

GSNP MONTHLY



October 2023

Graduate Students & New Professionals Community of Practice

A MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAIR



October is my favorite month, especially living in western North Carolina. Changing of the leaves, the in-between weather where I can comfortably wear a sweater, and my annual rewatch of *Gilmore Girls* all bring me so much joy. It is also Careers in Student Affairs Month!

Our Community of Practice featured a variety of functional areas and professionals through Instagram Takeovers and an impactful Functional Area Panel hosted by our Professional Development team. We met new professionals in Academic Advising, Fraternity and Sorority Life, Residence Life, and Service Learning and heard about what a day in their life looks like as well as advice for those interested in that area. Big shoutout to Karla Monroy, Blanca Moncada, and Alex Rosenbery for putting these events together for you all to learn from and interact with. Don't hesitate to reach out to folks who work in an area you might be interested in to learn more!

As Graduate Students and New Professionals, it's imperative for us to reflect on our current and hopeful roles and our start in this field. Our interests and skills will continue to change, the folks we work with and work for will continue to impact our trajectories, and we may end up in areas or at schools that we hadn't initially intended but can be exactly what we hoped. This comes from our consistent learning and development. Take some time this month to reach out to someone on your campus or you might know from ACPA to ask for a mentorship meeting.

Attend free webinars or conference sessions that span various research topics or functional areas. Lastly, have open conversations with your own network about your strengths, interests, and skills and where and how you can fill some gaps. This field is so vast and you, specifically, are needed and appreciated. You'll find your space and your people.

As always, this newsletter, as well as our social media and website, will outline ample opportunities to become involved and grow with folks who are in similar periods of their careers and can relate. I hope to connect with you in future events and please keep an eye out for ways to hold a leadership position within our Community of Practice!

Take a page from the trees' book this month and let some things go, take a break, and recalibrate.

Cheers,

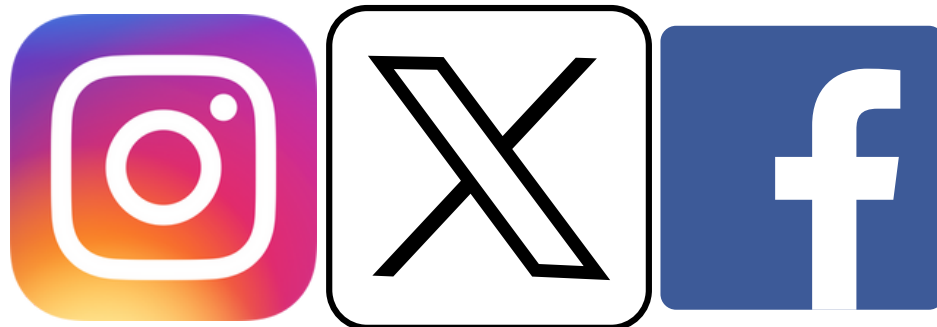
Julie Townley (she/her)

Chair, ACPA Graduate Students and New Professionals Community of Practice

Residential Care Coordinator

UNC Asheville

**FOLLOW US ON
SOCIAL MEDIA!**



@GSNPCOP

NOVEMBER EVENTS ON THE HORIZON

11/05 | Nominations for Awards Closes

11/13 | Convention Ambassador Applications
Open

11/15 @ 4 PM EST, 1 PM PST | Navigating
Convention with Convention Ambassadors
Webinar

NAVIGATING CONVENTION

WITH CONVENTION AMBASSADORS

Are you nervous about convention? Do you want to get involved in ACPA? Convention Ambassadors is a new initiative led by the ACPA Graduate Students and New Professionals Community of Practice created for you to connect with fellow graduate students and new professionals, gain a greater understanding of what ACPA has to offer, and ease any feelings of uncertainty regarding one of your first international conferences (if not the first!). The Convention Ambassadors program will allow you to fully engage with the conference, while also building your higher education community. During this webinar, connect with program leadership, and learn about how to get involved, requirements for the program, and begin building your community!

[SIGN UP HERE!](#)

GSNPCOP

CONVENTION AWARDS

The depth and quality of work by student affairs educators, higher education scholars, and faculty colleagues too often go unrecognized. Get Involved with GSNPCOP by recognizing and nominating a colleague, supervisor supervisee, mentor, or other leader for an Award by **November 5th**.

Click [HERE](#) to access the Nomination Form!

The Graduate Students and New Professionals Community of Practice (GSNP-COP) honors 7 individuals with the following awards during the ACPA 2024 Chicago:

Outstanding Master's Student

This award is given to a current master's degree student in a higher education or student affairs-related program. The recipient of this award will have made a positive contribution (either through research or service to the profession) to the field of student affairs and/or has made significant contributions to their graduate program and institution.

Outstanding Doctoral Student

This award is given to a current doctoral student in a higher education or student affairs-related program. The recipient of this award will have made a positive contribution (either through research or service to the profession) to the field of student affairs and/or has made significant contributions to their graduate program and institution.

Outstanding New Professional

This award is given to an individual in their first three years of professional (post-graduate) employment. The recipient of this award will have demonstrated outstanding contributions to their department, institution, and the field of student affairs (either through research or professional service). This individual should demonstrate a propensity for developing students and utilizing theory in practice.

Outstanding Mentor to Graduate Students

This award is given to a student affairs professional or graduate preparation faculty member who goes above and beyond in their efforts to provide guidance and support to graduate students in higher education or a student affairs-related graduate program.

Outstanding Mentor to New Professionals

This award is given to a student affairs professional who goes above and beyond in their efforts to provide guidance and support to new practitioners in the field of Student Affairs.

Outstanding Dedication to Professional Service

This award is given to a new professional or graduate student in higher education or a student affairs related field who demonstrates an outstanding commitment to the field of student affairs through involvement in professional associations (both local, regional, and national), committees, conferences, and/or graduate program recruitment.

Unsung Hero Award

This award is given to a graduate student or new professional initiating and leading action to remove barriers and improve equity and access in higher education. They constantly seek to improve the campus environment to enhance the experience of historically underrepresented student populations through concrete action in their communities.

Racial Justice and Decolonization Research Excellence Award

This award is given to a practitioner or researcher within Student Affairs who has dedicated research hours and/or publications related to the Strategic Imperative on Racial Justice and Decolonization. Research should highlight the progression or action steps outlined by the Strategic Imperative.



Click [HERE](#) to access the Nomination Form!



GSNP SCHOLARSHIPS ARE LIVE!

A friendly reminder: ACPA's Graduate Student and New Professional Community of Practice is once again offering scholarships for ACPA24 and ACPA membership!

SCHOLARSHIPS ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS

The Convention Flat-Rate Scholarship scholarship covers other financial needs associated with Convention other than registration (such as hotel, meals, airfare etc.) that may not be included under professional development funding. The deadline to apply for this scholarship is January 7, 2024.

The ACPA Membership Scholarship is intended for grad students or new professionals who are unable to attend ACPA24 due to financial or other reasons. This scholarship will provide a year-long membership to ACPA for the recipient. The deadline to apply for this scholarship is January 7, 2024. The application can be found here (link: <https://forms.gle/k9hwZPGf35vsGwir6>).

TO 35 & BEYOND 35TH ANNIVERSARY FUNDRAISER



Our Community of Practice strives to offer scholarships for opportunities hosted by ACPA to aid in the growth and retention of our new colleagues. By contributing to our Foundation Campaign, you are directly supporting graduate students and new professionals by providing scholarships for attending ACPA's Annual Convention, obtaining an ACPA membership, attending webinars throughout the year, and attending the Emerging Leaders Institute. Your support is greatly appreciated and valued to help our graduate students and new professionals "grow as they go"! Please contribute what you're able, though we would be thrilled with amounts of \$3.50 or \$35.00 in celebration of our 35 years of service to ACPA.

[CLICK HERE](#) TO DONATE!