

New Jersey State News

Plans are underway for our 14th annual New Jersey Advisors Conference, to be held June 15th, 2006 at Kean University in Union, NJ. Conference chair Linda Bradbury has a whole host of volunteers who are busily working on preparations for the one-day conference. The theme, "Advising: The Center of Student Success," will focus on the many roles academic advisors play in the recruitment, retention and graduation of college students. It's a wonderful opportunity to network with fellow advisors and share best practices and enhance advising knowledge and skills.

The conference will take place in Kean University's state-of-the-art Center for Academic Success. We invite you to consider submitting a proposal for a concurrent session, panel discussion, roundtable discussion, or poster presentation. Both experienced and novice presenters are welcomed. If you've never presented at a conference before, this is a great opportunity to hone your presentation skills.

Proposal submissions are due by March 17th. For information on how to submit a proposal, please see the conference Web site at: <http://www.kean.edu/~njadvcon/Welcome.html>

Our Region 2 conference in Lancaster, PA is right around the corner (March 22-24)! Willow Valley is a wonderful resort center and it should be a very enjoyable experience. Our NJ state meeting will be held Thursday, March 23 at 4:30 p.m. I hope to see you there to greet each one of you personally and update you on NJ activities!

Best regards for a productive and exciting spring semester!

Paula Dollarhide
NJ State Liaison to the Region 2 Board

Eastern Pennsylvania News

First, I'm glad to hear Eastern PA will be well represented in terms of presenters at the Regional in Lancaster. Keep sending in those proposals for conferences!

Next, we are planning for a Drive-In Conference at Bucks County Community College in November. Drive-ins are a great opportunity, especially for those with limited budgets, to network with area professionals. This is also a great place to test-run a new or revised presentation you've been working on. More information will follow shortly. If you'd like to be part of the planning committee for the Drive-In, please let me know.

Finally, Eastern PA was saddened to hear of the passing of Jeff Gardner. He was a tremendous asset to our Region, and a good friend to many. More than that, he was a truly unique individual that we'll never forget. Eastern PA will be proud to help carry the momentum and enthusiasm that Jeff helped put into our Region. Through all of us, his memory will live on.

If you have any questions, or you'd like to volunteer at the state level, please email me at callen@temple.edu. We will always welcome those that want to get involved! Thanks, and I will hope to see many of you in Lancaster!

Virginia News

In Virginia, we are busy preparing for both the upcoming Mid-Atlantic Regional conference and national conference. In addition, we are excited to announce that Virginia will be hosting a drive-in conference during Fall 2006. Our host will be Lynchburg College in Lynchburg, VA and our conference chair will be Ms. Heidi Koring who currently serves as the Director of Academic Advising. Many of you may be familiar with Ms. Heidi Koring as she has presented at several NACADA events at all

levels. I am excited that she has taken on this role and anticipate an excellent program for this event. If you would like to volunteer to assist with the planning of the drive-in conference please send an email to Ms. Heidi Koring at koring@lynchburg.edu.

On another very important note, we all mourn the lost of a great colleague and friend in the NACADA community, Mr. Jeff Gardner. Many of you have had the opportunity to meet Jeff in various settings but most recently you may remember his presentation of "Humor in Advising." He has presented this session and others at local, state, and national NACADA events, including the Virginia State Drive-In held at Virginia Tech in 2003. He touched the lives of many of us. In tribute to Jeff, we say goodbye to a great friend.

Forever My Friend

I cannot believe you are gone
I can still see your smile and hear your laughter
I keep wishing this is all part of a bad dream
But then reality sets in...
And I realize that I must appreciate the short time we had together
I think of you often and how you brought energy to any room
Gone but never forgotten; I'm saddened that it had to be this way
The greatest source of comfort is the knowledge that Jeff, you are forever my FRIEND!

Kimberly Brown
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Maryland News

Interested in planning or volunteering at the 2007 National NACADA Conference in Baltimore? **Stacy Woycheck**, Director of New Student Programs in the College of Chemical and Life Sciences at the University of Maryland will be chairing the conference. There are subcommittee chair positions still available! Please contact Stacy at 405-3086 or woycheck@umd.edu for more information.

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