

SCCPA News



South Carolina College
Personnel Association

September 2011

Connecting at the Core: Fall 2011 SCCPA Conference

There is still time to attend the 2011 Annual Conference held at the University of South Carolina in Columbia! This year's theme is "Connecting at the Core," reminding us the value of staying connected. The conference planning committee hopes participants will have a rediscovery of the importance to connect with students, colleagues and even inner-self in order to remain healthy and productive professionals.

There will be a wide variety of interest sessions which will connect you to new programs, ideas and research.



Additionally, we are excited to announce Dr. Laura Dean will be the keynote speaker. Dr. Dean is the President of the Council for the Advancement of Standards in Higher

Education. The CAS Standards should provide guidance and assessment in order to foster student learning and development. During the conference keynote, participants will have an excellent opportunity to reconnect with the CAS standards and gain an inside perspective of the use and effectiveness of the standards and guidelines.

For further information or to register for the conference please visit the SCCPA Web Site. We look forward to connecting with you in Columbia!

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It's An Honor! It's A Celebration!

It's time, once again, to honor and celebrate those individuals whose efforts and contributions advance the goals of ACPA and our profession. All members of ACPA are eligible to nominate or be nominated for these awards. As a member of ACPA,

review the award categories listed below and nominate your colleagues and other members of ACPA whose work and contributions have been significant to your practice and to our profession.

Please note that **most** of the awards have a common **deadline of November 18.**

<http://www2.myacpa.org/membership/acpa-awards/nomination-information>

It's time, once again, to honor and celebrate those individuals whose efforts and contributions advance the goals of ACPA and our profession.

2011-2012 Elected & Appointed Officers

Thank you to our 2011-2012 Elected and Appointed Officers. We appreciate your dedication and willingness to serve!

President: Jeff Brown, *Clemson University*

President-Elect: Jason Umfress, *Coker College*

Treasurer: Dena Kniess, *Clemson University*

Secretary: Greer Helms, *Furman University*

Director of Member Services: Heather Rush, *Presbyterian College*

Director of External Relations: Matt Hammett, *Wofford College*

Director of Scholarship: Suzanne Price, *Clemson University*

Clemson SPA Representative: Karee Keefer

USC SPA Representative: Jamie Shook

Advocacy Chair: Brian Lemere, *Wofford College*

Awards Chair: Nick Shrader, *Columbia College*

Chief Student Affairs Liaison: Haven Hart, *Costal Carolina University*

Clemson Faculty Liaison: Pam Havice

Fall 2011 Conference Chair: Becca Atkinson, *Clemson University*

Historian: Tony Cawthon, *Clemson University*

Human Diversity Chair: Melissa Turko, *Newberry College*

Long Range Planning Chair: Kevin Kerr, *Greenville Tech College*

Marketing Chair: Leo Fackler, *Erskine College*

Publications Chair: Kara Ferguson, *USC Upstate*

Spring 2012 Conference Chair: Whitney Comer, *Costal Carolina University*

Technology & Membership Chair: Paul Gargas, *USC Upstate*

USC Faculty Liaison: Jennifer Bloom

Special points of interest:

Which colleges have the highest and lowest tuition prices? How much do career and vocational programs cost? How fast are college costs going up? The U.S. Department of Education's new "College Affordability and Transparency Online Center" helps you find out. www.collegecost.ed.gov/cate/

Proposed ACPA/NASPA Consolidation Results



The conclusion of the vote by members

of ACPA and NASPA on whether or not to move forward with the creation of a new association



through consolidation concluded this past spring and **ACPA and NASPA members have voted to maintain separate associations.** A 2/3 majority of voting members was needed for the consolidation to pass. Information about the voting breakdown is available on each organizations website.

While each organization is not ruling out the possibility of considering the consolidation in the future, both agree that right now is the time to focus on membership and services that align with their organizational missions.

National Higher Education News: Student-Loan Default-Rate Climbs as Economy Falters

By Collin Eaton

As students carry off more debt after college and venture into the recession-beaten job market, it's no surprise that more are defaulting on their student loans. In the 2009 fiscal year, the "cohort default rate" on student loans climbed to 8.8 percent, up from 7 percent in the previous year, according to a U.S. Department of Education report released on Monday.

That means that out of 3.6 million student-loan borrowers whose first repayment period landed between October 1, 2008, and September 30, 2009, about 320,000 people defaulted before September 30, 2010.

The climb in the 2009 cohort default rate—which measures what proportion of students defaulted within two years of

entering the repayment period—was highest at for-profit institutions, rising to 15 percent from 11.6 percent in 2008. At public institutions, the default rate jumped to 7.2 percent, up from 6 percent the previous year, and at private universities, the rate edged up to 4.6 percent from 4 percent in the previous year.

In 2011, five institutions—four proprietary and one private—will lose eligibility for one or more federal student-aid programs because they had default rates of 25 percent or higher for at least three years, or 40 percent in the latest year. Five institutions were also penalized last year.

For student borrowers, the consequences of defaulting on their loans shortly after leaving college could follow them for

years. A default could severely damage their credit, hurting their chances of being able to buy a car, rent an apartment, or buy a house. It could even lead to a federal lawsuit or wage garnishment.

In the end, the unemployment rate, graduation rates, and interest rates drive the default rate.

In June the unemployment rate for people with bachelor's degrees was 4.3 percent—less than half the rate for people with only a high-school diploma. Still, the unemployment rate for people with bachelor's degrees is double what it was before the recession.

Accessed 9/13/11 <http://chronicle.com/article/Student-Loan-Default-Rate/128964/>

Fun Fact:

The U.S. Department of Education revealed that the majority of today's college students are going to school part time, attend a two-year school or are over 22 years old. Only 16 percent of college students are 18 to 22 and live on campus at a traditional four-year college or university.

Of Interest:

- **Send Newsletter information to Kara Ferguson at kferguson@uscupstate.edu**
- Stay connected with us at www.sccpaweb.org
- **Plan now for the 2012 ACPA Conference in Louisville KY March 24-28, 2011. Early Bird registration ends January 31, 2012. More information can be found at <http://convention.mvacpa.org/>**