

# TACUSPA Times

VOLUME 2, ISSUE 1

11.01.2010

## Greetings from the TACUSPA Board!

**Trisha VanDuser, President**

I am very excited to begin my chapter as president for TACUSPA. I am honored to serve as your President and I am in awe of those who have served before me. It was only nine years ago that I joined as a graduate student while working at the University of North Texas. I've been grateful for the opportunities TACUSPA has provided and believe our association is a true testament to growing new professionals into mid-level professionals and on to Senior Student Affairs Officers. TACUSPA has a place for everyone, no matter where you are in your career and embodies its core values of professional networking, professional development and professional advocacy.

This is a telling year for most of us as we anxiously wait for our state officials to give us news on "where we stand financially" and what that means for the next fiscal year. We will continue to move forward in response to the economy and our members' needs. TACUSPA offers a connection for our mem-

bers to keep up to date on legislative happenings and offers opportunities for professional development, net-



working and volunteering. Our volunteers and committee and caucus chairs are instrumental in keeping our association alive and we thank you all for your service.

This year the board will focus on implementing our new five year strategic plan. We want to be more technologically savvy, engage more faculty, develop online knowledge communities, and continue to benefit from the years of experience our senior student affairs officers have to offer.

TACUSPA will continue its partnership with the Texas Higher Education Law Con-

ference hosted by the University of North Texas and hope to continue offering educational sessions targeting student affairs professionals and a TACUSPA networking breakfast. We hope you can join us in Denton on March 28-29, 2011.

The 2011 Fall Conference will be held in Austin at the Holiday Inn. Conference planning is well under way and we hope to see you there. Congratulations again to Lisa Nagy, 2010 Fall Conference Chair, and her planning committee for the spectacular job they did at the Fort Worth conference.

TACUSPA is strong and our membership has grown tremendously over the last few years. We want to nurture its growth and continue to improve the organization and the benefits it offers to its membership. Again, I am honored to serve as this year's President and look forward to the year ahead.



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# 2010-2011 Board of Directors

## Board Meeting Schedule

Nov. 1st  
 Dec. 6th  
 Jan. 10th-11th, Austin  
 Feb. 7th  
 Mar. 7th  
 Mar. 27th, Law Conference  
 May 2nd  
 June 6th  
 July 11th  
 Aug. 1st  
 Sept. 12th  
 Oct. 15th, Austin  
 Meetings are held via teleconference unless otherwise noted.

*Please, feel free to contact us!*

### Please Note!

Your membership will expire on December 31. Membership information for 2011 will be emailed in early December.



President: Dr. Trisha VanDuser  
 Executive Director, Student Services  
 UNT Health Science Center  
 Trisha.Vanduser@unthsc.edu



President-Elect: Dr. Deidra Graves Stephens  
 Director, Plus Program, McCombs School of Business  
 University of Texas  
 Deidra.Stephens@mcombs.utexas.edu



Past President: Dr. Amanda Drum  
 Director of University Housing  
 Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi  
 Amanda.Drum@tamucc.edu



VP for Administration: Ms. Alicia Huppe  
 Assoc. Dean of Recruitment and Programs for New Students  
 Collin County Community College, Preston Ridge Campus  
 ahuppe@cccdd.edu



VP for Membership and Marketing: Mr. John D. Kaulfus  
 Associate Dean of Students  
 University of Texas at San Antonio  
 John.Kaulfus@utsa.edu



VP for Education and Professional Development: Dr. Jennifer Edwards  
 Assistant Professor of Communication  
 Tarleton State University  
 jtedwards@tarelton.edu



Treasurer: Ms. Lisa Nagy  
 Assistant Vice President, Student Affairs  
 University of Texas at Arlington  
 nagy@uta.edu



Director of Technology: Ms. Hope Garcia  
 Director of Special Projects  
 University of North Texas  
 Hope.Garcia@unt.edu



Secretary: Ms. Charlin Jones  
 Assistant Director for Special Events  
 University of Texas at San Antonio  
 Charlin.Jones@utsa.edu

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<http://tacuspa.blogspot.com/>

# Fall Conference Highlights

The first TACUSPA Pre-Conference workshop featured Dr. John Schuh presenting on his specialty: Assessment in Student Affairs. Fifty-five members attended.



The amazing conference volunteers always had a smile on their face and helped members with every need.



Dr. Schuh also gave a keynote presentation during the conference. Other guest speakers were highly regarded members of the profession: (left to right) Dr. Nancy J. Evans, Dr. V. Lane Rawlins and Dr. James Studer.



## The TACUSPA Foundation

Supporting the development of the Student Personnel Profession in Texas, the TACUSPA Foundation was established in January 2010. Foundation funds will be used for student scholarships, research awards, and training awards.

For more go to: <http://www.tacuspa.net/foundation.html>

The TACUSPA Foundation serves under the authority of the Texas Association of College and University Student Personnel Administrators (TACUSPA).

# Annual Award Recipients



Left: TACUSPA Fellows for this year are Rachel Griffey, Katy Comer and Rachel Grimes.

Right: Recipients of the Graduate Student Scholarship: Sara Worsham, Holly Tawil, Taylor Kamin, Eric Wheeler and Cristina Dominguez.



**New Professional Award**  
Melissa Hernandez

**Mid-Level Professional Award**  
Michael Knox

**Dissertation of the Year**  
Elizabeth Massengale



**Article Competition**  
Dr. Deidra Stephens and  
Dr. Rishi Sriram (not pictured)

**Research Grant Awards**  
Kristy Bein (left) and  
Ryan Van Dusen (right)

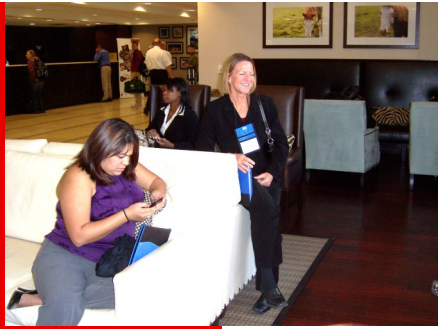
**James Caswell Distinguished  
Service Award:**  
Dr. James Studer



Information about the awards may be found at

<http://tacuspa.net/awards.html>

Information for next years' awards will be released in the spring. Start thinking about people you want to nominate!



# Article Competition Feature


## Parental Attachment & Moral Development of Today's College Students

**Dr. Deidra Stephens, University of Texas**

Theorists and observers have speculated that Millennial Generation college students may progress through cognitive-structural models differently than previous generations. These models, such as Lawrence Kohlberg's theory of moral development, require individuals to shift from accepting authoritarian views to making their own meaning of the world. Millennials are deferential to the role of parents in their lives, accepting authority, convention, and structure, and acquiescing to rules, order, and expectations. On the other hand, some have predicted that Millennials' unique view of the world and their place within it may generate more advanced levels of cognitive development than previous generations.

This quantitative study was conducted to determine if there was a correlation between parental attachment and the moral judgment competence of college students in the context of their Millennial generation characteristics. The population studied included 6,091 students enrolled in two campuses of a major university system in the northeastern United States. Responses were received from 1,272 students (20.88% response rate). Subjects' level of perceived parental attachment was measured using the Parental Attachment Questionnaire (PAQ) and subjects' percentage of demonstrated moral judgment competence was measured using the Moral Judgment Test (MJT). Other variables studied included gender, ethnicity, class standing, and age.

Overall, no significant relationship was found between perceived parental attachment and moral judgment competence in the population, although the research did find significant differences by demographic characteristics. The correlation between moral judgment competency and parental fostering of autonomy was significant for non-Caucasians, sophomore students, and students aged 18-19. The correlation between moral judgment competency and total parental attachment, as well as between moral judgment competency and affective quality of attachment was also significant for sophomore students.

Results provided a quantitative illustration of the influence of parental attachment and demographic characteristics on moral judgment competence. This illustration offers theorists guidance on theory revision, gives higher education administrators direction on developing programs and services for students and parents to assist students in their moral development, and provides a foundation for future research. 


## Reframing Student Affairs Practice

**Dr. Rishi Sriram, Baylor University**

**Jesse Hines**

Managers and leaders in higher education experience a great deal of external and internal pressures. With these increased demands, student affairs administrators must navigate their institutional culture, staff dysfunctions, and individual personalities to attain goals. This balancing act, in the midst of multiple departments and agendas, can become a daunting challenge. However, by utilizing theories pertaining to higher education, management, and psychology, student affairs professionals can properly identify the best solutions to problems.

The world of higher education provides an opportunity to integrate seemingly contrasting ideas into workable models that provide a foundation for effective relationships. Combining theories from higher education, business management, and psychology can provide a framework for viewing the complex relationships within student affairs practice. Employing the frames provided by Bolman and Deal (2008) can create and shape relations that will be most effective to the task and team involved.

If administrators in student affairs think in systems and circles, their leadership will be seamless. By appropriately analyzing the interconnecting circles of the environment, assessing the needs and contexts of each group will lead to the most effective style of guidance. Those in student affairs administration will not only view their work as a continuous act of reframing, but also ascertain which situations call for them to be mentor, boss, negotiator, or storyteller. 

*The 15<sup>th</sup> Annual*

# *Texas Higher Education Law Conference*

*At the University of North Texas*

*Denton, Texas*

*March 28-29, 2011*

*Co-Sponsored by:*

*The Texas Association of College and University Student Personnel Administrators (TACUSPA)*

*Independent Colleges and Universities of Texas (ICUT)*

*Texas Association of Community Colleges (TACC)*

*Presentations to Include:*

- Emergency Management and Emergency Planning for Texas colleges and universities
- The Supreme Court's decision in *Christian Legal Society v. Martinez*
- Guns on Campus legislative initiatives and recent Second Amendment decisions
- Legislative update from Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

FMI or to register, go to <http://www.unt.edu/administration/conference2011.htm>

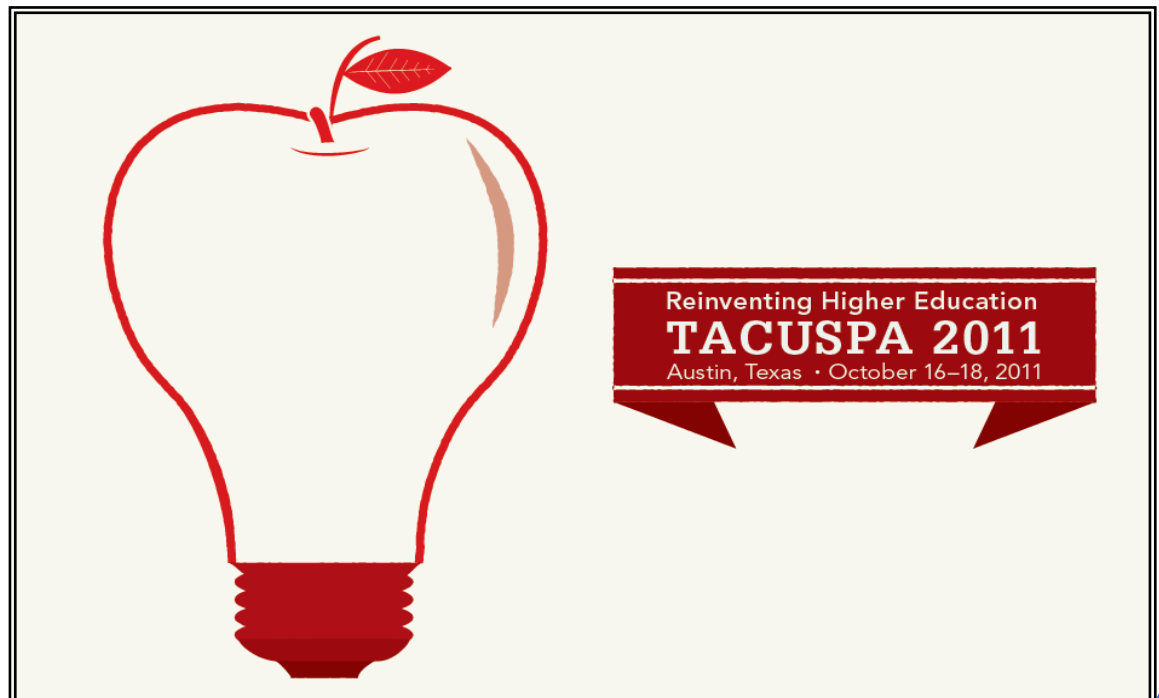
## **2011 Conference Partners**

UNT Center for Education Law, Administration and Policy

North Texas Community College Consortium

PublicIdentity, Inc.

**Save  
The  
Date!**



For information,  
contact Trisha at  
[Trisha.Vanduser@unthsc.edu](mailto:Trisha.Vanduser@unthsc.edu)

# 2009-2010 Annual Report

It has been an excellent year for TACUSPA. The year began with an assessment to determine what members needed and wanted from the association. This information resulted in the creation of a five year strategic plan. The plan opens the door for many new and innovative member services and increases opportunities for members to get involved in the association. The Executive Board worked diligently to begin implementing plan initiatives. The following are a few highlights of their accomplishments:

- The TACUSPA mission statement was updated to better reflect the status and purpose of the association and a diversity statement was created and included in the constitution.
- Redesigned officer job descriptions and added a Vice President for Education and Professional Development position to address new strategic plan initiatives.
- New technological initiatives were implemented including a Facebook page, blog and a new financial program to allow members to utilize online payment options.
- Formal policies and procedures were created to provide greater accountability and strengthen the association. These include:
  - Membership Transfer Policy
  - Job Posting Policy
  - Research Grant Policy
  - List-serv Policy
  - Credit Card Policy
  - Money Handling Procedures
  - Fellowship Program Procedures
- Book reviews and TACUSPA Fellows articles were included in the newsletter.
- TACUSPA co-sponsored the Texas Higher Education Law Conference for the 8<sup>th</sup> consecutive year.
- Two Two Knowledge Communities (Assessment and Alcohol and Other Drugs) were charged to create online forums for sharing resources and information among Texas schools.
- The Charter Board for the TACUSPA Foundation Committee was established, by-laws were adopted and assets increased to \$4780.
- The membership reached a record breaking total of 490.
- The association remains strong with overall assets in excess of \$162,000. While the Board remained fiscally prudent, new initiatives were developed to better serve the members.
- Completed the three year Review of Agreed Upon Procedures.
- The 2010 Fall conference, "Critical Conversations in Cow Town" was held October 3-5 at the Downtown Fort Worth Sheraton Hotel and Spa.
  - 258 members attended.
  - Featured speakers - Dr. John Schuh, Dr. Nancy Evans, Dr. V. Lane Rawlins, and Dr. Jim Studer.
  - Thirty-five members attended the New Professionals Institute.
  - A pre-conference workshop with Dr. John Schuh was instituted and 55 professionals took advantage of the opportunity.
  - Three Fellows and five Scholarship recipients took part in the conference.
  - Five faculty members utilized the Free Faculty Registration program.

Respectfully submitted by:

Amanda Chesser Drum, Ph.D.

2009-10 TACUSPA President



# Year-End Financial Report

Checking Account			<i>BUDGET</i>	<i>ACTUAL</i>			
<b>Operations</b>							
	<i>Expenses</i>						
		President	\$3,575.00	\$1,302.78			
		President-Elect	\$400.00	\$0.00			
		Past President	\$200.00	\$0.00			
		Vice President-Admin	\$275.00	\$149.34			
		Vice President-Mktg&Mbrshp	\$5,260.00	\$795.31			
		Secretary	\$15.00	\$0.00			
		Treasurer	\$2,750.00	\$1,939.32			
		Dir-DataMgmt&Tech	\$1,000.00	\$239.40			
		Reserve	\$0.00	\$0.00			
					\$4,426.15		
	<i>Income</i>						
		Balance as of 9/1/08		\$11,732.28			
		2009 Membership Dues		\$1,940.00			
		2010 Membership Dues		\$13,865.00			
					\$27,537.28		
						\$23,111.13	
<b>Conference</b>							
	<i>Expenses</i>						
		Fall 2009		\$23,782.38			
		Fall 2010		\$1,268.31			
					\$25,050.69		
	<i>Income</i>						
		Balance as of 9/1/09		\$24,340.87			
		Fall 2009		\$26,055.00			
		Fall 2010		\$21,785.00			
					\$72,180.87		
						\$47,130.18	
<b>Foundation</b>							
	<i>Income</i>						
		Balance as of 9/1/09		\$750.00			
		2009/2010		\$1,850.00			
					\$2,600.00		
						\$2,600.00	
<b>Checking Balance</b>							\$72,841.31
<b>Business Investment Account</b>							
	<i>Income</i>						
		Balance as of 9/1/09		\$32,776.53			
		Interest		\$39.71			
					\$32,816.24		
<b>BIA Balance</b>							\$32,816.24
<b>Certificates of Deposit</b>							
		Three Year CD to Mature 8/2010		\$11,848.91			
		Three Year CD to Mature 8/2011		\$22,701.86			
		Three Year CD to Mature 8/2012		\$21,855.10			
					\$56,405.87		
<b>CD Balance</b>							\$56,405.87
<b>BALANCE (Reconciled through 8/31/10 - End of Fiscal Year - 2009-10)</b>							\$162,063.42