



Professional Development Committee

By Chuck Scott



The recent buzz phrase in APPA-land is “Why APPA?” On most of our campuses, there is much talk about what we do and how we do it. Yet, now there begins a shift in focus to WHY we do what we do.

Let’s take a few moments as I share the work of the dedicated volunteers who make up APPA’s Professional Development Committee—because they are hard at work for you! In this article, I hope to convey the value of these APPA offerings to our members and their respective institutions. I hope to convey “Why APPA.”

AN INTRODUCTION

Because some readers of this article may not have been involved in the APPA officer election process, I would like to introduce myself as your new Vice President for Professional Development. As such, I want to share a little bit about myself, my APPA involvement, and what I hope to bring to our members. I have been a long-standing supporter of professional development and have demonstrated this as a graduate of the APPA Institute for Facilities Management, Leadership Academy, University of Notre Dame Executive Institute, and am an Educational Facilities Professional.

My support of continual learning is also felt by my staff at Illinois State; annually we ensure participation in many of the APPA professional development offerings. Together we have

created a culture on our campus that conveys a strong customer service focus and greater professional knowledge base that results in campus-wide appreciation for the services we provide. We have adopted the “Fun is Good” philosophy from Mike Veeck, whereby we take our work very seriously while simultaneously having fun in the workplace.

We also subscribe to the notion that one can go to college and get a degree, but one must be engaged to get an education. So, you may ask, “How do I have fun, how do I engage, and why APPA?”

SO, WHY APPA?

First off, APPA is fun! Where else could you interact with peers that have similar interests and concerns? Have you heard about the continued success of APPA U with nearly 800 facilities professionals attending during fiscal 2012-13? Are you aware of the expanded delivery of Academy on Campus with Track 1 and Track 2 of the Leadership Academy available truly at your time and place of choice? The same is true with the Supervisor’s Toolkit, where you can bring it to your own campus. Have you participated in the expansion of our Drive-In Workshops as we build new relationships with Business Partner members in successful training and networking opportunities?

Are you attending APPA 2013 in Minneapolis? This annual conference



begins APPA's 100-year anniversary. Included in its offerings will be the SFO Summit, and a new Emerging Professionals Summit that will provide interaction with the SFOs. Each of these are opportunities for fun and engagement. For a full listing of upcoming professional development opportunities,

including dates and locations, please visit www.appa.org/training.

COMING UP

For a sneak peek into one of the planned keynote sessions at APPA 2013, *Our Asset, Our Burden: The Future of Campus Space* will be discussed.

Space is both an asset and a burden for our institutions. Space has a tremendous value, in many cases well into the hundreds of millions of dollars. Space is the medium in which the institution operates. Online courses have proven that education can be conducted anywhere, but most teaching, learning, and research still takes place on campuses. And while the value of buildings and grounds can be calculated, college and university spaces have a greater intrinsic value in the minds of students, faculty, alumni, staff, and community members.

Campus spaces and places, the buildings and grounds, hold memories, retain emotions, and represent the ethos of an institution. They represent that "sense of place" so important to an institution's community and brand. Join us for a highly charged session with invited experts who will discuss the challenges of space management and finance, the coming advancements and best practices to embrace, and the new meaning of space in our campuses.

THE APPA PD COMMITTEE

As we continue look to the future, it is important to note the work of the Professional Development Committee and their work on the Strategic Plan. This group of dedicated professionals is significantly impacting the deliveries and how we are helping to take APPA to the next level. While APPA's Vision and Mission are clearly articulated in the Strategic Plan, contributions by the committee are essential in upholding them and ensuring that the professional development opportunities provided to the membership are aligned. The challenge lies in continuing to identify the most pertinent topics of instruction for our members and in locating the best professional experts in the field to deliver the programs. Listening to the membership will set the stage for this work.

One of the most important roles of the Professional Development Committee is to listen to all constituencies and to incorporate their ideas into action



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THERE IS ALSO GREAT VALUE IN COLLABORATING WITH OUR PEERS IN OTHER EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATIONS.

plans with a specific goal of developing future leaders. This gives them every opportunity to learn new processes, through varied program delivery and methods, for the betterment of the facilities profession as a whole. This collaborative process will ensure the entirety of APPA members have opportunities to pick and choose their own path of personal professional development.

There is also great value in collaborating with our peers in other educational associations. Associations such

as NACUBO, SCUP, AIA, ACUHO-I, and ACUI all also listen to the needs of college campuses and their own members. The value in bringing together these groups, and others, is immeasurable. Think of the strength and credibility of a common message if all similar associations collaborated and delivered it to university presidents and state or provincial legislators. Much work is to be done in this arena, and I look forward to forging ahead toward building community while simultaneously upholding

the principles and values of APPA.

In closing, as your newly elected Vice President for Professional Development, it brings me great pride in sharing our committee progress. I am also extremely proud to be part of a group of professionals that deliver high-quality facilities and leadership training for all APPA members to enjoy. It is my goal to aid in the development and delivery of these programs so that you, too, will enjoy WHY APPA is the facilities association of choice. ☺

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