



# NCommunicator Catch the Wave

FALL 2006 CONFERENCE ISSUE

### Topics of Interest:

- Conference Countdown
- Pre-Conference Outline
- Conference Schedule
- LEAD 2007

## President's Pen, by Diane Reed

Greetings from UNCW! I hope everyone had a great summer and had time to play, relax, and catch up. Let me just say that I caught plenty of waves this summer at Wrightsville Beach and really enjoyed my time there. It's hard to believe that summer is over and that the first day of classes was over a month ago. It seems like Move-In was just yesterday.

It was a busy summer, both personally and professionally. I had the great fortune of taking three weeks vacation in July, and driving to and from Illinois with my husband, two children and our dog. I truly enjoyed visiting with family and friends, but was definitely ready to get back to work to plan for the fall semester. It was also at this time that I made my trip to Washington University in St. Louis for the ACPA Summer Leadership Meeting with Theresa Mathis, our president-elect. This meeting is for all leaders in ACPA, from commissions and committees to state / international leaders and the executive board. It's a chance for all of us to discuss Hot Topics in higher education and how ACPA can address these topics. It is here that I learned more about Sustainability and its three components: environment, economics, and social justice. As

you will see later in this newsletter, there is more information posted about it and how you can personally and professionally be sustainable. And speaking of Hot Topics, please don't forget about our Fall Conference November 8-10 in Winston-Salem. We will be covering even more topics and it's a great time for you to get away from your office and spend time with friends and colleagues from across the state.

I know everyone has been very busy with the start of the fall semester, and now that we are a month into the school year, you are probably still going full steam ahead. Because of this, my challenge to you is this: **TAKE CARE OF YOURSELF!** You need to do this so you can be more productive for your students, staff, and yourself. You may be thinking, "Why is she saying all this?" I'm saying this because I know how involved we all are in our jobs and you don't need stress and outside factors to run your life. I learned the hard way last year and in all the excitement and energy of campus life, I neglected to take care of myself. Take 5 minutes to do some deep breathing exercises; stretch and take a 5 minute walk; work out; read a good book; talk with your friends; and get a massage. I want to see

everyone refreshed and renewed at the Fall Conference.

Let me also take this time to say thank you for your membership in NCCPA. We are an excellent state division because of you and the many professional development opportunities. Thank you for your passion for student affairs and making North Carolina a great state to work in. I also want to thank our Fall Conference planning committee for all their hard work on the upcoming conference. Angela Cobos and Heather Campbell are your conference co-chairs and have put together an excellent program focusing on Hot Topics.

With that, I wish you all the best for an excellent fall semester, and hope to see you at our fall conference and future events.

### Catch Your Wave,



Diane Sledden Reed

Diane Sledden Reed, NCCPA President

NCCPA  
Fall Conference  
November 8-10th  
in downtown  
Winston Salem,  
NC.



## *Too busy for a conference?* *Why conferences are important to us as professionals:*

"I think conference involvement for me has been so important because I've been able to meet other young professionals. We can support each other because we are going through the same changes in our careers at the same time. We can celebrate changes (both professionally and personally) together because we all know we will be in their shoes some day!

Also, it is nice to see how other people at different schools have to handle the same situations – and how being at a big school changes how you react as compared to a small school.

Basically, it's nice to have other people in your field to bounce ideas off of and realize that what you are going through in your job is normal!"

—Angela Cobos, Barton College

"The fall conference has provided an excellent opportunity to network with other people in the state, to share ideas and build relationships. It is also a small conference, so you get to know people well. It is a great venue for those who haven't presented professionally before to give it a shot. For graduate students and new professionals it is a great option and very affordable."

—Shelly Myers, East Carolina University

"I enjoy going to NCCPA conferences because I meet new people and learn a lot as well."

—Heather Campbell, Peace College

"Frankly, it is the most cost efficient staff development for my entire staff. We don't have a large budget for travel. It is so affordable, near by and always the best conference of the year."

"We have the chance to learn about new trends, meet other professionals and discuss ideas we can take back to our campus. It addresses the needs of both new professionals as well as seasoned veterans."

—Theresa Mathis, Barton College

"Conferences rekindle my excitement about my profession. It provides a much needed moment to stop and reflect on why I love higher education and inspires me to return to my campus with a renewed sense of purpose."

—Elizabeth Hand, East Carolina University

Conferences help us achieve more in our profession:

"My mother drew a distinction between achievement and success. She said that achievement is the knowledge that you have studied and worked hard and done the best that is in you. Success is being praised by others, and that's nice, too, but not as important or satisfying. Always aim for achievement and forget about success."

—Helen Hayes

## **Countdown to NCCPA Fall Conference**

### **October:**

- Send in your conference registration form.  
<http://www.mynccpa.org/>
- Recruit 2 colleagues to attend the conference with you.
- Submit a Hot Topic program proposal.
- Book your hotel room.

### **EMBASSY SUITES WINSTON-SALEM**

460 North Cherry Street, Winston-Salem, NC 27101  
Tel 336-724-2300, 1-800-696-6107; Fax 336-728-4020

[http://embassysuites.hilton.com/en/es/hotels/index.jhtml?  
ctyhocn=INTESES](http://embassysuites.hilton.com/en/es/hotels/index.jhtml?ctyhocn=INTESES)

Room rates: \$105/night - includes full cooked-to-order breakfast each morning of your stay.

When calling to make guest room reservations, please state you are with the North Carolina College Personnel Association. **Deadline for blocked rooms is Tuesday, October 17, 2006.**

### **November:**

- Prepare for attending the conference on November 8th to 10th.
- Pack Swap Shop items to share.
- Pack your suitcase— Don't forget to include your Hawaiian shirt!

*If you would  
thoroughly  
know  
anything,  
teach it to  
others.*

—Tryon Edwards



*The great  
aim of  
education is  
not  
knowledge  
but action.*

—Herbert Spencer

# Graduate Pre-Conference *At a Glance*

## *Topic Areas May Include:*

**PROFESSIONAL PREPARATION & DEVELOPMENT** – Learn some key things about making a great first impression as a new professional entering the field! Get some helpful hints from those that have gone through the job search process before so you will be on top of your game!

**JOB SEARCH STRATEGIES** - Not sure how to go about beginning the search for that great new professional position? Not sure how to navigate all the position announcements? Do not worry, this session is designed to help you sift through and make sense of all the information you will start accumulating so you can get that great new professional position.

**COVER LETTER & RESUME DEVELOPMENT** - Now that you have read through the position announcements, what are you going to submit showing your interest in the position, department, and institution? This session will help anyone looking for help in writing that fantastic cover letter to perk an employer's interest and a knock out resume that will have them calling you for an interview!

**INTERVIEW SKILLS** - So you wowed the employer with your cover letter and resume, now what? How do you approach the interview? Pay attention as tips are offered on how to handle phone and on campus interviews.

**CURRENT TRENDS IN HIGHER EDUCATION** - One thing to keep in mind is what is going on in higher education today? How are national issues impacting today's colleges and universities? Keeping up with some of the trends will show a potential employer you are speaking about current and relevant information and maybe they should spend some more time talking with you!

**CHANGE** - So you made it through everything, you got the job of your dreams – now what? Change is going to happen whether you move to the neighboring town or the other side of the United States. You need to be prepared to handle it as well as prepare others in your life for it. Listen in as some pointers are provided.

## ***GRADUATE PRE-CONFERENCE SCHEDULE:***

- 3-4 Programming Sessions, approximately 1 hour long each, based on the topics above.
- Lunch with fellow Graduate Students and other members of the NCCPA Executive Board.
- An opportunity to ask questions of people who have experienced the national job search process so you can be prepared.

**The pre-conference schedule is 9:00 am - 5:00 pm on Wednesday November 8<sup>th</sup> and will take place at the Embassy Suites in Winston-Salem, North Carolina!**

**Questions – Contact Justin Williams, [jmwill23@uncg.edu](mailto:jmwill23@uncg.edu)  
Hope to see you there!**

# Conference Schedule at a Glance

## ***Wednesday:***

**9:00 am - 5:00 pm - Pre conference activities and sessions**

Graduate Students & New Professionals

**7:30pm** - New Member Ceremony; Overview of NCCPA; Networking with Current Members

**9pm** – LUAU social -Sundae's and ice cream, pineapple, smoothies, cash bar

## ***Thursday:***

**9am – 10am** – group session based on position/field of interest

**10am -11am** – concurrent sessions

**11am – 12pm** – concurrent sessions

**12-1:45pm** – Keynote and NCCPA 2006 Distinguished Scholar, Dr. Richard Eakin

**2 - 3pm** - different panel discussion – hot topics or concurrent sessions

**3 – 4pm** - different panel discussions or concurrent sessions

**4pm** – regular session or active learning component – possible community service project

**5:30 pm** - Dinner on your Own (sign-up to eat with groups of people at different restaurants)

**8:30pm** – Shagging lessons (& karaoke?)

## ***Friday:***

**9am- 10am** – concurrent sessions

**10am-11am** – concurrent sessions

**11am – 12pm** – concurrent sessions

**12-1:30** – Keynote speaker: Dr. Vasti Torres, President-Elect ACPA, Indiana University-Bloomington

## ***Items to bring to a professional conference:***

Business cards

Lent roller

Static guard/dryer sheets

Comfortable shoes. If you have bought new shoes, break them in now.

Briefcase

Notebook Portfolio

Pens

Thank you cards

Watch/cell phone to keep time

Schedule of the interviews you have, including employee numbers and table information. It is helpful to bring a planner or schedule to keep track of the interviews you've prescheduled and for other interviews you may schedule, including second interviews.

Mini stapler

Paper clips

White out

Highlighter

Disk/mini drive with school information, resume and cover letter on it

Shout wipes

Kleenex

Pocket mirror

Breathe mints!

Professional clothing for the day

Casual clothes for evening

Energizing snacks for the day. Interviewing is tiring.

Water

Floss or "finger" tooth brushes

Appropriate accessories...nothing too flashy

Means for organizing all of your paperwork



At least 10 copies of your resume and 10 general cover letters. Jobs will continue to be posted at the conference and if you want to apply, it would be good to have them on hand. Computer access can be difficult at times.

Created February 2006 by Tiffany Bailey, Coordinator for Residential Learning at UNC-Greensboro



# ★NCCPA Searching for Host Site★

The 10 year tradition of LEAD, a student leadership conference, is accepting bids for host of the 2007 conference during spring semester. Conference attendance averages 175-250 students. Assistance provided by NCCPA and past LEAD hosts.

Interested?

Contact Theresa Mathis  
Barton College  
[tmathis@barton.edu](mailto:tmathis@barton.edu)

## Announcing: New Leadership Consortium Chair

Sarah Morris,  
Student Leadership Director, Duke University  
Box 90936  
Durham NC 27708  
919-681-0409  
[sarah.morris@duke.edu](mailto:sarah.morris@duke.edu)

*Welcome Sarah!*

# LEAD 2007