



2018-19 Student Affairs Annual Report







Vice President for Student Affairs Eugene L. Zdziarski, II, PhD chats with students and families at Family Weekend.

Letter from the Vice President

The 2018-19 academic year marked the first year of the university's strategic plan, Grounded in Mission: The Plan for DePaul 2024, and the Division of Student Affairs played a major role in moving forward some of the institution's most significant strategic objectives, including a new student success coaching program, revitalized student welcome programs, better coordinated peer mentor programs and exciting new campus traditions, such as the Christmas tree lighting ceremony. With our focus on student academic success, student engagement and student support, departments throughout the division had a clear and unified approach to serving students.

All of these exciting new programs and services were in addition to our existing, outstanding offerings, including new student and transfer orientation, Chicago Quarter common hour coordination and support, counseling services, disability services, adult and veteran student services, residential and commuter student support, health and wellness services, and much more. Our staff truly did an outstanding job of providing significant, high quality programs and services while developing other large-scale, high impact programs and services.

A key emphasis throughout the year was to collect verifiable data to measure our effectiveness, and this report provides a summary of some of our top accomplishments and outcomes of this past academic year. Yet no written report can truly convey the commitment and passion of the dedicated staff throughout the Division of Student Affairs, who believe in the dignity and promise of every student and their ability to positively impact our world.

We are proud of what we have contributed to DePaul and its students during 2018-19, and we very much look forward to continuing to contribute significant efforts toward DePaul's strategic growth through Grounded in Mission in the coming years.

EUGENE L. ZDZIARSKI, II, PhD

Vice President for Student Affairs

Student Affairs Overview

MISSION

The Division of Student Affairs at DePaul University delivers programs and services that foster student success, build community and contribute to the development of the whole student.

PURPOSE AND VALUES

We believe in the promise of every student and their ability to positively impact their world.

We put our mission and purpose into practice with:

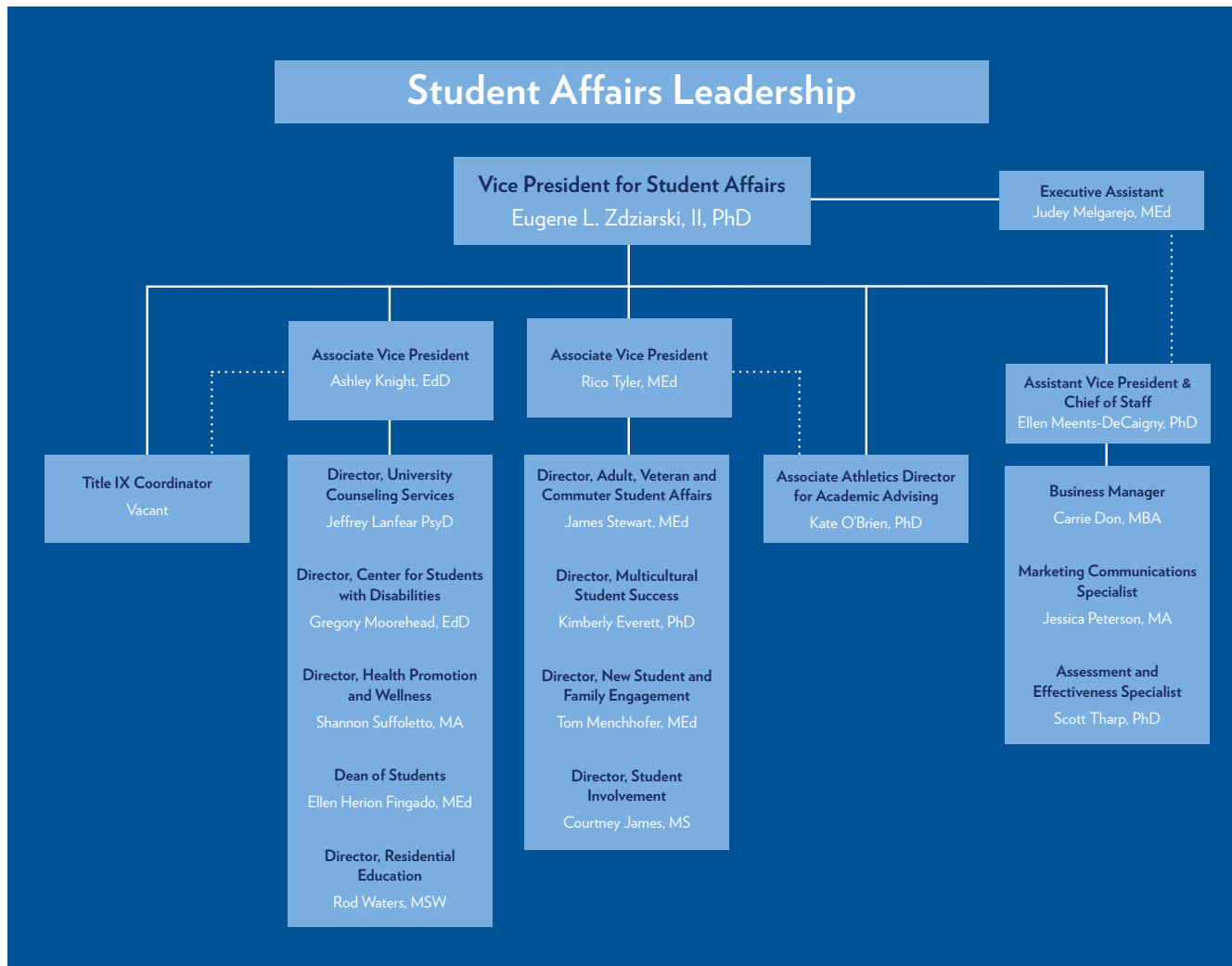
- Vincentian personalism
- A belief in the dignity of every individual
- A sense of community and valuing relationships
- Integrity
- Radical hospitality
- Attention to the holistic development of the student
- Special attention to the poor and marginalized

Students enjoy a giant inflatable at the Loop Block Party.



ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

Student Affairs employed 75 full-time staff members (12 percent), 11 part-time staff members (2 percent), 16 graduate assistants (3 percent) and 496 student staff members (83 percent) during 2018-19.



CORE FUNCTIONS

Student Affairs' core functions were developed in 2018 with the goal of clearly describing the division's work in serving students. The core functions also serve as the framework for how the division collects data to assess the effectiveness of Student Affairs' work.

CORE FUNCTION 1: STUDENT ACADEMIC SUCCESS

Programs & services that focus on academic persistence and contribute to continuous enrollment and degree completion. The area develops, implements and assesses purposeful and structured collaborative programs and services that support student transitions, contribute to academic success, and create connections with university-wide resources.

CORE FUNCTION 2: STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

Programs and events that provide out-of-classroom opportunities for students to participate, connect and learn within the DePaul community, thus contributing to their personal and educational success, as well as to their increased satisfaction with their DePaul experience.

CORE FUNCTION 3: STUDENT SUPPORT

Programs & services that support students in & outside the classroom, help remove barriers to academic and personal success and contribute to continuous enrollment and completion.



Students learn about the over 320 student organizations at DePaul during the Involvement Fair and Real Life Recess.

By the Numbers 2018-19:

STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

7,279 unique students
(**6,599** undergraduate students
2,162 first year students)
attended Student Involvement
events on campus.

Back to School events in fall 2018 drew **3,595 unique visitors**, 1,567 of which were first year students.

Over 1200 students are members of the 29 Fraternity and Sorority chapters on campus.

The **ESPORTS GAMING CENTER**
saw **1,243** unique students
visit **10,458** times.

401 students enrolled with the **CENTER FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES**, a 24.5% increase over the 2017-18 academic year. Total enrollment, including continuing students, was 1,114.

321 student organizations are registered with the Office of Student Involvement.

STUDENT SUPPORT

2,749 students lived in campus housing, served by 5 residence directors, 2 part-time assistant residence directors and 57 resident advisors.

UNIVERSITY COUNSELING SERVICES
served **1,493** student clients
& held **469** group counseling
sessions in 2018-19.

Students visited health services 1,948 times.

DePaul's student veteran population is the 8th largest in the state of Illinois and the largest in Chicago.

Over **\$9 million of federal GI Bill® dollars** come to DePaul to support our student veterans.

**ADULT, VETERAN AND COMMUTER
STUDENT AFFAIRS** processed
over **1,000** GI Bill® certifications
for veteran students.

200 students were served through the HIV/STI testing program, a 77% increase over the year prior.

STUDENT ACADEMIC SUCCESS

4,205 + **3,426**
new students + student guests
were welcomed through
PREMIERE AND TRANSITION DEPAUL
orientation programs.

The **DEAN OF STUDENTS** managed 1,336 advocacy cases and saw a 42% increase in verifications that a current or former student did not violate university policy or the Code of Student Responsibility.

606 student veterans were served by the office of **ADULT, VETERAN AND COMMUTER STUDENT AFFAIRS**.

STUDENT AFFAIRS employs
almost **500** student employees &
leaders annually.

394 first-year students attended **925 coaching sessions** during the winter and spring quarters through the new Student Success Coaching Program.

401 students enrolled with the **CENTER FOR STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES**, a 24.5% increase over 2017-18. Total enrollment, including continuing students, was 1,114.

A first year student meets with their
student success coach.

2018-19 Priorities and Highlights

"Student Success Coaching has helped me more than any other program at DePaul in my experiences so far. Having a coach to ensure that you're still on the right track and in the right mindset has been incredibly helpful for me, and [my coach] makes me feel all the more comfortable here at DePaul."

ANONYMOUS STUDENT SURVEY RESPONDENT



Orientation Leaders are ready to greet incoming students and help them learn the ropes at DePaul.

Student Academic Success

- Student Affairs established the Student Success Coaching program for first-year students in winter quarter 2019. Twenty-one upper-level undergraduate and graduate students were trained to help students develop measurable personal and academic goals and direct students to university resources that support their goals. **Since its launch in January, 394 first year students have contacted their coach, and coachees have attended 925 coaching sessions with their coaches.** (Grounded in Mission goal 3.2.B)
- A new peer support network initiative was launched this year, with New Student and Family Engagement taking a lead role in the initial stages. Between January and July 2019, a university-wide group inventoried the peer support programs at DePaul and reviewed their systems and processes. The group committed to establishing a community to share training and support resources across peer support programs at DePaul. (Grounded in Mission goal 2.1.F and 3.2.B and C)
- The groundwork was laid for the launch of a new first generation college student program called Generation Success. An initial proposal for the program was created during winter quarter 2019, with a proposed fall 2019 official launch date. The program structure, which includes a pre-Immersion Week experience, a Discover Chicago class specifically for first generation students, and a first generation student day in November, was finalized during spring 2019. (Grounded in Mission goal 2.1.C)
- Adult, Veteran and Commuter Student Affairs implemented Veteran Peer Coaching. The veteran liaison staff served as coaches guiding assigned students in goal setting, accountability and encouragement. Multiple outreaches occurred throughout the year, which ended up resulting in 35 coaching sessions. (Grounded in Mission goal 3.2.B.)
- The Office of Multicultural Student Success (OMSS) collaborated with the Office of Admissions to create an OMSS Visit Day for admitted students to increase the yield of those who identify as part of OMSS, target populations. (Grounded in Mission goal 2.1.C)

Student Engagement


- Student Affairs created a number of new welcome events in 2018-19. Data from the fall welcome shows increased student participation and engagement of students across colleges, academic levels and residential status. **Overall, there were 19,394 student touch points through September 25, 2018, 6084 of which were unique.** 37 percent of these students were first-year undergraduates, and 87 percent of first year undergraduate students attended at least one welcome event in 2018. (Grounded in Mission goal 2.1.A.)
- Student Affairs organized DePaul's first-ever Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony and Ugly Sweater Party. Both events were held on Tuesday, November 7 in the Lincoln Park Quad and St. Vincent's Circle. **Over 1000 students and close to 500 faculty and staff attended.** (Grounded in Mission goal 2.1.B.)
- Student Affairs led a planning team tasked to implement a new student academic convocation in fall 2019. New Student and Family Engagement brought together over two dozen faculty, staff and student members between January and July 2019 to determine event and logistical details. (Grounded in Mission goal 2.1.B.)
- The majority of Esports initiatives were transferred to Student Affairs during the 2018-19 school year. Student Involvement now manages the Esports Gaming Center and oversees Esports related programming and the Esports Student Leadership Board. **In 2018-2019, the Gaming Center had a total of 10,458 visits that included 773 unique users of PC systems and 470 unique users of console systems.** (Grounded in Mission goal 2.1)
- Student Involvement launched a program through the Student Activity Fee Board (SAF-B) called Snap Funding, where student organizations could request up to \$200 for an event and receive the funds within 48 hours. As a result, SAF-B saw a 42% increase in on-campus events. (Grounded in Mission goal 2.1)
- A new veterans lounge was created by repurposing a large office space in the Loop. The Veterans Lounge provides a location for finding resources, relaxing, building community and studying. **The lounge opened in late September 2018, and has been visited 2,178 times by 128 students.** (Grounded in Mission goal 2.1.G.)

Members of the Health Education Action Team (HEAT) pose for a portrait in St. Vincent's Circle by the Quad in Lincoln Park.

"I have had the opportunity to do so much at DePaul. I've researched and presented on supramolecular polymers and substitutes for the extracellular matrix and non-nutritive sweeteners, won Big East indoor and outdoor track championships and traveled to the Dominican Republic with other athletes on a service immersion trip."

KYLE DECKER, '19

Track athlete and biology major with a chemistry minor



An academic advisor assists a new student with fall quarter registration.

Student Support

- Student Affairs launched the Opioid Overdose Prevention and Response program in late January 2019. **Health Promotion and Wellness and the Dean of Students Office worked together to create a program consisting of 38 kits containing the opioid antagonist drug naloxone, or Narcan, located at 32 points across both campuses.** The kits are located in most defibrillators (AEDs) on campus, all Public Safety Patrol cars, front desks of residence halls and the libraries on both campuses. Over 140 staff have been trained to recognize an overdose and administer Narcan. (Grounded in Mission goal 2.2.B.)
- Residential Education worked with Health Promotion and Wellness to create a Substance Free Living-Learning Community for the 2019-2020 academic year. The community was created to support students who are interested in living a substance free lifestyle. (Grounded in Mission goal 2.1.G.)
- **University Counseling Services staff trained all 75 DePaul Public Safety officers in the basics of mental health crisis response and de-escalation techniques.** (Grounded in Mission goal 2.2.B.)
- University Counseling Services collaborated with the Office of Multicultural Student Success to establish the initiative, “Let’s Talk.” The program aims to engage more students of marginalized identities in mental health care/activities. (Grounded in Mission goal 3.2.E., F.)

“I wouldn’t have been able to sleep, go to class or function if I hadn’t talked to someone in [Health Promotion and Wellness].”

ANONYMOUS STUDENT SURVEY RESPONDENT

2019-2020 Strategic Priorities

ACADEMIC COMPLETION AND ENGAGEMENT INITIATIVE

The Academic Completion and Engagement (ACE) Initiative is a mission inspired, data informed, comprehensive undergraduate student success initiative that seeks to increase undergraduate student retention, progression and graduation rates. The new initiative will develop existing and newly created strategies resulting in a university-wide integrated approach spanning the entire undergraduate experience.

STUDENT SUCCESS COACHING

The Student Success Coaching program was launched in winter 2019 as a pilot. In 2019-20, the goal is to assess winter and spring 2019 program goals and achievements, and to expand the program to have its intended impact. In summer of 2019, a Student Success Coaching program word mark was created for marketing purposes, a graduate assistant was hired, and a calling campaign was undertaken. In fall 2019 and winter and spring 2020, two to four additional coaches will be hired (for a total of 25-27 overall), all coaches will receive more training, all coaches will receive a lap top, coaching session tracking will be moved exclusively to BlueStar, and coaches will visit Chicago Quarter classrooms and conduct lunch and learns around mid-terms and finals.

INCREASED EMPHASIS ON AFFINITY AND TRADITIONS

Grounded in Mission calls for a focus on increasing traditions and affinity at DePaul. A new position in Student Affairs will be responsible for affinity programs as related to Goal 2.1, and for advising a new student programming body, the Council on New and Existing Campus Traditions (CONNECT). The goal is to establish eight new affinity-building events with target student attendance of 500 or more, including First Friday Fun, DePaul Halloween Party, a basketball tailgate and a midterm cereal bar. (Grounded in Mission goals 2.1.D and H).

NEW FIRST GENERATION COLLEGE STUDENT PROGRAM

Generation Success, a new first generation college student program was launched in fall 2019 (see Priorities and Highlights, Student Academic Success, bullet point three).

During 2019-20, the focus will be on developing a mentor program that connects first generation faculty and staff to first generation students at DePaul, implementing a first generation student event on November 8, and developing and implementing marketing and promotions for incoming students, as well as to normalize first-generation student status at DePaul. (Grounded in Mission goal 3.2.E)

BLUE DEMON WELCOME

Planning for this new student convocation began in January 2019, and it will take place on Tuesday, September 10, 2019 at Wintrust Arena. From planning for bus transportation for students, recruiting over 100 event volunteers, writing a student oath, naming and inviting a stage party and arranging for their regalia, developing a script and speeches for the event and securing photography and video services, among many other things, this is a top priority for 2019-20. After the event, the focus will be on evaluating, adjusting and planning for fall 2020.

ESPORTS MANAGEMENT AND GROWTH

Now that the Esports program and gaming center has officially transitioned to Student Affairs, in the coming year there will be a focus on expanding varsity and club competitive teams, weekly programming in the gaming center, the development of gaming programs on the Lincoln Park campus, and staffing and managing the Esports Student Leadership Board.

“Showing people they can do good instead of remaining stagnant is how I think I’m carrying DePaul’s mission out.”

BAYLEE RITTER, '19

Senior public relations and advertising and communications studies major and environmental communications minor

"The giving community at DePaul has done a lot for my personal and professional development, and it's opened my eyes to current issues and encouraged me to give back to this community that has given so much to me."

NATE GUTIERREZ, '19

Demon Door Step volunteer and member of DePaul Alliance for Latinx Empowerment and Lamda Theta Phi, Latin Fraternity Incorporated fraternity of the Multicultural Greek Council

Assessment

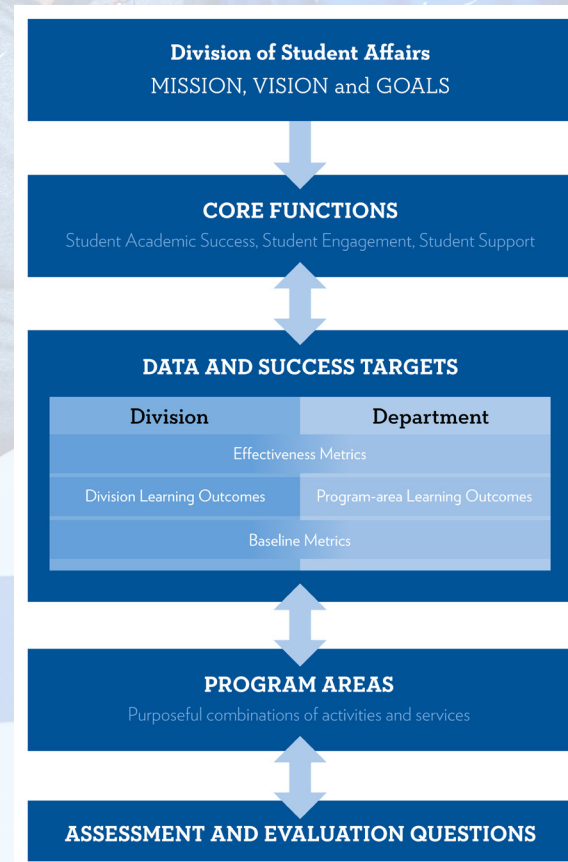
STUDENT AFFAIRS' DATA-DRIVEN DECISION-MAKING MODEL

The new model for data-driven decision making was adopted in fall 2018. The model is designed to clarify data expectations at the department and division level, better align data collection with the division's core functions, and integrate data related to student learning and program effectiveness metrics to better inform decision-making and strategic planning.

As part of this effort, the departments reorganized program-area maps and updated program-area learning outcomes in preparation to align the departments' work with divisional core function effectiveness metrics. Our division also partnered with Institutional Research and Market Analytics to begin developing new measures to monitor and improve student programs and services on campus.

During the 2018-2019 academic year, the division's 15th year of assessment, a new combined co-curricular assessment cycle was implemented that included Student Affairs' departments and other co-curricular units. A total of 16 assessment projects were completed.

- Ten projects measured student learning involving student staff and student participants of initiatives that provide academic, financial, post-collegiate, and writing support.
- Four projects explored student needs among transfer students, student staff who support peers in crisis, student organization leaders, and students who participated in multicultural programs.
- Two projects examined best practices among peer institutions related to peer coaching initiatives and student athletes.



Staff Accomplishments

AWARDS/HONORS

Adult, Veteran and Commuter Student Affairs

Megan Burda-Giedraitis
DePaul Staff Quality Service Award

Multicultural Student Success

Monica Ramos
Outstanding Service and Leadership,
DePaul Center for Latino Research

Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs

Jessica Peterson
Spirit of DePaul Award

University Counseling Services

Outstanding Training Site
Association of Chicagoland Externship
and Practicum Training

Stacy Kvet
Spirit of DePaul Award

Natalyn Williams
DePaul Staff Quality Service Award

LEADERSHIP

Adult, Veteran and Commuter Student Affairs

James Stewart
Co-chair
Student Affairs Professionals in Higher
Education (NASPA) Region IV-East
2019 conference

Athletic Academic Advising

Kate O'Brien
Member
DePaul Staff Council

Dean of Students Office

Bernard Little
Member
DePaul Staff Council
Chief of Staff for Regional Director
NASPA Region IV-East
Awards Chair
NASPA Region IV-East

New Student and Family Engagement

Dani Blackwell
Member, Chair of Diversity and
Inclusion committee
DePaul Staff Council

Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs

Carrie Don
Operations Co-chair
NASPA Region IV-East 2019
Conference

Ellen Meents-DeCaigny
National Director of
Knowledge Communities
NASPA Board of Directors

Scott Tharp
Board Member and
Co-curricular Liaison
Chicago Area Assessment Group
Representative, Assessment, Evaluation
and Research Knowledge Community
NASPA Region IV-East

Gene Zdziarski
Past Chair
NASPA Foundation

Residential Education

Matthew Schultz
Member, Health and
Wellness Committee
Great Lakes Association for College
and University Housing Officers
(GLACUHO)

Quiana Stone
Chair Delegate, Board of Directors
GLACUHO

Membership Engagement Co-chair
NASPA Women in Student Affairs
Knowledge Community

Rod Waters
Case Study Chair
NASPA IV-East Regional Conference

Student Involvement

Teneshia Arnold
Leadership Fellows Mentor
National Association for Campus
Activities (NACA)

Rigo Gutierrez
National Convention Marketplace
coordinator for the 2020 Convention
Mid-America Regional Conference
Planning Committee chair
NACA

Courtney James
Esports Advisory Board
BIG EAST
2018 National Convention Co-chair
NACA

University Counseling Services

Jeff Lanfear
Liaison, Directors of Catholic Schools
and Faith-based Schools
Association of University & College
Counseling Center Directors

PRESENTATIONS (EXTERNAL)

Center for Students with Disabilities

Gregory Moorehead
Co-presenter with Vivian Barnette
*Why should colleges and universities
prioritize mental health and disabilities?*
American Association of Blacks in
Higher Education

Multicultural Student Success

Monica Ramos
*The Latinx Cultural Center as
the Counter-Narrative for Latinx in
Higher Education*
American Association for the
Advancement of Curriculum Studies
*The Latinx Cultural Center: An Identity
Conscious Approach to Engagement &
Leadership Development*
The National Conference of the United
States Hispanic Leadership Institute

Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs

Scott Tharp
*How White, First-Year College
Students Think About Privilege: Core
Conceptual Ideas*
Association for the Study of Higher
Education Conference
*Variations Among White First-
year College Students' Ideological
Explanations of Privilege*
Society for Research in Child
Development Biennial Meeting
*Writing and Assessing Student
Learning Outcomes for Social
Justice Education*
National Conference on Race
and Ethnicity in American Higher
Education (NCORE)

*Designing Social Justice Education
Workshop Curriculum: A Step-by-Step
Process for Practitioners*
NCORE

*Assessing Social Justice Education
Workshop Curriculum: Learning
Assessment for Practitioners*
NCORE

*Evolving Past Assessment: An
Integrated Model for Data-Driven
Decision-Making*
Student Affairs Assessment and
Research Conference
Ohio State University

Eugene L. Zdziarski
*Twenty Years of Crisis Response:
Reflections on the 1999 Texas A&M
University Bonfire Collapse*
NASPA Annual Conference

**Eugene L. Zdziarski and Ellen
Meents-DeCaigny**
*Crisis Communication in the Age of
Social Media*
NASPA Annual Conference, VPSA
Institute

Residential Education

Ashley Trewartha
*Reframing Our Approach to
Leadership: Helping Students Envision
Themselves as Leaders*
NASPA IV-East Annual Conference

University Counseling Services

Anmol Satiani
*Making Race and Culture Work in
the STEM Era: Bringing all People
Forward and Addressing Mental Health
and Systemic Barriers: Accompanying
Students of Color*
Diversity Challenge 2018

PUBLICATIONS

Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs

Eugene L. Zdziarski
*Student Expectations and
Student Needs: How Effective College
Towns are Designed with Students at
the Center*
In J. Martin & J. Samels (Eds.) *The New
American College Town: Designing
Effective Campus and Community
Partnerships.*



Orientation Leaders having fun at Late Night at the Ray during Premiere DePaul.



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Chicago, Illinois 60604

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