Volume 1, Issue 1, Spring 2019

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CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

The Journal of Campus Activities Practice and Scholarship (JCAPS) is a social science peer-reviewed journal. It focuses on publishing rigorous, relevant, and respected scholarship related to postsecondary education co-curricular campus activities, and translating such scholarship to practice. It especially encourages submissions from practitioners throughout higher education.

Typical submissions to the journal cover topics such as:

- Student and leadership development within campus activities
- Programming within a diverse and multicultural campus
- Advising students and their organizations
- Campus programming, governance, and/or funding boards
- Assessing the effects of student involvement in campus activities
- Navigating political and legal issues in working with students
- Professional development for staff and faculty who work with students

Authors can find more information about the submission process at naca.org/JCAPS.
TABLE OF CONTENTS

Notes from the Editor ..............................................................................................................................................5
David M. Rosch

How Campus Activities Can Lead the Modern University: Five Imperatives .............................................................6
Gwendolyn Dungy & Adam Peck

Engagement with Campus Activities Matters: Toward a New Era of Educationally Purposeful Activities ............14
Susan R. Komives

Getting More from the Masters: Increasing Scholarship in Campus Activities Practice ........................................26
Cindy Kane

Enhancing the Use of Theory in Student Activities Professionals’ Practice ..............................................................33
Patrick Love & Napur Goyal

RESEARCH SECTION:
Leveraging the Quantity and Quality of Co-Curricular Involvement Experiences to Promote Student Thriving ........................................................................................................................................39
Matthew K. Vetter, Laurie A. Schreiner, Eric J. McIntosh, & John P. Dugan

SCHOLARSHIP-TO-PRACTICE SECTION:
Discomfort, Offense, Trigger: Understanding and Managing Student Responses to Comedy ..........................52
Amma Marfo & Jason Meier

FOCUS ON EMERGING SCHOLARS SECTION:
What Does “High-Impact” Mean in Extracurricular Experiences? ........................................................................60
Katrina Camerato, Alyssa Clift, Monique N. Golden, Jessica Gramajo Vivas, Patrick Rogers, & Alessa Strelecki
NOTES FROM THE EDITOR

Welcome to Volume 1, Issue 1 of “The Journal of Campus Activities Practice and Scholarship” (JCAPS), a publication of the National Association for Campus Activities. I will not bore you, reader, with details describing the amount of work required to create a scholarly academic journal from the seed of an idea, but trust that it is considerable and years in the making. Numerous people have been involved, from The NACA® Board of Directors, NACA staff, volunteers who serve on the JCAPS Advisory and Editorial Boards, and most importantly, those who authored and reviewed the articles within this issue. Thank you to all who had a hand in ushering JCAPS into existence!

For the inaugural issue, the JCAPS Advisory Board elected to include articles authored by invitation on specifically identified topics. We utilized author invites because we wanted the first issue to “put a stake in the ground.” They reflect our thoughts on the state of the field of campus activities in postsecondary education, and we wanted to provide examples of the types of articles we are looking for in future issues. All subsequent issues will include articles that have undergone a double-blind peer review (where authors are unaware of who reviewed their writing, and reviewers are unaware of who authored what they reviewed.)

Our goals are that the current and future articles:
• Deepen our understanding of the work of campus activities in ways that support student growth and learning.
• Rigorously inform campus activities practitioners in ways that contribute to their increased effectiveness.
• Help build a foundational body of knowledge in campus activities work that is accessible broadly to anyone working with young people and their development.

This first issue addresses some of the foundational topics of campus activities scholarship and practice:
• How does the work of campus activities contribute to the larger enterprise of postsecondary education?
• Why, really, do we require programmatic staff to possess a graduate degree, and how can we better integrate scholarship and the day-to-day practice of campus activities?
• What is the current body of knowledge regarding how students are affected by campus activities work, and what are relevant directions for future research?
• How can campus activities professionals more effectively build their own rigorous body of knowledge when doing their work?

Future issues will include four different “columns”:
1. Empirical Research that focuses on current research that contributes to our body of knowledge in working in campus activities.
2. Scholarship-to-Practice pieces that are designed to help practitioners integrate what is known about campus activities work into their own practice.
3. Media Reviews that connect resources available for students and campus activities professionals to student learning and developmental theory.
4. Focus on Emerging Scholars (for current graduate students and those with less than three years of professional experience) to contribute a smaller piece to one of the three other columns.

More details about these columns can be found at naca.org/JCAPS.

Our first issue has exemplary articles situated within three of these columns. One examines the effects of engagement in the types of initiatives common in campus activities on student thriving. Another provides suggestions for practitioners on working with comedians — and their campus colleagues — where material the comedian expresses some campus community members might find offensive. A final article discusses an investigation into “high-impact learning practices” in extra-curricular contexts common with campus activities work.

We sincerely hope you find these articles helpful to your own work and scholarship. JCAPS aims for two issues per year; we hope you consider writing for the Journal.

David M. Rosch
Editor in Chief
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign