



# HEA SPRING NEWSLETTER

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

<i>Faculty Spotlight</i>	2
<i>Awards Spotlight</i>	2
<i>Distinguished Alumni</i>	3
<i>Summer Experiences</i>	4
<i>Professional Development</i>	5
<i>Congrats, Graduates!</i>	6

## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear NC State Higher Education Program students, faculty, staff, alumni & friends:

As my time at NC State comes to an end, I want to thank each of you for your continued support of our program and the Higher Education Association. I truly value our collaboration and cohesion as we work together each semester to improve the Higher Education program and ensure learning, growth and effectiveness. I am sure other graduates will agree that we are leaving here stronger leaders, professionals, and scholars thanks to the incredible community of which we are members.

As always, we have been busy this semester! In February, we welcomed over 40 prospective students to Recruitment Weekend (RW). I was amazed at the way our RW team pulled together to make the event happen during Raleigh's "snow-pocalypse". The collaborative efforts from all involved ensured that the event was successful for students who could potentially join the Wolfpack! The theme this year was "Picture Perfect Pack," and thanks to our RW board, the memorable event highlighted important tenets of our program: academic excellence, practical experience, a focus on social justice, and strong networks and partnerships throughout the triangle.

Our executive board also planned a number of events to engage our students. In addition to spending time together at Dave and Buster's and in Zumba class with Dr. Joy Gayles, we hosted a variety of professional development events on topics including: conferences and professional associations with Dr. Tiffany Davis, assessment in student affairs with Dr. Carrie Zeln, and making the most of LinkedIn with alumna Samara Reynolds. This year, our professional development team began an initiative known as the Scholar-Practitioner series that encompassed many of the events listed above. The series culminated with the First Scholar-Practitioner Symposium, which provided a forum for faculty and graduate students in the Department of Leadership, Policy and Adult and Higher Education (LPAHE), as well as staff from the Division of Academic and Student Affairs (DASA), to present their research in a new and innovative Pecha Kucha format. The event was highly successful, incorporating presentations on a variety of topics including: Innovation and Technology; Diversity, Ethics, and Social Justice; and International, Global, and Cross-Cultural Issues. Lastly, we celebrated our local alumni by hosting a professional development dessert social in April. It provided opportunities to network, learn together, and continue fundraising efforts with a silent auction benefitting HEA. Thank you to everyone who planned and attended events this spring!

This semester, we have also continued to celebrate the achievements of students, faculty, and alumni. I hope you enjoy reading about the incredible accomplishments of our colleagues and friends throughout this newsletter. It has been a pleasure serving as your president this year. I am grateful for the hard work and support of the entire HEA Executive Board, and look forward to contributions the incoming board will make next year!

#GoPack!

-Nicole Thomas, Class of 2014

## HEA Online!

[Visit our Website!](#)

[Catch up on Facebook!](#)

[Read our Blog!](#)

[Follow our Twitter!](#)



**Higher Ed**  
NC STATE HIGHER EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

## DASA LIAISON SPOTLIGHT: DR. BARRY OLSON

BY KATIE LEWIS AND BRIAN PETERS



The Higher Education Program is excited to honor Dr. Barry Olson with the 2014 Kathryn M. Moore Academic Leadership Award. This award recognizes someone who has given significant time and

energy to the program to support our faculty and students. Dr. Olson has supervised, mentored, and taught higher education students since he arrived at NC State. Dr. Olson is a tireless advocate for the higher education program. Many would easily describe Dr. Olson with these positive attributes, yet the accomplishments in his career, his present involvements, and future aspirations are truly what make Dr. Olson special.

Barry received his Ed.D from the program in 2010, where his dissertation explored difficult dialogues of white male graduate students within student affairs preparation programs make meaning of their whiteness, overall white privilege, and multiculturalism.

Dr. Olson has been with N.C. State University for over ten years. He has worked numerous aspects of the university; some of these areas include University Housing with the Quad and E.S. King apartments, the Associate Director of

Housing Facilities, and the Director of Business Administration for Campus Life. Barry was recently named the Associate Vice Provost for Business Administration for the Division of Academic and Student Affairs (DASA), where he oversees the overall budget and administrative aspect for division.

Dr. Olson has stayed involved with the program since completing his degree. He is an adjunct faculty member in the College of Education and has been asked as a guest lecture for numerous courses. Additionally, he frequently facilitates trainings across the university for various student, faculty, staff, and other sub-groups.

His active involvement expands beyond N.C. State. He was the 2006 President of North Carolina Housing Officers (NCHO), and he regularly attends and presents at the Southeastern Association of Housing Officers (SEAO); the Association of College and University Housing Officers – International (ACUHO-I); and the National Association of Student Personnel Administrators (NASPA) – just to name a few.

A LinkedIn recommendation from one of Dr. Olson's colleagues sums it up best: Dr. Barry Olson is “very helpful and knowledgeable about current issues in Higher Education... [he would be] a great addition to anyone’s staff because he is a hard worker and a team player.”

*“Dr. Barry Olson is very helpful and knowledgeable about current issues in Higher Education... [he would be] a great addition to anyone’s staff because he is a hard worker and a team player.”*

## AWARDS SPOTLIGHT: SPRING 2014

◆ **Dr. Joy Gayles** received the 2014 Diamond Honoree recognition for ACPA: College Student Educators International. Diamond Honorees are chosen on the basis of their outstanding and sustained contributions to the field of student affairs and higher education.

◆ **Dr. Krispin Barr** was recognized for her dissertation. Barr received the Dissertation of the Year Award from the American Educational Research Association (AERA) in its higher education division for her dissertation entitled “The Historical Legacy of a Secret Society at Duke University (1913–1971).”

◆ **Dr. Audrey Jaeger** was honored as one of four Distinguished Graduate Professors at NCSU. This award recognizes her significant contributions to the students and curriculum of the Higher Education Program.

◆ Doctoral Student **Tara D. Hudson** was recognized with the Certificate of Excellence in Teaching at the University Graduate Student Association's 2014 Outstanding TA Awards Ceremony.



◆ The staff award at the 2014 NCSU Equity for Women Awards was presented to alumna **Shaefny Grays**, assistant director of the community for diversity in the College of Natural Resources, at the Sisterhood Dinner in February. She was recognized for her community service initiatives focused on issues related to women, such as domestic violence, breast cancer and ovarian cancer.

◆ Alumna **Amy Wilson** was awarded the NACADA Certificate of Merit in the Category of Outstanding New Advisor—Primary Role Advisor.

◆ Five doctoral students in the Higher Education program were awarded Dissertation Support Grants by the College of Education Research Committee. The awardees are **Brooke Ashley, Janice Sitzes, Deirdre O'Malley, Christine Pesetzki, and Renee Clark Bush**.

◆ **Jenny Sloop Johnson**, master's alumnae of the higher education program, received the 2014 Rising Star Award from ACPA's Commission for Career Development

◆ The Triangle Business Journal announced its 2014 class of “40 Under 40” Leadership Award winners, and **Karrie Dixon**, Senior Associate Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs, is among those recognized. Karrie is an alumna of our higher education doctoral program. Congratulations, Karrie!

# 2014 DISTINGUISHED ALUMNA: DR. SHARON E. MORRISSEY

BY JEREMY TUCHMAYER AND ASHLEY CLAYTON

It is with great excitement that the NCSU College of Education has selected Dr. Sharon E. Morrissey as this year's recipient of the Higher Education Distinguished Alumni Award. Dr. Morrissey earned her doctorate in Higher Education Administration in 2003 and currently serves as the Executive Vice President for Programs and Chief Academic Officer for the North Carolina Community College System. Upon announcement of the award, faculty member Audrey Jaeger remarked, "I am honored to work with such an articulate, intelligent, and thoughtful human being. Sharon is someone I admire and emulate. She represents the best of what we do at NC State." In her current role, Dr. Morrissey initiates, develops and administers state-level policies and strategies to improve student access, enhance program quality, and increase student success. She is responsible for the state-level coordination of literacy and foundational skills education, academic programs, student success policies, federal basic skills and technical education grants, research and performance management, workforce training and continuing education, and related resource development activities. Dr. Morrissey serves as staff liaison to the North Carolina Community College Presidents' Association and as executive staff member to the State Board of Community Colleges.

Dr. Morrissey leads several system-wide initiatives designed to support student success in the 58 community colleges. She is the state lead for a Developmental Education Initiative designed to accelerate students' completion of remedial coursework and their success in gateway college courses. She also leads the development of system policies to support the Gates Foundation's Completion by Design initiative in NC. In 2011, Dr. Morrissey collaborated with the Governor's office and the Department of Public Instruction to develop the Career and College Promise legislation that streamlines high school student dual enrollment pathways, and she developed policies to allow adult basic skills students to dual enroll in occupational courses leading to credentials.

Dr. Morrissey has over 20 years of experience in the North Carolina Community College System, including President of Richmond Community College, Vice President for Instruction at Asheville-Buncombe Technical Community College, Vice President for Academic and Student Services at Fayetteville Technical Community College, and Associate Vice President for Academic and Student Services at



the NCCCS. She began her community college career as an English instructor at Central Carolina Community College.

Reflecting on her time at NC State, Dr. Morrissey stated, "I would not be in the leadership role I am in today were it not for NC State University. The Higher Ed Administration program provided access for working adults like me, who otherwise would not have been able to pursue a doctoral degree. I was fortunate to be mentored by outstanding faculty members who had conducted significant research in community college leadership. The program's emphasis on practice and research, foundations and history, teaching and learning, and leadership and organizational development prepared me well for institutional leadership roles. Even more, the program provided me with a holistic understanding of higher education institutions and systems that has been particularly beneficial to me in my role as chief academic officer of one of the largest community college systems in the country."

In 2006, NC State named Dr. Morrissey the recipient of the I.E. Ready Distinguished Graduate Award for Leadership Excellence in Adult and Community College Education. This summer Dr. Morrissey will depart North Carolina for Richmond, Virginia where she will serve as the Vice Chancellor for Academic Services and Research for the Virginia Community College System. Reflecting on her long career in North Carolina, faculty member Paul Umbach said, "Sharon Morrissey is a tremendous leader and educator. For years, North Carolina and its community college system have benefitted from her extraordinary talent, commitment, and wisdom. She has touched many lives and her presence in the state will be sorely missed."

**Need to update your  
contact information?  
Send changes to  
higher\_ed@ncsu.edu.**

## SPENDING THE SUMMER IN NYC

After graduation, master's student Nicole Thomas will head to New York City to serve as a site coordinator for Duke University's [Moxie Project](#). The program is managed by [DukeEngage](#), which funds opportunities for undergraduate students to participate in summer immersion service projects. As site coordinator, she will supervise nine undergraduate women as they work with social justice non-profits aimed to promote gender equality in

Manhattan and the U.S. Additionally, she will co-teach a seminar course that critically examines non-profit work and systemic issues faced by these organizations. Along with their service work, students will engage in social and cultural activities throughout the city. Nicole is very excited about the opportunity and is looking forward to gaining knowledge and experience in program administration and course instruction.



*“I’m hoping this internship gives me a clearer idea of the type of institution I’d like to work at in the future, the student population I work best with, and the functional area I’d like to pursue further.”*

---

## NODA INTERNSHIP: PERSPECTIVE FROM NATALIE ROLLAN, CLASS OF 2015

This summer I will embark on a new journey in my professional career as I travel to Montclair, New Jersey to complete a NODA Internship at Montclair State University. The NODA Internship Program, run through the Association for Orientation, Transition, and Retention in Higher Education, matches host institutions with graduate and undergraduate students looking to expand their orientation experience and connections. The application and selection process was fast-paced and competitive and I am glad to have had yet another experience that will prepare me for my job search next year.

For my internship, I will be working with The Center for Advising and Student Transitions at Montclair with a program focus in Peer Leader Supervision for New Student Orientation. The Orientation Experience at Montclair is led and facilitated by full-time staff members as well as 20 student Peer Leaders, along with three Graduate Interns. As a Graduate Intern I will assist with coordinating New Student Orientation for incoming first-year students and their families. Two other interns and I will aid in the final planning stages of New Student Orientation and in the implementation and execution of all orientation programs.

Each of the Graduate Interns will act as liaisons between the Peer Leaders and professional staff members while assisting with supervision of Peer Leaders. Another portion of

my work will entail becoming familiar with Montclair’s General Education curriculum as it pertains to first-year students and freshman transfer students and assisting as needed with course registration and selection.

I have been assigned the position of Peer Leader Supervisor, thus I will mainly focus on motivating, engaging, and recognizing these student leaders as well as encouraging teambuilding and personal development through their positions with orientation. In this program area, I will model and facilitate icebreakers and community builders for the Peer Leader staff and support them in the daily functioning of the New Student Orientation programs.

One of the perks of being at Montclair for two months this summer is the city’s proximity to some great tourist and travel spots. I’ll definitely be visiting New York City, which is about 15 miles away, The Jersey Shore, and maybe even the Hershey Factory in Pennsylvania! I’m excited to live in a new state, never having been to New Jersey before, and explore a new institution and functional area. I’m hoping this internship gives me a clearer idea of the type of institution I’d like to work at in the future, the student population I work best with, and the functional area I’d like to pursue further. I can’t wait for this new chapter in my student affairs journey to begin!

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT AWARDS



**Katie Ratterree (Master's Student)**

*Conference: NASPA*

*Location: Baltimore, MD*

"I was excited to learn more about the world of Higher Ed nationally at the NASPA conference. Although I am not currently job searching, I was able to learn about more job opportunities for Masters level students that are related to assessment, policy, and college access."



**Ashley Clayton (Doctoral Student)**

*Conference: Association of Institutional Research*

*Location: Orlando, FL*

*Presentation/Paper: "Using Event History Analysis to Understand Transfer Student Success" (Co-authors: Dr. Paul Umbach, Renee Clark Bush, Jeremy Tuchmayer)*

"I am interested in possibly pursuing a career in institutional research and attending this conference helped me learn more about the profession. I was able to network with administrators who work in Institutional Research and see what types of research is being conducted on college campuses."



**Donte McGuire (Master's Student)**

*Conference: American Educational Research Association*

*Location: Philadelphia, PA*

*Presentation/Paper: "Seeking Refuge: When Race, Gender, and Spirituality Collide" (3rd author)*

"I wanted this experience to help me develop my skills in sharing my intellectual product(s) in a multi-institutional setting. Additionally, attending AERA was particularly appealing to me because it allowed me to explore areas of interest (e.g. LGBTQA students and Spirituality) from a K-16 perspective, as opposed to through purely higher education lenses."



**Shauna Morin (Doctoral Student)**

*Conference: ACPA*

*Location: Indianapolis, IN*

*Presentation/Paper: "Fostering the pluralism orientation of college students through interfaith engagement"*

"My participation at ACPA this year served as my first opportunity to co-present a scholarly paper at a professional conference, and I look forward to honing my presentation skills in this context. The paper focuses on interfaith engagement among college students, which is a relevant and timely topic in the field of student affairs given the increasing diversity of students on today's college campuses."

We want to hear from our alumni. Please send your good news, job changes, or important events to [higher\\_ed@ncsu.edu](mailto:higher_ed@ncsu.edu)

Welcome to our 2014-2015  
Executive Board!

Nathan Thomas  
*President*  
nathoma2@ncsu.edu

Mary Rosage  
*VP for Administration*  
mrosage@ncsu.edu

Laura Jennings  
*VP for Finance*  
lgfitzge@ncsu.edu

Natalie Rollan  
*VP for Communications*  
nmrollan@ncsu.edu

Katie Ratterree  
*VP for Professional  
Development*  
kratter@ncsu.edu

Jeremy Elmore  
*VP for Recruitment Weekend*  
jdelmor2@ncsu.edu

Carrie Caudle  
*VP for Engagement*  
cacaudle@ncsu.edu

Lauren Padgett  
*USGA Representative*  
lepadget@ncsu.edu

Shauna Morin  
*Doctoral Liaison*  
smmorin@ncsu.edu

Alessandra Dinin  
*Doctoral Liaison*  
ajdinin@ncsu.edu

Audrey Jaeger  
*Faculty Advisor*  
ajjaeger@ncsu.edu

## CONGRATULATIONS, GRADUATES!

### DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY DEGREES

Darris Roshawn Means, Educational  
Research and Policy Analysis  
*Dissertation: Demonized No More: The  
Spiritual Journeys and Spaces of Black  
Gay Male College Students at  
Predominantly White Institutions.*  
(Under the direction of Audrey Jaeger.)

### DOCTOR OF EDUCATION DEGREES

Aaron Howard Bachenheimer, Higher  
Education Administration  
*Dissertation: Being Smart and Social:  
The Lived Experiences of High  
Achieving and Heavy Drinking College  
Students.* (Under the direction of Joy  
Gayles.)

David Andrew Bucci, Higher Education  
Administration  
*Dissertation: Distance Education,  
Disciplinary Environments and Deep  
Learning: A Quantitative Exploration of  
Faculty Instruction.* (Under the  
direction of Paul Umbach.)

Thearon G. Willis, Jr., Higher Education  
Administration  
*Dissertation: Academic Capitalism in  
the College Union: The Relationship  
between Revenue Generation and  
Students' Perceptions of Program  
Effectiveness.* (Under the direction of  
Paul Umbach.)

### HIGHER EDUCATION ADMINISTRATION— MASTER'S DEGREES

Jennifer Allen  
Elizabeth Dorsey Ballard Bachenheimer  
Patti Leandra Baynes  
Cynthia Lou Brauch  
Ying Cheng  
Johnathan Gage Conzelmann  
Marie-Angela Della Pia  
Danielle Carroll Gates  
Heather Nicole Johnson  
Deanna Lois Knighton  
Dillon Maxwell Kuhn  
Lisa Marie Latronica  
Kiley Ann Moorefield  
Christina Simone Morton  
Cherelle Audrica Pinckney  
Gabriel Andrew Solomon  
Jessica Rose Stellini  
Nicole Anne Thomas



Photos courtesy of Jessie Stellini and  
JessieStellini Photography.