



New York Journal of Student Affairs
Editorial

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Comments from the Editor

Welcome to the spring 2014 edition of the journal. This opens Volume 14, the fourth volume since we returned to publication as an online journal and the end of the first full volume for this editorial team. It is also the first edition with our brand new name, the *New York Journal of Student Affairs: The Journal of the College Student Personnel Association of New York State*. In working with faculty and practitioners interested in submitting their materials to our publication we received some fairly consistent feedback that our historical name, the *CSPA-NYS Journal of Student Affairs*, might not be as intuitive or as “jazzy” as it could. With the wonderful support of the CSPA-NYS board we received permission to change the name officially. Sounds simple, but then it turns out you need to get the Library of Congress to bless the change also, you have to get your publishing software to accept the changes and allow little more jazzy looking format, and then you can publish. We accomplished almost all of that, but you will have to stay tuned for the jazzy looking format in future editions. We still hope to add more publishing options to our offerings once we have this part complete, so stay tuned.

The educational journal publisher process is always nerve wracking, not knowing who and what pieces will be coming our way, and then if the review-revise-resubmit process will coincide with our publishing dates so that we have something worthwhile to publish. The two pieces published in this edition made it through the process in time for publication and we are excited to share what they have to say.

Pamelyn Klepal Shefman’s piece represents both the current trend of the focus of assessment in student affairs – but she takes a unique look at assessment. It focuses on the perceptions of student affairs professionals as they are thrust into the assessment era, not the more typical nuts and bolts of how we did it or what our assessment results were. Her case study approach about the perceptions of staff in a student affairs division in the assessment

implementation process found themes including assessment was not to be feared; as a result the student affairs division had a much louder voice in contributing to the larger campus discussions; assessment became a must have for departments; and good professionals now use assessment. She shares her thoughts on the implications toward practice in a culture of assessment and future research directions.

Michael Roszkowski, Lane Beth Neubauer, and Nataliya Zilikovsky's piece focuses on a challenging policy and implementation topic in student affairs and beyond, designated smoking areas. Roszkowski et al. look at the perception of smokers and non-smokers a year after a mandated smoking area policy was implemented. Their study found where smokers and non-smokers agreed and disagreed on the impact of the program, and where a common strategy (appeals to empathy) might not be as powerful as student affairs practitioners would hope.

We are excited to get this first edition as the *New York Journal of Student Affairs* out and are looking forward to the submissions in the pipeline for the fall edition, new material arriving, and more exciting changes in the journal we hope to debut. Keep checking back!

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