

WELCOME!

Hello future Student Affairs majors and welcome to the CU GARS/GASP special edition issue of *The SPA Times*! If you are interested in learning more about the Student Personnel Association, please contact any of the advisors or executive board members listed on the back cover. We look forward to getting to know you over the coming months!

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The SPA Times

CU GARS/GASP Special Edition!

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Pamela Havice, Ph.D. on the Student

Affairs Program at Clemson University

Our Student Affairs program is a unique blend of theoretical, practical and scholarly courses designed to prepare entry-level Student Affairs practitioners. With counseling at the base of our program I believe our graduates are sought after for their ability to: work with diverse student populations on campus; develop, implement and assess programs; and understand and utilize research-based resources for working in higher education. The program has intensive field experiences built into the curriculum which further develops strong entry-level practitioners.

To hear a recorded message from me regarding the program, please visit

<http://dle-mediasite-hehd.clemson.edu/Mediasite/Viewer/?peid=aaa40c0d-cf90-4542-a7ce-14a010d971f9>

Sincerely,

Pamela A. Havice, Ph.D.
Associate Professor /
Coordinator of Student Affairs
Program



Greetings from the SPA Executive Board!

Congratulations on being selected to interview for CU GARS/GASP 2010! We look forward to spending time with you over the weekend and learning about your experiences, goals and visions. Please let us know how we can help to make this a fun, valuable experience. Go Tigers!!

Sincerely,

Melissa "Mel" Noble, President
Shanon Langlie, Vice President
Amy Sherman, Treasurer
Steven Miller, Secretary
Talia Corley, SCCPA Liaison and
The SPA Times editor
Kristen Norris, Director of
Public Relations and
Recruitment
Brian Ford, Director of Social
Activities

Tony Cawthon, Ph.D. on the Student

Affairs Program at Clemson University

There are many excellent student affairs graduate programs around the country. You can be successful in many places, but choosing the program where you feel you "fit" ensures the optimal success.

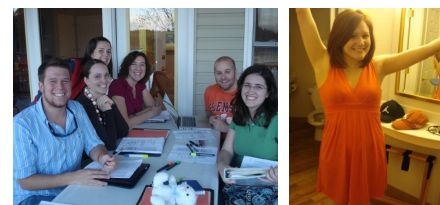
For me, the Clemson program has four primary strengths:

- 1) Excellent faculty and student relationships where faculty truly care about and mentor students,
- 2) A balanced curriculum where students take both student affairs administrative and counseling courses (good practitioners need both sets of skills)
- 3) A great academic program

coupled with practical experience that allows students to truly apply "theory to practice", and finally
4) Outstanding collaboration between the student affairs academic program and the Division of Student Affairs.

Sincerely,

Tony W. Cawthon, Ph.D.
Professor/ Leadership, Counselor
Education, Human and
Organizational Development
Department Chair



Greenville Eats! *By Miller Yoho*



“Greenville, SC has been undergoing a revitalization for the past two decades that has resulted in a charming city that is culturally vibrant, outdoors oriented, and undeniably beautiful.”



Not only is it the biggest city in our region, but it is what every southern city should strive to be. Greenville, SC has been undergoing a revitalization for the past two decades that has resulted in a charming city that is culturally vibrant, outdoors oriented, and undeniably beautiful. Being fortunate enough to attend undergrad just outside of its city limits, I have been able to fully explore the city and find many of its hidden gems.

While I could write hundreds of words on the baseball field or Falls Park, there is one thing that makes Greenville stand out in my mind and stomach: the food. Since I have the experience and waist girth to back it up, I have been tasked with detailing my favorite five restaurants in Greenville. Enjoy!

Chicora Alley – This is a hard-to-find restaurant that is reached by going through a side door and up some nondescript stairs. Once you enter the restaurant you are greeted by a wonderfully creative blend of Caribbean and down-home southern cooking. I recommend the getting the Nachos, actually I demand it. This a huge dish of tremendous tortilla chips layered with a variety of cheeses and goodness. But what makes this dish extraordinary are the salsas. From mango to corn salsa there is a tasteful explosion of savory ecstasy

that cannot be described in ink. I urge you to try it out for yourself.

<http://www.chicoraalley.com/home.htm>

American Grocery – This is the most expensive restaurant on my list. I recommend it for when you are really trying to impress a date – or when your parents are in town. It is located on the West End near the baseball stadium and is a relatively small restaurant, so make sure you get reservations. American Grocery specializes in local, fresh, and unexplainably savory cuisine. Its menu changes frequently with what is in season so there is no dish I can particularly recommend. However, I am 100% confident that every plate is going to be amazing and a work of art that not only tickles your taste buds, but is stunning visually.

<http://www.americangr.com/>

Smoke on the Water – This is probably the best place for high-quality bar-b-que in Greenville. Offering a variety of sauces and a wonderful atmosphere, it is a great introduction to the Greenville dining scene (and my go-to first date spot). While I do love my bar-b-que, I recommend the bleu cheese burger. This is my favorite burger in town and it's delectably topped with grilled onions and chunks of bleu cheese.

A bit of cautionary advice:

parking can be tough to find, make sure you don't park in reserved spaces, even if it is 7pm on a Friday and no business is open (I might be a little bitter).

<http://www.saucytavern.com/>

Barleys – Best pizza and beer in town. This is a restaurant that offers over 100 high-quality beers and the pizzas are outstanding too! Upstairs is my favorite table shuffle board (the greatest game ever). There is generally a wait during the weekends, so it is best to hit up this restaurant either during the week or for an early dinner. Every pizza is amazing and ridiculously large. My personal creation is the pesto pizza with feta, sun-dried tomatoes, pineapple, roasted red pepper, and bell pepper.

<http://www.barleystaproom.com/greenville/>

Lazy Goat – Who doesn't like tapas? This restaurant offers the best view in town of the Reedy River. It is a great place to take a group of people and split a bunch of tremendously innovative food. I recommend staying small with your order due to the price, but the atmosphere and food are totally worth it. Be sure to try the Gyro pizza for your main course. Not only is it an amazing eat, but you always sound sophisticated if you know how the word gyro is actually pronounced.

<http://thelazygoat.typepad.com/>

Sample of Professional Student Affairs Associations



In addition to these, be sure to check out NODA, NCDA and others!

Oh, the Places We “Could” Go! *By Patrick Nolan*



Upon graduation from my alma mater, I received a book written by Dr. Seuss called “Oh, the Places You’ll Go.” Moving to Clemson, I didn’t think too much about traveling in graduate school and did not think that going abroad was even an option. I was surprised to hear that Clemson University had two great opportunities that their Student Affairs graduate students could use to internationalize their perspective in dealing with the Higher Education system in the United Kingdom.

I began to feel that I needed to broaden my educational experience and signed up for one of the programs. The two programs ranged from a short term summer program focusing on a holistic viewpoint of higher education through traveling around Ireland, Scotland or England, while the other program was developed to complete a six week internship at the University of Sheffield located in the northern part of England. I,

along with three of my friends within the cohort, decided that we wanted to have a longer experience and opted for the internship.

Arriving in Sheffield, we moved into the home that we shared with a couple that worked for another university in Sheffield. At work, all three of us were placed in a different functional area of Student Affairs. We were treated as co-workers and were able to decide on which project would be completed at the end of the internship. When we were not at work, we enjoyed sampling the nomadic life of a traveler. We visited numerous locations in the United Kingdom and Ireland. We made friends and developed wonderful working relationships which we have all maintained. I learned about and experienced a different form of facilitation for an institution of higher education, assisted a completely different population of students, and worked in a different functional

area of student affairs that I may not have gotten experience with otherwise.

I offer this suggestion from Dr. Seuss and challenge you to think about the world outside of Clemson and the United States.

*You have brains in your head.
You have feet in your shoes.
You can steer yourself any direction
you choose.
You’re on your own. And you know
what you know. And
YOU are the guy who’ll decide
where to go.*

*You’ll look up and down streets.
Look’em over with care.
About some you will say, “I don’t
choose to go there.” With
your head full of brains and your
shoes full of feet, you’re too
smart to go down a not-so-good
street.*

Take the chance to travel and you’ll experience something out of this world.

“I was surprised to hear that CU had two great opportunities that their... graduate students could use to internationalize their perspective...”

Is South Carolina Close to St. Louis? *By Sandra Summers*

I will never forget when I told my brother I accepted a position at Clemson a year ago. Not being the greatest with geography he said, “Oh, so when I visit my friends in St. Louis, I’ll be close to you.” I walked him through where South Carolina was in the nation compared to our home areas of Illinois and Wisconsin, but am pretty sure he still has no idea where I actually am in the country.

While I laugh at my brother’s lack of geography skills, I understand his confusion about *the south*. Sure, I knew before I moved down here I would be drinking a lot of sweet tea (and I have), taking life a bit slower (and I have) and sweat more than usual (and I certainly have). What I did not realize was I would move into a new and different culture with nuances one can learn from

daily. Being from *the north* it never crossed my mind to list *northerner* as a descriptor of who I am. In my experience here at Clemson, being a *southerner* is the exact opposite. It is a portion of student and staff identity rich in history in tradition. I will admit I was hesitant to learn what it means to be a *southerner* based on my own preconceived ideas and stereotypes. Below are a few quick lessons and phrases to become acquainted with.

My biggest lesson learned – strangers talk to strangers and when people ask you how you are, they really want to know. My first trip to the grocery store resulted in the clerk finding out more in five minutes than I think most people in the Midwest learn about each other in a year. I remember an elderly man told me about his

morning in detail all while I reached for bananas. The other lesson I learned when I ventured back to the north for break. I walk slower. It happens. Embrace it and enjoy the interactions and the scenery!

Phrases to Know:

Ya’ll: This one shouldn’t surprise anyone. It equates to “You guys” in a non-gender specific way.

Hot mess: This is not meant literally (although stock up on deodorant.) One uses this to describe someone who may not have his/her act together at the present moment.

Ms. (Insert First Name): Shown as a sign of respect, students may refer to you or other staff members in this way.

Might Could: A combination of “I could” and “I might”.



Continued to page 4

Let's Talk: What Graduate Students Need to Discuss with their Advisor

By Brie Haupt



“...The best advice to offer you is to take ownership of your experiences and opportunities here at Clemson.”



Congratulations! You have landed your assistantship and are about to have the first official meeting with your Advisor. It can be a nerve-wracking experience filled with thoughts of: “Am I dressed well? Can you see the sweat stains under my pits? Did I park in the right place? Am I even in the right building?!”

To begin, realize what your program is educating you to do. You are entering into the Counselor Education- Student Affairs program at Clemson University, intentionally focused to cultivate professional proficiency in student development and leadership within higher education.

Most of the experience will come from your assistantship or any internship/practicum opportunities you engage in. These next few tips have been formulated to help ease your nervousness and, hopefully, result in a productive conversation between you and your Advisor for the year to come. :-)

What should some of your beginning conversations include?

Focus on the type of direction the student needs and the type of direction you usually give
 “Spoon-feeding” to Self-Directed

Are the interactions going to include personal life?
 Would they like advice on career, family, etc? Would you be willing to give this advice?

What type of criticism needs to be received?
 General advice verses specific. Also, what is seen as constructive verses destructive.

Frequency of Interaction
 Are meetings going to be weekly? Daily? Once a month? Open or closed door policy?

What type of environment are you looking to create?

What is the context of where you are meeting?
 Are all meetings to be held in an office? Will you meet over lunch or coffee?
 How can interactions be structured, yet relaxed?
 What is the relationship you want to form?
 Would you like an open, honest relationship?
 Strictly professional with specific focuses? In the end, respect your students as colleagues.

Determine what is too much and what is too little?
 Are these students utilizing opportunities you can give or do they even know about them?

Are they asking for too much and may need to have more realistic expectations?

Talk about utilizing a Professional Development Plan!

Discuss short-term and long-term goals with your student

Professionally- Conference attendance, presentation opportunities, ownership of programs and projects
Academically- Integrate student development theories, enhance knowledge of campus environment, departments and issues.
Personally- Interests, concerns and goals.

Lastly, the best advice to offer you is to take ownership of your experiences and opportunities here at Clemson. Be open about what your expectations are and what skills or tasks you would like to accomplish while you are here. In the end, you are becoming a Student Affairs Professional, what do you need to be an amazing one by the end of this time here at Clemson University?



Is South Carolina Close to St. Louis? (continued)

Grits: Is it oatmeal? Is it cream of wheat? I still don't know, but you'll see it everywhere with various “fixings.”

Right quick: Right away; shortly
I'm fixing for (insert noun): A craving for

something.
WaHo: Short for Waffle House. Great cheap breakfast (you can substitute hash browns for grits if you're nervous like me)
Bless his/her heart: Can be used in positive and negative connotations; something to say when you do not know what to say about someone.

Palmetto Bug: It's a cockroach, don't believe the scary stories you may hear.

Just as we challenge are students to understand a different perspective, I encourage all of us *northerners* to take time and enjoy the culture we are welcomed into here at Clemson.



The Clemson Student Personnel Association would like to thank you for reading the second issue of The SPA Times! For further information, please contact The SPA Times editor, Talia Corley, at taliac@g.clemson.edu

Purpose:

The purpose of SPA shall be to promote interest, development, and involvement in Student Personnel Services in Higher Education through association with students, faculty, and staff interested in the field of student development. SPA is an organization of Student Affairs Administration students and practitioners dedicated to creating and maintaining an environment conducive to their continuing education through the development of professional skills and involvement in professional activities and associations. SPA's members and affiliates shall serve the Student Affairs Division and the Clemson University community while simultaneously supporting their respective missions and philosophies. The SPA Times is an extension of SPA's services to its members.

Special Thanks to this issue's contributors!

The Student Affairs Program at CU, Pamela Havice, Ph.D.

The Student Affairs Program at CU, Tony Cawthon, Ph.D.

Greenville Eats, Miller Yoho (1st year fitness Graduate Assistant for Fike Recreation Center)

Oh, the Places We "Could" Go!, Patrick Nolan (2nd year International Programs Graduate Assistant for the Study Abroad Office)

Is SC Close to St. Louis?, Sandra Summers (1st year Benet and Sanders Resident Director for University Housing)

Let's Talk: What Graduate Students Need to Discuss with their Advisor, Brie Haupt (2nd year Diversity Education Programming Graduate Assistant for the Harvey and Lucinda Gantt Center for Student Life)



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***"There is real magic in enthusiasm. It spells the difference between mediocracy and accomplishment."
- Anonymous***