

MARCH 2022

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CSPA NOW

The Official CSPA Newsletter



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Newsletter Highlights

Charlotte Cone
Scholarship Fund

Congrats Class of 2021

Welcome to the CSPA
Program

GASP Updates

Bears in the Wild



Program Updates

Hello UCA CSPA and friends! The spring semester is running along at full pace here in bear country as our second-year students actively pursue job opportunities, first-year students explore summer internship opportunities, and we actively recruit for the Fall 2022 CSPA Cohort.

The program congratulated 12 graduates across 2021 (11 in May & 1 in December). We are thrilled to announce that program graduates continue to find success in the job market with a 100% placement rate for our May 2021 graduates. We welcomed 14 new students across Fall 2021 and Spring 2022 including 12 full-time students and 2 part-time students. The first-year students are also serving in assistantships or full-time positions across five different functional areas on campus.



CSPA Student Publication

In our last newsletter, we announced a structural change for students who pursue a thesis for their end of program experience. Specifically, we moved to a journal manuscript model to align with the scholar-practitioner focus within the program. Five students successfully completed theses in 2021, and we have five active projects within our second-year cohort. Within the journal manuscript model, students gain experience preparing and submitting manuscripts for review through scholarly journals.

The updated thesis format is already yielding results as Trevis Belle's (May 2021 graduate) manuscript, *Understanding How International Students from the Caribbean Arrive at the Decision to Remain within the United States Post-Graduation and the Connection to Brain Drain*, was accepted for publication in the Journal of International Students. You can view the online first publication of Trevis' article [here](#), and the article is scheduled for publication in November 2022. The article is co-authored by Trevis' thesis committee chair, Dr. Susan R. Barclay, and committee members, Drs. Phillip Bailey and Thomas Bruick. The Journal of International Students is currently ranked as the #10 higher education journal by Google Scholar and has a 7% acceptance rate.



CHARLOTTE CONE SCHOLARSHIP FUND

By Dr. Thomas Bruick

Beyond being the founding faculty member of the CSPA program, Dr. Charlotte Cone was a mentor and source of support for so many in the CSPA community. After Dr. Cone retired (the second time), the Charlotte Cone CSPA Fund was established in her honor.

The Fund provided financial support for various program activities over the years while growing from unused earnings and continued contributions from many in the CSPA community. In partnership with the CSPA Advisory Council and Dr. Cone, the program faculty updated the memorandum of understanding (MOU) during the summer of 2021 and rolled all existing funds into the base account to secure the Fund at UCA Foundation's current endowed level.

CSPA faculty and Advisory Council members also developed an internal document to ensure consistent and strategic use of the Fund moving forward. As a result of these processes, the primary use of the Charlotte Cone CSPA Fund for the foreseeable future will be to support a CSPA Field Experience Scholarship.

This use meets a clear need within the program as many students do not have financial support for the summer internship course from assistantships and are not eligible for financial aid unless they enroll in a summer course in addition to the internship. We believe this use also honors the legacy of Dr. Cone, and the value she placed on quality professional practice.

Our goal is to award the first scholarship(s) in Summer 2022, and we need your help! The internal guidelines call for scholarship applications to be evaluated by a three-person committee consisting of two members of the CSPA Advisory Council and one member of the CSPA alumni community. If you are interested in serving on the review committee, please email Dr. Thomas Bruick (tbuick@uca.edu) by April 8, 2022.



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COORDINATOR CORNER: ADVISORY COUNCIL & STRATEGIC PLANNING COMMITTEE

In the last Coordinator Corner, I discussed how the higher education enterprise was moving towards an uncertain and pivotal time before the pandemic, and the pandemic only compounded and accelerated the situation. I then wrote:

What innovations and sustainable change will grow out of this moment in time? What does the future of the field look like? I look forward to wrestling through those discussions with you all as we also consider what implications that carries for the program. As we seek to respond to the future needs of the field, we will not abandon our foundation as a program that prepares high quality professionals with a generalist's knowledge and skill-set.

As we wrestle with those implications at the program level, including a significant decline in applications to Master's programs across the country, a few concepts consistently emerge.

(1) Purposeful and proactive innovation is required. The history of higher education consistently shows us that if we innovate only when it is required, it is often too late. (2) Innovation cannot be haphazard, especially in a quickly changing context. Therefore, innovation should be anchored to a clear strategic plan. (3) Multiple perspectives are always stronger than a single perspective.

Therefore, I ask you to consider partnering with the program by applying to serve on the CSPA Advisory Council and/or the CSPA Strategic Planning Committee.

The CSPA Advisory Council has been invaluable since its creation in 2019, and I cannot imagine navigating the last two years without that group. While the Advisory Council will be involved in the strategic planning process, we wanted to be mindful of their capacity and expand the level of involvement across program constituents by forming the CSPA Strategic Planning Committee.

The Advisory Council includes five members with Dr. Crystal Henry serving in the position reserved for CSPA Alumni. Dr. Henry will roll off the Advisory Council this summer, and we are accepting submissions for her replacement. CSPA Alumni with at least five (5) years of professional experience post-program are eligible. The Advisory Council meets once a semester.

The Strategic Planning Committee will assist with the strategic planning process and will meet twice during summer 2022 and once during fall 2022. All CSPA Alumni are eligible to serve on the Strategic Planning Committee. If you are interested in serving on the Advisory Council and/or the Strategic Planning Committee, please complete the [short application form](#). The form will ask you to upload your CV or resume.

What does the future of the field of higher education look like?

Dr. Thomas Bruick





L-R Trevis Belle, Bernard Newbold, Jodi McDougal, Koty Burns, Sadie Carrillo, Naomi Saxon, Tayler Crawford, Alex Hartman, Brandon Allen-Jolly

Class of 2021: Where Are They Now?

Brandon Allen-Jolly	Residence Education Coordinator, Purdue University
Trevis Belle	Coordinator for Residence Life, University of North Carolina-Greensboro
Koty Burns	Community Coordinator, University of Cincinnati
Sadie Carrillo	Residence Director, University of Minnesota-Twin Cities
Tayler Crawford	Program Manager, University of Chicago
John Davis	Residence Director, Texas State University
Jodi McDougal	Residence Life Coordinator, University of Houston
Taylor Nardi	Education Counselor, UCA School of Nursing
Bernard Newbold	Assistant Coach, UCA Track and Field
Naomi Saxon	Residence Director, Georgia Southern University
Ra'Shan Stubbs	Computer Science Instructor, Jacksonville Lighthouse Elementary Academy

Welcome Class of 2023!

Abigail Greiner
 Hannah Hanshaw
 Kyle Howley-Brott
 Denicha Kemp
 Shandreka McCullough
 Maddy Montgomery
 Brian Mota
 Milan Novakovic
 Oluwafeyisike Odeniyi
 Emma Roberson
 Ieshah Blanchard
 Hazel Bonilla
 Lauren Crafton

Eastern Washington University
 University of Central Arkansas
 Arkansas Technical University
 University of Central Arkansas
 University of Arkansas - Fort Smith
 Mississippi University for Women
 Kansas State University
 University of North Carolina-
 Greensboro
 Obafemi Awolowo University
 Southern Oregon University
 University of Mississippi
 University of Central Arkansas
 University of Central Arkansas



L-R ABIGAIL GREINER, BRIAN MOTA, EMMA ROBERSON, MILAN NOVAKOVIC,
 HANNAH HANSHAW, IESHAH BLANCHARD, MADDIE MONTGOMERY, DENICHA KEMP,
 FEYI ODENIYI, YADA VASUPONGCHAI, HAZEL BONILLA, KYLE HOWLEY

The 2021 Graduate Association for Student Personnel (GASP) Executive Board was an active and intentional group whose legacy will strengthen the organization and CSPA program for years to come. Major achievements led by this team include: constitution updates, developing the GASP website, implementing the Grad2Grad mentoring program, organizing Mock Interviews, and hosting multiple social events including the cohort kickball game. Thank you for your service!

KaRon Marbley- Executive President

Crystal Hodge- Executive Vice President

Alana StCyr - Vice President of Operations

Hannah Doederlein - Vice President of Finance

Alexis Clark - Vice President of Engagement

Sadeja Harper - Vice President of Professional Development



MARCH 2022

WELCOME NEW BOARD

WE ARE EXCITED TO INTRODUCE THE INCOMING EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS WHO BEGAN THEIR ROLE IN JANUARY 2022 AND HIT THE GROUND RUNNING!

MILAN NOVAKOVIC - EXECUTIVE PRESIDENT
MADISON MONTGOMERY- EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT
EMMA ROBERSON - VICE PRESIDENT OF OPERATIONS

KYLE BROTT - VICE PRESIDENT OF FINANCE
HAZEL BONILLA - VICE PRESIDENT OF ENGAGEMENT
FEYI ODENIYI - VICE PRESIDENT OF PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT



Bears in The Wild



Bears in The Wild

