What does it mean for CSDA to “Dare Greatly?”

It has been an exciting year for the graduate students of the CSDA program! Between launching new programs and going to conferences, our small group of graduate students has been able to truly expand outside of the classroom. This year, the theme of the program has followed the words of Brene Brown, author of Daring Greatly. Brown says, “daring greatly” means to show up and be seen. To ask for what you need. To talk about how you are feeling and also have tough conversations. It is important to allow yourself to feel what you feel; you are worth it and should be able to be loyal to your values.” In the classroom setting, the Introduction to Student Personnel class began to integrate her words in school, work, relationships, and individual philosophies. Brene Brown does a beautiful job of putting concepts into words that can truly describe life situations and living whole-heartedly. As the book became a symbol of working on the things that matter and a guide of how to be a life-long learner and always continue to put in the work to be a better person. By being the best version of yourself you are able to lend a hand to others and make an impact. As Student Affairs professionals, helping others is the exact reason we thrive. An especially powerful motivation comes from helping students find their way through their developmental years in college. So, in short, Brown’s words ring true to our small group of students who all smile when they say the challenging phrase “what does it mean to dare greatly?”

Upcoming Preview Program

Shepherd University’s CSDA Preview Program is a two day event that allows all accepted CSDA graduate students to come to Shepherd University to learn more about the program, apply and interview for assistantships, and meet the Student Affairs Division Staff. The 2015 Preview Program will be held Thursday, March 12 and Friday, March 13. Positions are posted on the CSDA website http://www.shepherd.edu/graduate-studies/macsda/prospective.html

Any questions can be directed to Julia Flocco, New Student Programming Coordinator at jFlocco@shepherd.edu.

Important Dates

March 4: Priority Graduate Assistant Application Deadline
March 12-13: Preview Program
March 18: Assistantship offers begin
April 15: Deadline for candidates to accept program and GA offers

Contributing writers:
- Amanda Gelber
- Matt Myers
- Ashley Dorsey
Tip from a former CSDA Graduate
Student: “My practicum experience in Shepherd’s Study Abroad Office was a deciding factor in being hired for my current position, so choose your practicum carefully!”
Mary Alice Ross, 2012

Professional Development
In Fall 2014, Chi Sigma Alpha sponsored our first ever CSDA Mock Interview Day. During the event, any students graduating from the program in December 2014 or May 2015 were able to practice interviewing with professional staff in the field. Six students participated in two interviews each, giving them a chance to practice in multiple areas of interest.

Spring 2015: ACPA/NASPA Conferences
Many of the CSDA graduate students will either be attending ACPA or NASPA this Spring! Each event offers Shepherd University students a chance to get out of their comfort zone! The 2015 ACPA National Conference will take place in Tampa, Florida, starting March 5, 2015 and ending March 8, 2015.

The 2015 NASPA National Conference is in New Orleans, Louisiana, this year and will be held from March 21, 2015, to March 25, 2015.

These conferences are a wonderful way to connect and network within the field on a national level, while exploring a new area of the country. Conferences provide opportunities to see speakers, attend educational sessions, and possibly take place in interviews.

Service
This Spring, Chi Sigma Alpha will participate in annual service projects in collaboration with the Office of Community Service. In April, the group will volunteer with Relay for Life, Shepherd’s annual charity to raise money for cancer research. Later in April, Chi Sigma Alpha will also assist with Produce Drop, which involves sorting donated produce for local charities.

Follow us on Social Media!
Facebook Shepherd University CSDA
Twitter @ShepherdCSDA

Chi Sigma Alpha Events

College Student Development
Every October is the national Careers in Students Affairs Month (CSAM). CSAM was created to allow the people of student affairs an opportunity to reflect on student affairs as a profession, both currently and as a future endeavor. While small events and day conferences are held throughout the profession during October, individual schools can also use this month as a platform to educate their home institution. During the early months of the fall semester a group of Shepherd CSDA students organized a student affairs panel and student affairs department fair. Current graduate students, undergraduates, faculty, and staff were invited to attend. The group also attend a day conference at Towson University in Maryland to attend sessions pertaining to both undergraduates, graduates, and new professionals.

CSDA Men Take On Movember

Students and faculty alike joined the celebration and awareness of men’s wellbeing last fall for Shepherd University’s first Movember. Yes, that was spelled correctly: Movember is a combination of ‘mustache’ and ‘November.’ Participants are encouraged to grow facial hair (or, for those who cannot, support those who can) to bring awareness to prostate and testicular cancer, as well as general wellbeing for men. Movember is a national movement. The CSDA men of Shepherd University did their part by conversation and encouraging donations that support prostate and testicular cancer research. The project is a wonderful chance for the group of men in the CSDA Program to spark change. Although this last fall was a pilot campaign for Shepherd, the participating group raised 125 dollars. The group is already looking forward to next year’s campaign, hoping to extend the pool of participants and the number of furry faces seen around campus. You too can participate whether growing a mustache, participating via ‘no-shave November, bringing up the conversation, or donating ten dollars!

Alumni Updates

2014 Graduates
Lee Ambrose
Professional: Housing Coordinator, Arcadia University
Julia Flocco
Professional: New Student Programming Coordinator, Shepherd University

2013 Graduates
Chris Bryant
Professional: Elected to the West Virginia Association of Student Personnel Administrators Board of Directors in June 2014 (Student Support Services and Enrollment Management Representative)

Alumni Updates

Movember Weekly Update

CSDA Faculty
CSDA PHILOSOPHY

The Shepherd University Master of Arts in College Student Development and Administration prepares individuals who demonstrate interest in and commitment to college students and their development through higher education. Graduates of the Program will be prepared specifically for professional administrative positions in student affairs and enrollment management within postsecondary education. Graduates of the Program will demonstrate depth and breadth of knowledge of the profession through integrated coursework and supervised practice.

Interested in the CSDA Program?
For more information please refer to our website!
http://www.shepherd.edu/graduate-studies/macdsa/

Alumni Updates Continued...

2012 Graduates Continued...

Courtney Carroll
Professional: In January 2015, presented on Multiculturalism at a leadership conference for Delta Sigma Pi
College Students from schools in the Northeastern Region in Ohio

2012 Graduates

Mary Alice Ross
Professional: International Programs Coordinator, United States Naval Academy

2010 Graduates

Jonathan McClean Calabretta
Professional: Associate Governmental Programs Analyst, Student Leadership and Development, California Community College Chancellor's Office

2015 & 2016 National ACPA Tampa Convention Planning Committee's Special Events Team
Personal: Jonathan McClean Calabretta, married Daniel Joe Powell in Sacramento, California on December 14, 2014

2009 Graduates

Jason Mongan
Professional: Director of Compliance and Career Services, Pittsburgh Institute of Aeronautics

2012 Graduates

Mary Alice Ross
Professional: International Programs Coordinator, United States Naval Academy

2010 Graduates

Jonathan McClean Calabretta
Professional: Associate Governmental Programs Analyst, Student Leadership and Development, California Community College Chancellor's Office

Current CSDA Graduate Updates

Congratulations to Tim Maggio on being the recipient of the NASPAShares Annual Conference stipend for New Orleans 2015!

Congratulations to Lauren Gyurisin and Ashley Dorsey for being selected from Shepherd University as ACPA “Pay It Forward” recipients!

Welcome to our two new students, Megan Ball and Alex Severson this Spring!