

SPA Newsletter

Higher Education and Student Affairs

Department of Educational Studies

Autumn 2014

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Stay in Touch with HESA and SPA

We hope your academic year is off to a great start!

Share your good news at <http://go.osu.edu/SPA>.

We can't wait to hear from you!

HESA Welcomes New Students

The HESA program welcomed 30 new students this fall in an orientation program spanning three days. **Dr. Eric Anderman**, Educational Studies Department Chair, along with HESPA President/MA Student **Chip Tuson**, and HESA program faculty **Dr. Amy Barnes**, **Dr. Jen Gilbride-Brown**, **Dr. Marc Johnston**, **Dr. Susan R. Jones**, **Dr. Terrell Strayhorn**, and **Dr. Tatiana Suspitsyna**, convened the group of 9 new PhD and 21 new MA students.

In [our spring/summer 2014 newsletter](#) we introduced the new cohorts, sharing their academic history as well as their OSU assistantship sites. Since that publication, three new students have joined us. Tiffany Polite, a new PhD student, completed her undergraduate degree at Ohio State, and her master's degree at Western Kentucky University, and has an assistantship with the Graduate School. Holly Hall, a member of the new MA student cohort, earned a bachelor's degree from Temple University and works full-time in OSU's department of Agricultural, Environmental and Development Economics. Trevion Henderson, also joining the new MA student cohort, earned his bachelor's degree from Ohio State, and has an assistantship with

the Center for Higher Education Enterprise.

Our doctoral program continues to grow; we currently have 33 active students in the PhD program. HESA is proud to host new SPA Program assistantship partners for doctoral students, including Student Life leadership programs, the Office of Academic Affairs, and the Graduate School.

SPA Program coordinator Dr. Jen Gilbride-Brown says, "We are proud to continue to receive record numbers of applications to both our MA and PhD programs each year, allowing us to build robust, diverse learning communities."

Welcome to the HESA family!



Service-Learning in South America

By Rachel Massey, HESA MA Student

This summer, **Dr. Jen Gilbride-Brown** and PhD student **Deirdre Rosenfeld** led a team of ten HESA Masters students and eight undergraduates to the beautiful highlands of south central Ecuador. The three-week study abroad program, titled Youth Engagement and Service-Learning, was carefully designed in collaboration with faculty from the University of Cuenca's Department of Languages as well as staff from the Miguel Ignacio Cordero School in Cahuazhun Grande.

Students stayed with host families within walking distance of Cuenca's historical city center, and affiliates of the University of Cuenca's Spanish Program for Foreigners invited OSU participants to tour surrounding areas rich in Andean traditions. The Buckeyes also enjoyed opportunities to gain Spanish language skills, explore issues of power and privilege, and learn about different conventions of leadership through community-driven service with the Cordero School in Cahuazhun Grande, an indigenous municipality of more than 375 people that sits at an altitude of approximately 9,000 feet.

Teachers and students pre-K through 8th grade welcomed the OSU group into their classrooms for an intercultural exchange of stories, knowledge, and friendship. Children, staff, and OSU students engaged with one another to create new spaces in which wisdoms, practices, and visions of the world were communicated and empowered through ceremonies, presentations, and casual conversation. The graduate students learned to facilitate critical reflection and meaning making with the undergraduate participants as well as their peers, gaining firsthand exposure to the value and complexities of administering service-learning experiences abroad. In May of 2015, Jen will return with another group of OSU students for the program's second year, sustaining and continuing the development of a mutually beneficial partnership between OSU, the University of Cuenca, and an indigenous community in the Cañar province.

Right: (from top to bottom) Cordero School & OSU partners pause for a photo on a hike; Cahuazhun Grande community elder and student **Rachel Massey** participate in a healing ceremony; University of Cuenca and OSU students, faculty, and staff at an orientation event.



Higher Education Administration in Wuhan, China

This May marked the third year of HESA's higher education administration internship partnership with Wuhan University. Six HESA MA students, **Melissa Alexander, Caleb Craft, Adan Hussain, Danny Kim, Gadise Regassa, and Chris Wood**, spent three weeks in Wuhan, the capital of the Hubei Province.

Core objectives of HESA's Wuhan program, directed by **Dr. Tatiana Suspitsyna**, are to introduce students to the structures, policies, and practices of higher education administration and student affairs in China, as well as to enhance student understanding of key issues in internationalization of higher education.

Melissa Alexander appreciated how Dr. Suspitsyna's pre-departure course, Internationalizing Colleges and Universities, came to life in Wuhan. Specifically, Melissa noted international trends impacting both the U.S. and China, including the proliferation of students facing mental health issues, and the commodification of higher education. She commented that Caleb Craft, who has an assistantship in OSU's College of Engineering Career Services, was in high demand. "Our partners in China were very interested in understanding how our career services were structured, and how we managed our relationships with employers," remarked Melissa.

Caleb agreed, discussing the meaningful relationship he developed with Mr. William, the Director of Career Services at Wuhan University. "It was an incredible to share best practices and relate professionally with someone in a similar office as my assistantship in China." Relationships were a key component for many Wuhan program participants. Caleb noted that for these six OSU HESA students, their Chinese hosts and translators enriched every moment, "the hospitality shown to us while in country was truly a humbling experience."

Gadise Regassa, while analyzing sustainability practices at Wuhan University, was inspired by how generous and hospitable her hosts were. "From that experience I learned that sustainability is not just about being an environmental steward, but also about taking care of the people who inhabit our local, national, and international communities," reflected Regassa.

Chris Wood adds that, for him, the opportunity to go to Wuhan was a trip of many firsts. "It was my first time flying, my first time abroad, and my first time being a racial minority, among other things. I never could have imagined that three and a half weeks abroad could have had such an impact on the way that I view the world around me."



Right: (from top to bottom) OSU and Wuhan partners; Caleb and William; Chris, Danny, Melissa, Adan, Caleb, and Gadise on the Great Wall

Doctor's Notes

Doctor's Notes is a new column. Each edition of the SPA Newsletter will feature an item from a HESA faculty member.

Thank you, Dr. Johnston, for helping us launch this series!



Going Back, Moving Forward, Being Changed

By Dr. Marc Johnston, Assistant Professor, HESA

During my first SPA Days, a question was asked about our program's guiding philosophy. Although we didn't have a canned statement to give – how can you put words to something so deep? – Dr. Jones explained that our overall goal is that when you graduate you will not be the same person as when you entered the program. Hearing this allowed me to reflect on my own experiences as a grad student and now new faculty member.

During the first year of my PhD program at UCLA, we took a lot of classes with the master's in student affairs students. Some of the most important learning and relationship building that occurred during my doctoral journey were from that first year. It was the master's students and their energy and desire to learn everything they could – and keep it practically-oriented – that helped shape my research interests and desire to stay grounded in the everyday practice of student affairs. These were not the same interests I brought with me into my grad program, as I was no longer the same person after even a year of coursework.

Fast forward a few years to my first summer of being a faculty member. I found myself needing an outlet other than writing. As a former rower, I had always wanted to return to the sport given its low impact and full body workout, and this summer I jumped right in. What started as just a way to relieve some stress and be outside enjoying the summer weather, turned into a full-on training schedule to compete in Gay Games 9 and the US Masters National Championships. These events felt both familiar and new to me. I got to reconnect with people who knew me when I was in middle school, but also got to see the sport from a completely different perspective, informed by how much I had changed after almost 14 years away from competing. The ways graduate school changed the way I saw the world helped me realize that I wasn't the same person; I wasn't just a rower anymore. I had to find new ways of engaging with the sport that I once loved and that meant developing research interests that would allow me to find congruence with my multiple passions. At the end of the day, I believe we all can “go back” to something we once loved, as I went back to school to pursue the PhD and went back to rowing, but we have to be open to being changed. That change keeps us moving forward (and hopefully winning more medals).

Left: (from top to bottom) Dr. Johnston before he was Dr. Johnston – as a student at UCLA; Buckeye Spirit: Dr. Susan Jones, Dr. Johnston, Brutus, and Matt Couch (PhD Student and Director of Student Activities and Orientation for Student Life); Dr. Johnston poses with his medals from Gav Games 9 this August.

News from the MA Class of 2014

Join us as we celebrate new professional endeavors for HESA's most recent graduates.

Zayd Abukar, Academic Advisor, College of Pharmacy, The Ohio State University

Esther Dwyer, Scholars and Recruitment Coordinator, School of Environment and Natural Resources, The Ohio State University

Daniel Lersch, Academic Advisor, Indiana University

Sarah Mangia, Buckeye Leadership Fellows Coordinator, The Ohio State University

Allison Marz, Program Coordinator, New Student Orientation, Lone Star College

Anneke Mason, First-Year Success Advisor & Career Exploration Facilitation, Wittenberg University

Jaz Mickey, Program Manager for Social Justice Engagement, The Ohio State University

Aaron Moore, Hall Director, The Ohio State University

Margaret Nevrekar, Academic Advisor, Wright State University

Danyelle Reynolds, Assistant Director for Alternative Breaks in the Edward Ginsberg Center for Community Service and Learning, University of Michigan

Timmy Siverd, Residence Hall Director, Old Dominion University

Katherine Stucke, Area Coordinator/Student Activities Coordinator, Sewanee: The University of the South

Quanta Taylor, Coordinator of Student Involvement, Graduate and Professional Programming, The Ohio State University

Meghan Zapiec, Coordinator, Fraternity and Sorority Life, Virginia Commonwealth University

SPA on LinkedIn!



The SPA Program is on LinkedIn! We have created a group that you may use to share jobs, events, and other announcements.

Visit the SPA LinkedIn Group:
<https://go.osu.edu/spaLI>

Summer Dissertation Defenses

This summer, two HESA students successfully defended their dissertations:

Joseph A. Kitchen, "The Relationship of Student Involvement, Institutional Engagement, and Sense of Belonging among Students of Color at a Predominantly White Institution." Advisor: Dr. Strayhorn. The newly-minted Dr. Kitchen (kitchen.72@osu.edu) is seeking a tenure-track faculty position in the areas of higher education administration, college student affairs, educational policy and leadership, or similar programs.

Michael Steven Williams, "Exploring Sex Differences in the Relationship Between Sense of Belonging and Student Engagement for Black Collegians." Advisor: Dr. Strayhorn. Dr. Williams is an Assistant Professor in the School of Public Affairs at Baruch College, CUNY. He is teaching graduate students in both the Higher Education and Public Affairs Masters programs, in addition to undergraduate Public Affairs students.



Congratulations Joey & Michael!

Dr. Terrell L. Strayhorn with his advisees, Dr. Joseph A. Kitchen (left) and Dr. Michael Steven Williams (right)

Faculty News

Dr. Amy Barnes worked for TalentCampus, loosely affiliated with the University of Burgundy, in Dijon, France this summer, providing talent development for students, faculty, staff, and community members. Over the course of 3 weeks she presented on topics related to strengths-based leadership, consulted on the possible creation of an English version of their program, and learned from an outstanding professional staff. It was a very rewarding experience! In addition, the Leadership in Community Service course, under Dr. Barnes' leadership, was recognized this June in appreciation for volunteer contributions from instructors and students.

Dr. Susan R. Jones and Dr. Sherry K. Watt are the new editors of the New Directions for Student Services series published by Jossey-Bass. Following in the footsteps of editors John Schuh and Elizabeth Whitt who have served in this role for well over 20 years, the series will continue to expound upon theory and draw from the latest research to explore topics of contemporary relevance related to college students and student affairs practice. In other good news, Dr. Jones and doctoral advisee **Zak Foste** were recently awarded an ACPA Foundation Grant for their study on collegiate males in service-learning. The study seeks to understand men's underrepresentation in service, motivations for participation, and the learning that results from the service experience. The project, fully funded by the ACPA foundation, attempts to problematize gender and the ways in which this construct informs men's experience in service.

Dr. Terrell L. Strayhorn was recently selected by Provost Joseph Steinmetz as the new director of Ohio State's Center for Higher Education Enterprise (CHEE), a university-wide research and policy analysis center located in historic Page Hall. CHEE exists to advance the higher education enterprise through the creation and dissemination of distinctive research that informs policy, strengthens communities and enables student success.

Recent Faculty Publications:

Johnston, M. P. (2014). The concept of race on campus: Exploring the nature of college students' racial conceptions. *Journal of College Student Development*, 55(3), 225-242.

Johnston, M. P., & Yeung, F. PF. (2014). Asian Americans and campus climate: Investigating group differences around a racial incident. *Journal of Student Affairs Research and Practice*, 51(2), 142-155.

Ireland, S. M-Y. (PhD Student), & **Jones, S. R.** (2013). Student development: The contribution of critical theories and intersectionality. *ACUI Bulletin*, 81(6), 12-15.

Palmer, R. T., Wood, J. L., Dancy, T. E., & **Strayhorn, T. L.** (2014). *Black male collegians: Increasing access, retention, and persistence in higher education*. ASHE Monograph Series. San Francisco: Jossey-Bass.

Strayhorn, T. L. (2014). I ain't no punk: A framework for Black gay male students' belonging. In F. Bonner (Ed.), *Building on resilience: Models and frameworks of Black male success across the P-20 pipeline*. Sterling, VA: Stylus.

Strayhorn, T. L. (2014). Modeling the determinants of college readiness for historically underrepresented students at 4-year colleges and universities: A national investigation. *American Behavioral Scientist*, 58(8), 972-993.

Find OSU HESA Faculty and Students at ASHE

Pre-Conference, Wednesday, November 18

Council for International Higher Education: **Dr. Tatiana Suspitsyna** will participate in an invited session, "Cultivating Critical Discourse on Global Engagement in Higher Education."

Travis Olson (MA '15) will present "The Evolving Practice of Study Abroad: A Call for New Critical Scholarship."

Council on Ethnic Participation: **Dr. Marc Johnston** and his advisee **Veronica Pecero** (PhD Student) will present their paper, "Disentangling Race and Culture in Familial Influences on Mixed Heritage College Students' Identities."

Dr. Susan Jones, her advisee **Mei-Yen Ireland** (PhD Student), her former advisee **Dr. Elisa Abes** (PhD '03), OSU HESA PhD alum **Dr. Allen DeLong**, and good colleague Stephen Quaye present "The Role of Race and Racism as Central to College Student Identity: Applying Theory to Practice."

Continued on page 8...

Alumni Updates

- **Dr. Rob Aaron** (MA '96) accepted the role of executive director of OSU's Center for the Study of Student Life.
- **Stephanie Baker** (MA '11) is now Student Development Specialist at Maryland Institute College of Art (MICA).
- **Jaime Deafenbaugh Dunn** (PhD '07) writes, "I enjoyed reading the latest newsletter, and it was a great reminder to send in my news - my husband Robb and I had our 2nd child, Katherine Mae Dunn, on 12/5/13. We live in Annapolis, MD and I'm the Director of Career Services at St. John's College."
- **Eve Scrogam Esch** (MA '02) had another baby girl, Emma Violet, on December 18. Emma joins her older sister Ella, age 4.
- **Joy Gaston Gayles** (PhD '02) and Frim Ampaw published an article in the *Journal of Higher Education*, Vol. 85, Number 4 pages 439-468. The Impact of College Experiences on Degree Completion in STEM Fields at Four-Year Institutions: Does Gender Matter?
- **Kathy Kelley** (PhD '02) has just been promoted, now serving as the Associate Dean for Assessment and Strategic Initiatives in OSU's College of Pharmacy.
- **Cynthia McDonald-DeVese** (MA '92) is now working as the Minority Student Achievement Coordinator for Westerville City Schools.
- **Brian McGowan** (MA '07), an Assistant Professor in the Department of Educational Leadership at Indiana State University, is now the Student Affairs and Higher Education Program Coordinator.
- **Travis Pentz** (MA '10) accepted a new position this summer. He is now a Study Abroad Advisor at the University of California, Berkeley.
- **Drew Peterson** (MA '11) accepted a new position as Associate Dean of Students and Director of Residence Life at Presbyterian College in Clinton, SC in June 2014.
- **Jen Skidmore** (MA '12) is now the Career Services Coordinator for the College of Engineering at the University of Nebraska.
- **Sophie Tullier** (MA '13) is now the Assessment and Research Analyst in the Department of Resident Life's office of Assessment and Research at the University of Maryland.
- **Ben Williams** (MA '00, PhD '06) published a book chapter, Using Research- and Evidence-Based Strategies to Increase Access and Gender Equity in STEM: The STEM Equity Pipeline Project, published in J. Luke Wood and Robert T. Palmer's (Eds.) book, STEM Models of Success: Programs, Policies, and Practices in the Community College (2014).
- **Katie Dean Williams** (MA '13) is now the Assistant Director of Experiential Learning, Career Liaison, at Florida State University.

Hey Alums – do you want to:

Share your news for our next newsletter?

Be available to support current HESA MA and PhD students who are interested in internships or professional positions in your region and/or functional area?

Update your contact information with HESA and SPA?

You can do all of this at <http://go.osu.edu/SPA>

We love hearing your good news and staying in touch with you!

HESA at ASHE this November in D.C. (continued from p. 6)

ASHE Reception

Join HESA's reception at ASHE this fall. All alumni and friends of Ohio State are welcome at this reception, regardless of ASHE conference registration.

Date:
Thursday, November 20

Time:
8:00-9:30 PM

Location:
Jefferson East Ballroom
Washington Hilton
1919 Connecticut Ave NW

Not headed to ASHE? Ohio State's Office of Student Life sponsors receptions at ACPA and NASPA. We look forward to seeing you in New Orleans, and/or Tampa this spring!

Stay in Touch!

Share your news for our next newsletter:

<http://go.osu.edu/SPA>



Thursday, November 20

Derrick Tillman-Kelly (PhD Student) and **Dr. Terrell Strayhorn** (advisor to Derrick), "Weaving Intersectionality Research and Campus Non-Discrimination Policies to Address the Needs of Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Queer (GLBQ) College Students of Color." Du Pont 12:45 – 2:00 PM

Dr. Terrell Strayhorn serves as discussant for the "Interactions and Transitions: Men of Color" session. Cardozo 2:15 – 3:30 PM

Dr. Terrell Strayhorn and his advisee, **Royel Johnson** (PhD Student), "Relationship of Hardiness, Grit, & Belonging to College Success for African American Males: A Survey Analysis." Fairchild 3:45 – 5:00 PM

Zak Foste (PhD Student), "It's like Fumbling in the Dark without a Flashlight: An Examination of Collegiate Males, Identity, and Self-Authorship." Lincoln West 3:45 – 5:00 PM

HESA ASHE Reception: 8-9:30 PM, Jefferson East Ballroom, see Sidebar at left

Friday, November 21

Roundtables, 8:00 – 8:45 AM, International Ballroom Center

Zak Foste (PhD Student), Daniel Tillapaugh, and Cristobal Salinas, Jr.: "Centering Reflexivity, Positionality, and Intersectionality by Male Researchers Studying College Males"

Veronica Pecero (PhD Student) and Carmen De Las Mercedes: The Role of Family in the Lives of Latina Graduate Students

Sessions

Dr. Marc Johnston, Gina Garcia, Felisha Herrera, Juan Garibay, "Biased Incidents on 'Postracial' Campuses: Examining their Influence on Student Views Towards Prohibiting Racist/Sexist Speech." International Ballroom East 10:15 – 11:30 AM

Dr. Marc Johnston serves as discussant for the "Pushing the Boundaries" session. Jefferson West 1:15 – 2:30 PM

Dr. Tatiana Suspitsyna and her advisee **Tricia Shalka** (PhD Student), "The Chinese International Student as a (Post)Colonial Other: An Analysis of Cultural Representations in a U.S. Media Discourse." Lincoln East 2:45 – 4:00 PM (**Sharon Stein**, MA '13, also presents a paper during this session)

Dr. Susan Jones serves as the discussant for the "Pathways to Identity Development" session. Gunston East 4:15 – 5:30 PM

Saturday, November 22

Marcia Baxter Magolda and **Kari B. Taylor** (PhD Student), "Building Educators' Capacities for Transformational Learning." Jefferson East 11:15 AM – 12:30 PM.

Kari B. Taylor (PhD Student), "Toward a Contemporary and Culturally Inclusive Understanding of College Student Development." Embassy 3:30 – 4:45 PM

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