GtyyaDul>



New University Union Advisory Board (UUAB)

This year, the University Union is preparing for renovations that will begin this next spring/summer. As part of this phase one of renovations, an idea came from Director of the University Union, Ann Commerford, to organize a University Union Advisory Board (UUAB). This board,

made up of Western students, is designed to oversee and implement the University Unions policies and also serve as a promotion group for the Union. Having only started this Fall, the board is already in full swing having picked and executive board and preparing for events that will be going on

with the changes coming to the Union. Ann Commerford commented on what she hopes the board will be able to accomplish, “I hope the board comes up with some great ways to bring more students into the Union and provides feedback and ideas on the Union renovation.”



New Building Connections Program

With every academic year, Western Illinois University welcomes a number of new students. Over the past few years, colleges and universities across the country have been seeing an increase in first generation students on their campuses. With this comes an increase of resources needed for those who are attending college for the first time in their family.

This is why Western Illinois University (WIU) has started their new Building Connections program focusing on providing new freshman students with more support through one-on-one meetings with faculty and staff mentors.

The program is headed up by Dr. Gary Biller, Vice President of Student Services and Coordinator for the Building Connections program. "The intent of this program is to establish a connection with students right from the start to let them know someone is here for them and willing to help them succeed," Biller explained. "The mentors aren't academic advisers or counselors,

they are simply individuals who check in with the students to ensure they have the resources they need, be it a math tutor, information on a study skills session, or who to contact if they wish to volunteer."

This program is also tied in to helping WIU's retention numbers, which have been decreasing over the past couple of years. Specifically, the retention numbers are looking at freshman to sophomore retention. While WIU in past years has stayed steady with around 74 percent retention of students, this past academic year saw a huge shift down to 66 percent retention.

"It's problematic, and I know we're better than that. When reviewing those numbers, we realized that more needed to be done to ensure our students succeed and graduate. With the number of first-generation students growing, it's essential we provide opportunities for them to succeed as many don't have that reference of what they must do," Biller added.

Biller also commented that he is excited about the potential for the Building Connections program and what it has to offer. "It is intentional about creating community. It centers on breaking down the formal hierarchical relations between us and our students. It is about building and sustaining empathetic social networks for our first-year students," he added. "These sorts of welcoming, social relationships between our existing campus community and those who are joining us have the real potential to literally make the difference between thriving here, and leaving."

"These sorts of welcoming, social relationships between our existing campus community and those who are joining us have the real potential to literally make the difference between thriving here, and leaving."

-Dr. Gary Biller



Balloon Rally/Balloon Glow 2012



2nd Years!



The CSP Program would like to welcome the WIU CSP Class of 2014!

Adam Broudy

University Housing and Dining Services
Sonoma State University

Amanda Gilbert

Office of Student Activities - University Union
Board
Iowa State University

Amber Bedee

Campus Recreation
Colorado State University

Amber Brackett

University Housing and Dining Services
Augustana College

Andy Lehr

University Housing and Dining Services
Westminster College

Ariel Edgeworth

Student Development and Orientation
Augustana College

Brian Albertsen

College Student Personnel Recruitment
Illinois State University

Carmen Stockberger

Interpersonal Violence Prevention Initiative
Ball State University

Derek Wahl

University Housing and Dining Services
Bowling Green State University

Emily Bahr

Center for International Studies - Study Abroad
Webster University

Erik Heller

Student Development and
Orientation
Minnesota State University -
Mankato

Hollie Butcher

University Housing and Dining
Services
Iowa State University

Jaymee Lewis

University Housing and Dining
Services
DePaul University

JD Castro

University Housing and Dining Services
The Ohio State University

Jill Jungemann

University Housing and Dining Services
University of Evansville

Josh Baker

University Housing and Dining Services
Carthage College

Katie May

Women's Center
Miami University

Koryna Felt

Office of Student Activities - Greek Life
University of Tampa

Leotie Yard

University Housing and Dining Services
The Ohio State University

Meagan Savage

Career Services
Drake University

Michael Rogers

Office of Student Activities – Leadership
Augustana College

Sam Jagust

Office of Admissions
Monmouth College

Suzanna Farnier

Campus Recreation
University of Buffalo - SUNY





Alumni Giving: How My Money Matters

The moment I stepped on the Western Illinois University campus this past February for College Student Personnel Days I felt the community and family feeling that everyone talks about. I quickly realized it was an honor to be at WIU for CSP Days but what I didn't realize was that if it weren't for alumni giving I may not have had that same experience.

The total impact our alumni network has on the WIU CSP community is immeasurable. One area in which we can measure alumni impact is annual giving. Many of the scholarships given and programs put on by the CSP program are only possible through CSP alumni giving. The two major programs that our alumni help make possible are CSP Days and CSP Student Scholarships.

When we invite our CSP Candidates to campus alumni giving provides shuttles to and from the train station or airport, welcome packets, lodging in the University Union Hotel, meals while on campus and candidate transportation around campus. All of what we provide to our candidates is what helps set our program apart from others. Allowing candidates to feel at ease makes for a better experience for all involved. Providing all of these amenities to our candidates comes as a cost to the CSP Program and University. By giving \$200 today, you would be able to fully sponsor a CSP Candidate at CSP Days this spring.

Student scholarships are another valued part of the CSP program and they are only possible through alumni funding. A student may use the funds to help offset the costs of

books, materials, conference fees and travel, or other expenses. By giving \$100 today, you are ensuring the continuation of student scholarships provided by the CSP Program this spring.

The CSP Student Scholarships affected by alumni giving are:

- The Dr. Nell Koester Memorial Scholarship
- The Dea Forney College Student Personnel Alumni Scholarship

The CSP program wants to thank the alumni who have generously given gifts in the past and invite you to continue to give. There is no more important place for you to give than the CSP program at WIU. By giving to the CSP program you are investing in your profession, future professionals and a place in which you can be proud. Think about giving today and what impact it would have on a future student affairs professional.

Checks may be made to:

"CSP Foundation"

Addressed to::

Sara Lytle
Western Illinois University
1 University Circle
Horabin Hall 115
Macomb, IL 61455



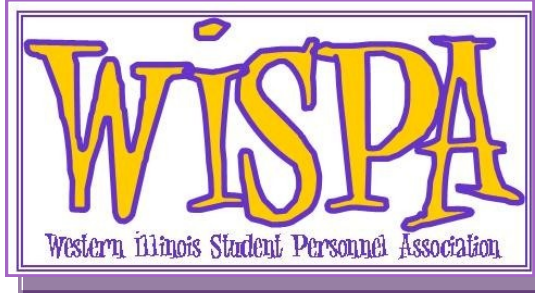
The 2013
CSP Days
Theme is...

THINK
PURPLE
THINK CSP THINK WESTERN



Jaime Vilsack— WISPA President

Hello Alumni!
I am excited to share with you all the wonderful changes WISPA has incorporated this year. Our executive board has really made some improvements to get more CSP Students involved with WISPA that is more than just attending General Session meetings. We have re-evaluated the First Year Liaison position to be more inclusive and involved with planning by them taking ownership over one event to offer up to the



cohorts. The idea behind this was for both the First & Second Year Liaison position's to have similar purposes of creating and implementing a professional and/or social event for their peers. In addition to the First Year Liaison executive board position, we have implemented a First Year Liaison Committee to offer those first year students more opportunities to get involved and be a voice for their peers. This committee will allow for more group experiences and connections between the first year's while they are developing relationships with each other and the second year cohort.

While the executive has been hard at work implementing these new changes within the organization, we have also been hard at play! The WISPA Welcome BBQ was just hosted for everyone to wind down from their first week of classes and followed up with a weekend of Mud Volleyball. WISPA sponsored two teams this year as we had many grads interested in supporting this event! Some other events that are coming up this semester is a professional development wine-tasting evening, homecoming tailgating, study socials at Cafe Aroma, haunted 19, as well as our General Session meeting's on: LinkedIn Strategies and Practices, Anxiety Reduction, & Health, Nutrition, and Body Image. We are definitely looking forward to another great semester!

Second Year Summer Internship Sites

Ryan Trump
North Carolina State University

Megan Shaffer
Baylor University

Travis Greenlee
Millikin University

Teri Cameron
University of Calgary

Brandon Meyer
Western Illinois University

Kristi Manwill
University of Utah

Shiori Silver
Georgia Southern University

Sara Strabel
Philadelphia University

Kelsey Harrington
University of North Carolina at Greensboro

Jaime Vilsack
Penn State University - The Behrend College



Staying Connected with CSP!

Have you thought about all the ways that you can stay connected with the WIU CSP Program? There are plenty! If you need a refresher, we have provided one here for you.

Like us on Facebook!



Read this newsletter



Follow us on Twitter! - @WIU_CSP



Visit campus!



Second Year Summer Internship Sites

Sara Dam
Stanford University

Todd Rotgers
University of the Sciences

Emily Isaacs
Rock Island School District and the
Child Abuse Council

Craig Wagner
Pace University - New York City

Jill Bisbee
Western Illinois University

Warren Grove
College of Mount St. Joseph

Bob Just
Bentley University

Kristen Wyse
Georgetown University

SarCarre Johnson
University of Michigan-Flint

Jim Fry
Monmouth College

**Keep us updated on available
Summer Internship
opportunities at your
Institution!**



What's New in Student Services?



Dr. Gary Biller
VP for Student Services

The CSP program is excited about the promotions within Student Services and the the new staff that has come to campus. The CSP Program and the Division of Student Services works hard to have a positive and collaborative relationship. We have valued this relationship in the past and are confident this partnership will continue.

Make sure to keep an eye out for WIU Student Services Socials at the NASPA and ACPA conferences this year!

Within Student Services there are several new faces, positions, and titles on campus:

Jessica Mueller– Assistant Director, Judicial Programs

Michelle Howe– Assistant Director, Career Services

Martin Kral– Director of Placement, Career Services

Erik Dalmasso– Associate Director of Admissions

Gabriel Lara– Director, Casa Latina

Sasha Masoomi– Assistant Director, Residence Life

AJ Lutz– Director, Residential Administration

Joe Roselieb– Director, Residential Facilities

Ketra Russell– Assistant Director, Residential Facilities

Bridget McCormick– Assistant Director, Residential Administration



CSP Moments!

Homecoming 2012 Results!!

Variety Show

Small Organizations

1st -Picture Perfect

Modeling Troupe

Large Organizations

1st -Delta Zeta, Alpha Gamma Rho, and Sigma

Alpha Epsilon

2nd -Sigma Sigma Sigma

and Pi Kappa Alpha

3rd -Alpha Sigma Tau, Sigma

Chi, and Delta Tau Delta

Residence Halls

1st -Tanner Hall

2nd -Corbin and Olson Halls

3rd -Higgins Hall

Boat Regatta

Large Organizations

1st -Phi Sigma Sigma, Theta Xi, and Alpha Gamma Sigma

2nd -Chi Omega, Beta Phi Pi, and Veterans Club

3rd -Alpha Sigma Tau, Sigma Chi, and Delta Tau Delta

Residence Halls

1st -Higgins Hall

2nd -Corbin and Olson Halls

3rd -Bayliss and Henninger Halls

Yell Like Hell

Small Organizations

1st -House Arrest II

Large Organizations

1st -Phi Sigma Sigma, Alpha Gamma Sigma, and Theta Xi

2nd -Sigma Sigma Sigma and Pi Kappa Alpha

3rd -Alpha Sigma Tau, Delta Tau Delta, and Sigma Chi

Residence Halls

1st -Higgins Hall

2nd -Tanner Hall

3rd -Lincoln, Washington, and Grote Halls

Overall Winners

Residence Halls

1st -Higgins Hall

2nd -Tanner Hall

3rd -Corbin and Olson

Small Organizations

1st -Campus Students for Christ

2nd -Unity

3rd -House Arrest 2

Large Organizations

1st -Sigma Sigma Sigma Pi Kappa Alpha

2nd -(Tied) Phi Sigma Sigma, Alpha Gamma Sigma, and Theta Xi

2nd Delta Zeta, Alpha

Gamma Rho, and Sigma

Alpha Epsilon



Above: Some first year cohort members enjoy the parade. Middle: 2012 Homecoming Theme- "Cirque Du Western" Below: A few 2nd year cohort members wait for the parade to start.

