

NASPAA Career Professionals Virtual Conference

Thurs. & Fri. Jan. 14 - 15 | 1:00 – 4:00 pm EST

****ALL TIMES ARE IN EASTERN STANDARD TIME (EST)****

All sessions will be conducted via Zoom. Registered attendees will be sent the Zoom links and final agenda in advance of the conference.

Thursday, Jan. 14

1:00 pm EST | Welcome and Icebreaker

Laurel McFarland, NASPAA

Shannon Merchant, University of Washington, Evans School of Public Policy & Governance

Rachel DuBois, New York University, Robert F. Wagner Graduate School of Public Service

1:30 pm EST | Panel: Looking past COVID and Beyond: Insights on federal transition and workforce

Panelists:

[David Marchick](#), Director, Center for Presidential Transition

[Rick Kempinski](#), Senior Manager, Partnership for Public Service

Facilitator: [Laurel McFarland](#), NASPAA

Insights into the Biden administration transition and new priorities, workforce trends, efforts to overhaul the PMF and federal internship program, as well as the status of Public service loan forgiveness and student loan debt.

10 MIN BREAK

2:40 pm EST | Best Practices Sessions

- **2:40 – 3:05 pm EST | Session I**
Choose A, B, C, or D
- **3:05 – 3:30 pm EST | Session II**
Choose A, B, C, or D (all sessions repeated)

Best practice sessions will take place as two rounds where participants can hear from colleagues about the excellent work happening at different schools. Please select your top 2 topics, one for each session.

A) The Road to Sustainable Career Collaborations with Student Organizations

Facilitator: **Mellanie Rhae Tanada**, Assistant Director of Career Development, University of Washington | Evans School of Public Policy & Governance

Have you ever been surprised to hear about a last-minute career program hosted by student leaders unbeknownst to you or your team? Have student organizations dropped by right before their event to ask for last minute panelist gifts, extra name tags, or table tents? Involvement in student organizations has many positive benefits including community building, networking, and

leadership development, but it may sometimes be challenging to develop a sustainable partnership with busy graduate students. This session will focus on the strategies Evans School Career Development and Student Services teams have implemented to better inform, support, and collaborate with graduate student leaders on developing/facilitating career programs.

B) Student Learning Outcome Assessment Best Practices for Beginners

Facilitator: **Alexandra Cobus**, Associate Director of Career Services, New York University | Robert F. Wagner Graduate School of Public Service

Designed for the Career Services Professional who may be an assessment novice, this interactive session will walk through an assessment cycle, with an emphasis on student learning outcomes. Participants will leave with a better sense of direct and indirect assessment methods and how to follow through with a good assessment practice that will bring about positive, systematic change.

C) NASPAA Employer Relations Committee

Facilitators: **Suzanne Grossman**, Deputy Director of Career Services & Alumni Relations and **Marny Smith**, Assistant Director, Graduate Career Services, Baruch College | Marxe School of Public Administration and International Affairs

In Fall 2020, a group of NASPAA career services staff joined together to host a series of events for all NASPAA students. During this best practice session, we will share more about the events we hosted, how we collaborated, and will collect ideas for the future. The events hosted in Fall 2020 including a PMF Alumni Panel, DC Virtual Trek (four events over one week), and Private Sector Policy Careers Panel. The idea behind these events is that the virtual environment allows for more collective participation, and ability to pool our resources to share with the larger NASPAA community.

D) Effective Cross-campus Collaboration with University Career Services and Career Communities

Facilitators: **Jill Rockwell**, Senior Assistant Dean for Student and Career Services; **Steve Hiss**, Director of Career Services and Alumni Relations; and **Hannah Guffey**, Assistant Director of Career Services, **University of Virginia | Frank Batten School of Leadership and Public Policy**

This session will focus on how to effectively collaborate with central career center partners, with a particular focus on navigating a “career community” model. We will share information about how we have successfully leveraged resources and relationships developed with UVA Career Center employer relations representatives and the “Public Service & Government Career Community” industry advisors to:

- Co-create and facilitate industry specific programming
- Provide more robust and holistic advising to our students
- Broaden our knowledge of and access to competitive employers
- Better utilize career resources

3:30 pm EST | Ethics of Selfcare & End of Day

Jennifer Triana, Behavioral Health Counselor at UC San Diego
Stephanie Boomhower, UC San Diego, School of Global Policy and Strategy
Elaine McBeth, College of William and Mary, William & Mary Public Policy

Friday, January 15

1:00 pm EST | Welcome & Day 1 Recap

Stephanie Boomhower, UC San Diego, School of Global Policy and Strategy
Elaine McBeth, College of William and Mary, William & Mary Public Policy

1:20 pm EST | In Service of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging

- 1:20 – 2:05 pm EST | Panel
- 2:05 – 2:20 pm EST | Q&A/Group Debrief
- 2:20 – 2:50 pm EST | Breakout Sessions

Panelists:

[Leah Lattimore](#), Assistant VP Inclusive Global Student Leadership & Engagement, New York University

[Carlton Goode](#), Discovery Advisor, Virginia Commonwealth University

Facilitators: **Shajuana Payne**, Virginia Commonwealth University, L. Douglas Wilder School of Government and Public Affairs and **Mary Snowden-Lorence**, New York University, Robert F. Wagner Graduate School of Public Service

All are welcome and belong in this timely, educational and engaging conversation with leading Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Belonging experts in Student Affairs. Join this dynamic presentation and panel conversation, featuring Leah Lattimore of New York University and Carlton Goode of Virginia Commonwealth University. After the Q&A portion of our conversation, we will engage in topical breakout sessions to dive deeper and continue the conversation, addressing the needs, actions, and resources of your work, team, and institutional communities. Don't miss out on this urgent and important conversation, as we continue our work in support of all public policy and public administration students, partners and leaders.

10 MIN BREAK

3:00 pm EST | Best Practice Sessions

- 2:40 – 3:05 pm EST | Session III
Choose A, B, or C
- 3:05 – 3:30 pm EST | Session IV
Choose A, B, C (all sessions repeated)

A) Utilizing Alumni to Increase Student Career Success

Facilitator: **Denise Burchard**, Assistant to the Chair, Department of Public Administration, Northern Illinois University | School of Public and Global Affairs

Leveraging alumni connections can be an impactful way of increasing career success for current students. This session will focus on best practices for involving alumni in assisting students preparing for their first full-time position. Strategies include having alumni provide shadowing opportunities, review students resumes, conduct mock interviews and connect with students as mentors.

B) Leveraging Remote Internships During COVID and Beyond

Facilitator: **Aaron Redman**, MPA Recruitment & Career Services Coordinator, University of Georgia | School of Public and International Affairs

This session will focus on how to work with both employers and students to utilize remote internships and how to best make the experience beneficial to everyone involved. Learn and discuss how to overcome challenges related to remote work like supervision and professional feedback, social engagement, compensation, as well as software and tech requirements.

C) How to Create a Virtual Career Series to Increase Engagement During Uncertain Times

Facilitators: **Yalitza Negron-Rivera**, Director of Internships and Career Services, SUNY University at Albany | Rockefeller College of Public Affairs and Policy

Students need now, more than ever, the support and guidance within Career Services as they navigate these uncertain and concerning times. During this session, learn about the innovative virtual career series facilitated by the Office of Career Development for Rockefeller College of Public Affairs & Policy. This session will provide insight into the overall framework, ways we integrated alumni and advisory board members while increasing student engagement in a digital format. By the end of the session, participants will design their own virtual series including identifying potential topics and speakers to help accelerate their own series.

3:50 pm EST | Conclusion and Networking Time

Stephanie Boomhower, UC San Diego, School of Global Policy and Strategy
Elaine McBeth, College of William and Mary, William & Mary Public Policy