Membership Dues
You should have received your annual membership dues in mid-February. Thank you to all those who have already paid for the year. APPA membership makes a great choice for your career and your institution, and since membership is organizational, your entire staff is entitled to discounted rates on APPA programs and products when you renew your membership. This is a good time to let us know if you have any changes to your membership record, especially if you are your organization’s primary representative. Accurate contact information ensures that you receive your member benefits, as well as your invoice. If you have any questions, please contact Randel Edwards at randel@appa.org.

Procurement Association Changes Name
To better reflect procurement’s strategic role in support of higher education’s academic agenda, the National Association of Educational Buyers recently announced that the organization has changed its name to the National Association of Educational Procurement (NAEP). As the nation’s largest association dedicated to procurement in education, the new name specifically embodies the organization’s mission in advancing accountability, affordability, and accessibility in the industry. More information on the association can be found at www.naepnet.org.

Campus Ecology Yearbook
The National Wildlife Federation (NWF) recently released the 16th edition of the Campus Ecology Yearbook for 2004-05. The current edition includes 56 case studies from more than 40 higher education institutions in the U.S. and Canada focusing on conservation and sustainability projects ranging from finding alternative, eco-friendly sources of energy and transportation, to recycling and waste reduction, to native species restoration. The campuses featured in the Yearbook are enrolled in the Campus Ecology program at NWF. Published each year since 1989, the Campus Ecology Yearbook is the only publication of its kind in the U.S. The 2004-05 projects are available online along with the previous year’s entries sorted by project topic and archived on NWF’s Campus Ecology website at www.nwf.org/campusecology.

Register for Campus of the Future
Campus of the Future: A Meeting of the Minds, a joint conference of three leading associations that serve higher education: APPA, NACUBO, and SCUP, will take place July 8-11, 2006 in Honolulu, Hawai‘i. This conference will provide an opportunity to explore a vision of the trends, challenges, and advancements anticipated for the campus of the future. An exciting lineup of concurrent sessions has been planned, featuring topics such as:
• A Strategic Approach to Finance the 2020 Campus Infrastructure
• Impact of Facilities on Student Recruitment & Retention
• Designing a 2015 Sustainability Plan—Is it Possible?
• Integrating Strategic Planning and Operational Management
• Successful Approaches to Historic Residence Hall Renovations
And many more! Visit www.campusofthefuture.org for more information and to register for this important event!

Hurricane Aid
In January, U.S. Secretary of Education Margaret Spellings announced that $30 million in unspent federal financial aid funding is being redirected to help colleges and universities directly impacted by Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. Originally, the Department of Education planned to award the funds to institutions only in Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama. However, Spellings stated that the funds also would be available to assist the institutions nationwide that enrolled displaced students.
The $30 million comes on top of the $200 million in hurricane assistance already appropriated by Congress through the Hurricane Education Recovery Act. The $200 million includes $10 million for the 99 postsecondary institutions around the country that enrolled displaced students following the hurricanes, and $190 million for Louisiana’s and Mississippi’s boards of higher education. Spellings also said that colleges would be allowed to keep approximately $100 million in financial aid they did not use when students were not able to enroll when campuses were forced to shut down for the semester.

Continued on page 8
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Leadership Academy

APPAs Leadership Academy will be held June 11-16, 2006 at the Starr Pass Marriott Resort & Spa, in Tucson, Arizona. The Leadership Academy enhances and further develops leadership throughout the educational industry. It provides opportunities for professionals to increase their awareness of the issues affecting them, teaches them the skills they need to handle the resulting changes, and provides opportunities to explore and discover their own leadership potential. The Academy is a four-track learning opportunity, with each track emphasizing a different perspective and type of leadership skill. For more information and to register, please visit www.appa.org/education.

Campus Diversity

According to the Chronicle of Higher Education, over the last three years, mainly in response to the two June 2003 landmark U.S. Supreme Court rulings defining the limits of affirmative action, colleges across the country have been concluding that they are in legal jeopardy if they continue to offer some services or benefits solely to minority students. As a result, the institutions have been abandoning the use of race-exclusive eligibility criteria in determining who can be awarded scholarships and fellowships or can participate in recruitment, orientation, and academic-enrichment programs.

Many of the programs have shifted their focus from increasing minority access to education to serving the broader and more abstract goal of promoting campus diversity.

The American Council on Education (ACE) has published two new papers on this topic, Leadership Strategies for Advancing Campus Diversity: Advice from Experienced Presidents and Race-Conscious Financial Aid and Other Diversity-Enhancing Programs: Legal Developments for Colleges and Universities. Copies of both papers are available from the ACE Bookstore at www.acenet.edu/bookstore.