



# Newsletter

Higher Education and Student Affairs Winter 2014

## Suspitsyna Named Top Teacher

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**Tatiana Suspitsyna (right)**, Associate Professor in HESA, won the 2014 Alumni Award for Distinguished Teaching on Monday, February 24. Ohio State's interim president, **Dr. Joe Alutto**, surprised Dr. Suspitsyna with this prestigious award.

**Dean Cheryl Achterberg, Department Chair Eric Anderman, HESA faculty and students, and Dr. Suspitsyna's family** were on hand when the president interrupted her "Higher Education Institutions and Core Academic Issues" course. Dr. Suspitsyna was rendered speechless by the occasion.

**Dr. Susan Robb Jones**, Professor and Program Chair in HESA, reminded everyone how rare this award is. Only 10 faculty a year receive it—and there are over 3,000 instructors at OSU! Then, Dr. Suspitsyna's first-year master's students and others in the room rose and gave her a thunderous ovation.



The award includes a cash stipend and a salary increase. In addition, and perhaps most importantly, Dr. Suspitsyna received a giant bag of chocolates and tea!

Help us congratulate Dr. Suspitsyna. Feel free to send a note to her at

[Suspitsyna.1@osu.edu](mailto:Suspitsyna.1@osu.edu) \*



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

COLLEGE OF  
EDUCATION AND HUMAN ECOLOGY

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## SPA Celebrates 65 Years!

On Friday, October 18, over 100 alumni, students, faculty, and friends celebrated SPA's 65th anniversary.

"To have our alums, students, faculty, administrators, and friends all together to celebrate this milestone was simply amazing," said **Dr. Jen Gilbride-Brown**, SPA Coordinator and Senior Lecturer.

**Dr. Anne Pruitt-Logan**, a retired faculty member from the School of Educational Policy and Leadership, gave a moving talk about Lucy Diggs-Slowe, the first dean of women at Howard University and a trailblazer in higher education and student affairs. Dr. Pruitt-Logan also discussed the past and future of the profession.

**Dr. Peter Magolda, Dr. Javaune Adams-Gaston, Dr. Kay Moore, and Dr. Ken Hale** followed Dr. Pruitt-Logan's talk with a panel discussion, during which they used Diggs-Slowe's life to demonstrate the importance of student affairs work past, present, and future.

At lunch, **Dr. Terrell Strayhorn** spoke about college students' sense of belonging. He reviewed his research, which stresses the importance of programming and outreach—within and beyond student affairs—that is intentional to help students persist through college.

Afterward, **Dr. Susan Robb Jones** and **Dr. Bob Rodgers** offered reflections about the history of the SPA program. In particular, they noted how faculty, administrators, and alumni have shaped so many students over the years. These relationships have created professionals who are attuned to student needs and prepared to tackle higher education's many challenges.

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**Left: Over 100 guests packed Ramseyer Hall for SPA's 65th.**

## SPA Celebrates 65 Years! (con't)

In addition, current HESA students presented posters of various research projects. Faculty, staff, and alumni took time to review students' work and ask them thorough questions about their projects. For many students, it was a special moment to have scholars and practitioners review their work.

“Having the opportunity to present at the SPA 65<sup>th</sup> anniversary afforded me an invaluable opportunity to discuss my work and passion areas with some of the most accomplished alumni and community members of our program. It was truly rewarding to receive thoughtful feedback from such experienced individuals and to share my educational journey with them and reflect on how our program has changed and grown over the years,” **Renata Baptista (MA '14)** said.

At the 65th celebration, three key themes emerged: 1) how critical student affairs work has been to student success over the last six decades; 2) how such work is more important now more than ever; and 3) how vital it is to link alumni and current students together for personal and professional growth.

“Gathering with so many HESA/SPA alums, current students, and SPA supervisors at the SPA 65<sup>th</sup> celebration was a wonderful reminder of what makes our program so strong---actively engaged scholars and practitioners devoted to higher education and students affairs and who continue to enjoy one another's company,” said **Dr. Susan Robb Jones**, HESA Professor and Program Chair.

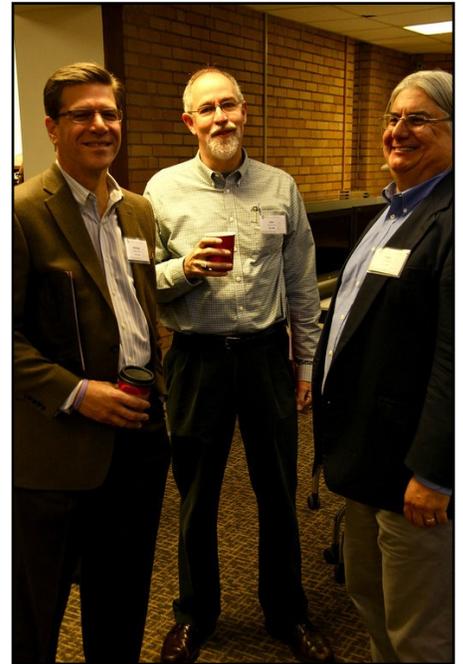
SPA wishes to thank **Dean Cheryl Achterberg** and **Dr. Eric Anderman** for their participation, as well as the SPA 65th Planning and Logistics committees. We also want to thank our students for their generous support. To all of our alumni, thank you as well for your dedication and enthusiasm. We will see you at SPA's 75th! ✨



# Scenes from the 65th



## Scenes from the 65th



[Click here to see more pictures from SPA's 65th!](#)

## Center for IDEAS Hosts 1st Open House



*By: Karleton Munn, HESA PhD Student*

In October 2013, the Center for Inclusion, Diversity & Academic Success (IDEAS), directed by **Dr. Terrell L. Strayhorn** and housed in the College of Education and Human Ecology (EHE), made its public debut. The Center for IDEAS hosted its inaugural Open House, which brought together over 150 members of the Ohio State community. Over the evening, guests saw the Center, met its staff, and learned about its mission, which is to foster inclusion, promote diversity, and ensure academic success of all individuals served by education through the primary activities of research, outreach, and advocacy.

The evening began with an informal meet-and-greet, followed by a formal program and ribbon cutting. Remarks of support and congratulations were offered by dignitaries including **President Emeritus Gordon Gee**, **Provost Joseph Steinmetz**, and other members of the senior leadership, **EHE Dean Cheryl Achterberg**, representatives from **Governor John Kasich** and **Mayor Michael B. Coleman's** offices, research collaborator **COSP's Vice President for Diversity and Inclusion Azuka MuMin**, and several higher education scholars and research center directors from around the country. There was also a silent auction, where an original piece of artwork, drawn by undergraduate researcher **Michael Gundich**, was sold to support the Center's work. ✱

[Click here to visit the Center for IDEAS website.](#)

# HESPA Leads Professional Development

HESPA, the HESA student organization, hosted a professional development day on Friday, January 17. Dozens of MA and doctoral students attended this event at Hale Hall. Likewise, dozens of faculty and staff participated. What an amazing event!

“In bringing back this HESPA tradition, students had an incredible opportunity to connect with professionals in and around Ohio State. We enjoyed the mock interviews and sessions about job search processes—we’re so fortunate to have an amazing network of professionals dedicated to the HESA program!” **Danyelle Reynolds (MA ‘14)** said.

**Dr. Eunice Hornsby (MA ’82)** offered insight on human resource policies. Then, students participated in two rounds of individualized mock interviews. Later, **Dr. Davida Haywood (MA ’04, PhD ’09)**, **Dr. Brian Oreifice (MA ’99, PhD ’07)**, and **Jeff Pelletier (MA ’04)** served as panelists and discussed a variety of useful topics—such as job searching, interviewing, and networking. **Dr. Jen Gilbride-Brown** offered some closing remarks and words of encouragement to the students, many of whom will soon be looking for jobs.

HESPA and the HESA faculty especially want to thank our volunteers on campus who came and interviewed our students. Your support is appreciated!



## *HESPA Wins Award*

On March 3, HESPA received OSU’s 2014 Student Organization Programming Award for Outstanding Member Education and Development.

HESPA will receive this award formally on April 11 at the annual Leadership Awards Ceremony in the Ohio Union.

*Congrats to HESPA!*

## OSU Shines at ASHE Conference

*By: Blossom Barrett, HESA PhD Student*

In November 2013, the Association for the Study of Higher Education (ASHE) hosted its annual conference in Saint Louis, Missouri. The Ohio State University was on prominent display with a reception co-sponsored by the Higher Education and Student Affairs (HESA) and Student Personnel Assistantship (SPA) programs and the Center for Inclusion, Diversity & Academic Success (IDEAS). Welcoming over 100 alumni and friends of Ohio State, the reception showcased HESA's advancing reputation.



While **Dr. Susan Robb Jones** provided a look into the reorganization of the College of Education and Human Ecology and shared an overview of SPA's 65<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration, **Dr. Tatiana Suspitsyna** highlighted new international opportunities in the HESA curriculum. New faculty member **Dr. Marc Johnston**, a recent graduate from the University of California, Los Angeles, was introduced to alumni and friends. And, before the formal program concluded, **Dr. Terrell Strayhom** introduced the Center for IDEAS, discussing its mission and long-term objectives.

Overall, Buckeyes had a strong showing at ASHE 2013. With food, drinks and a room full of laughter, washed in a sea of scarlet and grey, the Ohio State reception gave the higher education research community a glimpse into what's meant by "*how firm thy friendship!*"\*✱

## Alum Honored at ASHE



The HESA community was thrilled to see **Dr. Peter Magolda (MA '80, left)** win the 2013 ASHE Mentoring Award. According to ASHE, this award "honors the noteworthy contributions made by one of our members in mentoring developing scholars in the Association. Recipients of the award will have made extraordinary and sustained contributions to the professional and scholarly development of emerging scholars in ASHE and in the field of higher education."

Dr. Magolda is a Professor of Student Affairs in Higher Education in the Department of Educational Leadership at Miami University. Help us congratulate Peter for this award!\*✱

## SPA Days 2014 Concludes

Over 50 prospective MA and PhD students came to Columbus recently for SPA Days (Feb. 6, 7, 20, and 21). These talented students came from a variety of institutions, states, backgrounds, and academic/work experiences.

This year, HESA received over 200 applications for seats in the MA and doctoral cohorts. This was another highly competitive year for admission to the programs.

Senior Lecturer and SPA Coordinator **Dr. Jen Gilbride-Brown** said, “Year after year, our applicant pool gets stronger and stronger. Prospective students tell us our enthusiastic alumni network, highly regarded faculty, and SPA’s 65-year reputation draw them to Ohio State. We are really fortunate to have such a great program.”

Prospective students interviewed at different assistantship sites, as well as learned about the curriculum, life in Columbus, and life in graduate school. They also met faculty and current students. HESPA, the HESA student organization, hosted several fun socials for the students, too.

Finally, we want to thank all of our volunteers for making SPA Days a great experience! ✱

## OSU Ready for ACPA

HESA students, faculty, alumni, and friends are gearing up for the annual spring conferences at ACPA and NASPA. This year, Ohio State is especially ready for ACPA because **Dr. Gretchen Metzelaars (right)**, OSU’s Senior Associate Vice President for Student Life, has served as the convention chair.

Dr. Metzelaars has led a nationwide team of professionals for what will certainly be a stimulating conference in Indianapolis. Ohio State’s **Dr. Lance Kennedy-Phillips, Bernie Savarese, Krystyne Savarese, Dr. Susan Robb Jones**, and HESA PhD student **Mei-Yen Ireland** have worked with Dr. Metzelaars on the convention team. In addition, **Dr. Jen Gilbride-Brown** is serving as program chair for NextGen.



Thousands of people will attend the convention from March 30 to April 2. In addition to a host of research presentations, there will be workshops, networking opportunities, and career/graduate school information sessions.

There are also some exciting new innovations at the conference. This year, attendees can sit in on “HEd Talks,” which are sessions on higher education hot topics that are fashioned after TED-talks. There are also “Genius Labs,” which are brief workshops to teach attendees a variety of skills. These new events are designed to harness the power of social media and engage attendees to think “out of the box” and have fun. ✱

# Student, Faculty, and Alumni Updates

- The ACPA Foundation named **Dr. Terrell Strayhorn (right)** one of its 2014 Diamond Honorees. This prestigious award is bestowed on those who “have demonstrated sustained contributions to ACPA, higher education, and the Student Affairs profession at the local, state, regional, national, or international levels.”
- **Tricia Zelaya (PhD ‘11)** is now the Director of Student Transitions at Rollins College in Winter Park, Florida.
- **Maggie Heffernan (MA ‘10)** is the Assistant Director of University Career Services at Northwestern University. She works with students in the Weinberg College of Arts and Sciences.
- **Dr. Lance Kennedy-Phillips**, OSU’s Executive Director of the Center for the Study of Student Life, published (with Dr. Xueli Wang) “Focusing on the Sophomores: Characteristics Associated With the Academic and Social Involvement of Second-Year College Students” in the September/October 2013 issue of the *Journal of College Student Development*.
- **Dr. Patricia Cunningham (MA ‘05)** leads the BuckeyeREACH program, which recently won a ServeOhio award. The program pairs Ohio State students with youth at the Circleville Juvenile Correctional Facility, allowing the young offenders to imagine a different life upon their release from the facility. The award was presented last fall at the Ohio Conference on Service and Volunteerism in the Ohio Union.
- **Michael Bufano (MA ‘12)** is with Google. Michael is a University Programs Specialist.
- **Royel Johnson (PhD student)** has recent publications, including one with **Dr. Terrell Strayhorn** and **Blossom Barrett (MA ‘12, PhD student)**:



Johnson, R. M. (2013). Black and Male on campus: An autoethnographic account. *Journal of African American Men in Education*, 4(2), 25-45.

Strayhorn, T.L., Johnson, R.M., Barrett, B.A. (2013). Investigating the adjustment and transition experiences of formerly incarcerated African American males at PWIs. *Spectrum: A Journal on Black Men*, 2(1), 73-98.

- **Jamie Paulson (MA ‘09)** is the Graduation Coordinator & Data Specialist with the College of Engineering at Ohio State.
  - **Ayeza Siddiqi (MA ‘15, left)** won a prestigious internship with the American University of Kuwait in Kuwait City. Ayeza will spend two months in Kuwait working full time with the Office of Admissions and the Office of Academic Advising and Learning Support Services. Her internship will allow her to travel throughout the Middle East. In addition, she looks forward to spending time with her family in Pakistan.
  - **Bowen Marshall (PhD Student)** and colleagues won the 2014 Innovative Program Award at OCPA/OASPA conference last month for their “Open Doors” program.
  - **Lauren Hensley (MA ‘08)** recently received her PhD in Educational Psychology from The Ohio State University.
  - In November, **Nichole Manchone (MA ‘01)** became the District Director of Admissions and Records for the Tarrant County College District in Fort Worth, TX. Nicole was previously the Registrar at Wentworth Institute of Technology in Boston, MA.
- **Kristy Brischke (MA ‘06)** is the Director of Transition Programs at the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor. On August 5, 2013, Kristy and Steve welcomed Zach Stephen Brischke to their family. He joins older brother Drew (age 3).
- On February 8, the annual TEDxOhio State University event (below) was held at the Mershon Center. A variety of speakers and performers, including TBDBITL, wowed the capacity crowd. **HESA Senior Lecturer Dr. Amy Barnes (MA ‘99)** advises this group.



# Help SPA Grow for Another 65 Years!

SPA is in its 65th year of preparing leaders for higher education and student affairs, and your support for their success is as vital as ever. Prospective and current students are showing an increased interest in research, networking, and other professional development offerings.

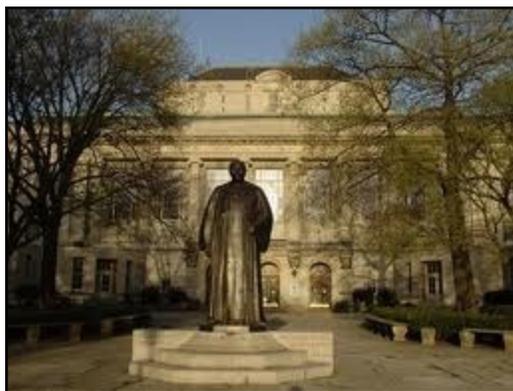
We would love for you to offer time or make a gift to the program to help us continue these critical opportunities. Here are some ways you can help:

## Volunteer your time

- E-mail SPA at [spa@osu.edu](mailto:spa@osu.edu)
- Tell us where you're volunteering or ask us about opportunities
- We'll send you free materials
- Refer students to us via email or call us at 614-292-4322

## Make a gift to SPA

- Visit <http://giveto.osu.edu>
- Support the Porterfield-Dickens Award (Fund #605884)
- Support the SPA Professional Development Fund (Fund #301377)
- Contact the Advancement Office at 614-247-7825



**Please send all news, job changes, family updates, publications, awards, and more to [spa@osu.edu](mailto:spa@osu.edu) and we'll put them in the next newsletter!**