

# NASC Program Updates

*July-November 2013*

*Jeff R. Sherrill, Associate Director*

NASC sponsors a variety of programs, services and awards for members, and NASC staff members represent the organization at the national level. The following is a synopsis of activity within key NASC programs and other activities from July 2013 through November 2013.

## **NASC Student Leaders Meet with U.S. Secretary of Education**

- Eleven NASC student leaders from MD, PA and VA, including Christian Hodges from the NASC National Advisory Council participated in one of the U.S. Department of Education's Student Voices sessions led by Department staff and attended by Secretary Arne Duncan and Undersecretary Martha Kanter. The purpose of the session was to hear student feedback and questions on the topics of college affordability, a proposed college rating system, and ideal features of a website for students going through the college search, finance assistance, and applications process.

## **National Student Project Database**

- Submissions are slowly coming into the National Student Project Database, which allows users to search for projects using a variety of parameters and submit their own projects. Those submitting projects receive an automated email confirming their submissions and once projects are approved for public viewing, a second email with a certificate of contribution is received. Project submissions are expected to increase significantly as the 2014 National Council of Excellence Awards deadline approaches.

## **National Advisory Council Membership Changes**

- Approved changes to the makeup of the NASC National Advisory Council were announced in an email to student council directors and assistance directors on Tuesday, November 25. The changes will also be touched on during the NASC Report, and Jeff and Ann are available to respond to questions about the changes throughout the meeting.

## **National Council of Excellence Awards**

- National Councils of Excellence application process has changed so that projects are now entered directly into the National Student Project Database.
- For the first time, over 200 councils earned NCOE honors. 70 of those councils were represented at the NASC National Conference.
- 2014 applications are again formatted for email submission. Councils may use a submission feature built into the application document, or scan and email. Applications should not be faxed. In all cases, councils should retain a copy of their completed applications as backup.
- Deadline to submit or post-mark an application is February 18. The later date is due to the 15<sup>th</sup> falling on a weekend and the following Monday being a Federal Holiday.

## **Warren E. Shull Awards**

- Middle level applications continue to be low and states are asked to please nominate and encourage a middle level adviser to apply
- Deadline for Shull Applications is December 1. If extraordinary circumstances arise that may delay submission, please contact Jeff Sherrill.
- State director confirmation of nominees is again by simple email to Jeff Sherrill at [sherrillj@nassp.org](mailto:sherrillj@nassp.org).

## **NASSP CARES**

- The NASSP CARES: Compassionate Assistance & Relief Efforts for Schools program has been approved and has already provided assistance to the middle school and high school honor society chapters in the West Texas school district that were damaged by a devastating chemical plant explosion in May of this year.

- Through NASSP CARES, NASSP, NASC and NHS members are eligible to apply for micro-grants to assist them with program recovery from losses due to natural and manmade disasters.
- A portion of the sales from NASC, NHS and NJHS volunteer t-shirts goes to support the CARES fund.

### **NASC Adviser Longevity Certificates**

- NASC helps affiliated state associations recognize advisers who reach benchmark years in their careers by providing state directors with NASC Longevity certificates.
- Certificates are bronze, silver, gold, or platinum and recognize advisers who have been in their roles for 15, 20, 25, and 30 years.
- Applications for certificates were sent by email to directors in August. Those needing another copy may request one from Bonnie Reed at [reedb@nassp.org](mailto:reedb@nassp.org). Please submit applications at least **three (3) weeks** prior to the date that presentations will be made.

### **Dale Hawley Awards**

- NASC sponsors the Dale Hawley Award, named for a former NASSP director as a way for state associations to recognize five (5) students each year who make significant leadership contributions to the state association.
- Requests for certificates must be made using the Hawley Certificate Request Form. Certificates are pre-printed with student names prior delivery. Please submit certificate request form no later than **three (3)** weeks prior to the presentation date.

### **Ardis Kyker State Service Award**

- Our thanks to the state associations applying for the award in 2013. There were four state applicants.
- The winning state association receives a mounted certificate and a \$500 cash award. Additional recognitions may be given on occasion in the categories identified on the application.
- Applications for the 2014 Award will be emailed to state directors in January. The deadline to apply is April 15, 2014.

### **National Student Leadership Week**

- National Student Leadership Week is April 13-19. The theme for 2014 is National Student Leadership Week: LEAD STRONG. Information will be posting on the website in early January 2014 and the annual magazine insert will be included in the February edition.

### **LEAD Conferences**

- LEAD Conferences kicked off in November in Colorado with c.500 attendees.
- Upcoming Conference Dates are: Jan. 31-Feb. 1, 2014 in Washington D.C., and Feb. 14-16 in Chicago, IL
- Workshop opportunities are still available for the Washington and Chicago events. Students and advisers are invited to apply at [www.leadconferences.org/present](http://www.leadconferences.org/present).

### **Raising Student Voice & Participation**

- In September, Jeff facilitated an RSVP training for five high schools in the VA Beach area and RSVP sessions are a part of each LEAD Conference this year.
- The writing of a new RSVP in the Middle guide is complete and the printing phase is about to begin.

### **NASC Faces of Leadership Project**

- NASC will be launching a photo project in 2014 to capture the “Faces of Leadership” in the different states with the goal to be creating national montage of student council leaders in action. The final product will be a feature on the NASC Website allowing users to click on a state to see the collection of photo submissions from that state.
- Timelines and guidelines for the Faces of Leadership Project are underway and will be released with the project announcement in January.