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ASHE President’s Column
Linda Eisenmann
John Carroll University

Happy New Year to all ASHE members! May the coming year bring each of us continued satisfaction in our work and the appropriate balance of productivity and refreshment.

I must begin my term as ASHE President with expressions of thanks to those who have guided and supported the association over the last year, especially outgoing President Linda Johnsrud and Past-President Estela Bensimon. As you may know, the presidency commits a person to three years of service on the Board, and Estela has brought enormous energy and creativity to her responsibilities. Linda, who remains as Past-President, has juggled her large role as Vice President for Academic Policy and Planning for the postsecondary system of Hawaii with her commitment to ASHE. As her presidential address ably demonstrated, we have all benefited from her ability to connect her roles as scholar and practitioner.

Outgoing Board members Laura Perna and Ashley Sieman have been superb colleagues, joining the many committee and council chairs who have contributed so generously to ASHE over the past year. Each new president enters the role with great admiration for the talents and support of our members.

Linda Johnsrud and Program Chair Vicki Rosser assembled a strong conference in Louisville that challenged us to think about how our work connects to the policy world of higher education. Along with 2008 Program Chair Jay Dee (University of Massachusetts Boston), I hope to extend that theme to our connection with our practitioner colleagues – those who manage, administer, and shape higher education through their daily work. In consultation with his excellent and varied program committee, Jay and I have developed a theme for the 2008 meeting of Research and Practice: Embracing Connections. We hope
that this theme gives focus to our work throughout the year, both in our scholarship and in the efforts of our association to address concerns across higher education. I am grateful to Jay and the program committee, who are already hard at work.

My choice of the theme has been affected by my own experience. After a dozen years as a professor of higher education, including roles as director of a higher education doctoral program and a leadership in urban schools program, I became Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at John Carroll University in Cleveland, Ohio, four years ago. My shift in perspective from scholar to practitioner was rapid and sharp. Since my appointment, I have recognized – sometimes in the strangest moments – how my understanding of higher education informs my daily work. But there have also been times when I have realized how distant the two roles are, reaching in vain for scholarly information to inform some practical decision. I will continue to think about this dichotomy, and plan to discuss it in my presidential address in Jacksonville.

In later columns, I will discuss the issues and opportunities facing ASHE. Meanwhile, I look forward to serving the association, and I urge each of you to continue thinking about how the scholarship and teaching you pursue can inform, support, and benefit from the colleagues around you who move higher education forward. Just as Linda Johnsrud encouraged us to consider the policy relevance of our work, I encourage our continued active stance with our colleagues in practice.

2007 Conference Program Chair Reflections
Vicki J. Rosser, Program Chair
University of Nevada, Las Vegas

As I reflect on the 2007 ASHE program from my perspective as Program Chair, a few things come to my mind: program attendance, a note of thanks to our presenters, colleagues who came through in an emergency, and emerging issues of professional concern to our organization.

Final numbers from the ASHE office indicate that we surpassed all previous ASHE conference attendance records with 1,147 attendees! I thank all of you who attended and a special thanks to those of you who presented your research and scholarship at the 2007 conference. Clearly the quality of your work ensures our conference success. I would also like to note that many of our graduate students told me that they were thrilled they could pack themselves into cars and drive to the conference to keep their travel costs down. I also enjoyed seeing familiar faces that have been missing in action from our professional organization and was very pleased to see them return to join us in Louisville, KY.

I would also like to comment on those individuals who came through for us in a pinch as the program was about to go to press, as well as those who filled important roles at the conference when emergencies arose when scheduled participants were unable to attend. These individuals willingly stepped up to serve our members so that sessions could continue to run smoothly. I’m personally grateful for their support, and more important I’m exceedingly appreciative of them as exemplary professional colleagues.
I would also like to share with you some issues that came to my attention as the 2007 program chair. These issues emerged as matters of professional concern to our organizations’ members as some of our colleagues have been remiss in their professional responsibilities as a scholar, ASHE member, and colleague. I do hope that by mentioning these issues more explicitly they will serve as reminders to our colleagues about the professional norms in which we conduct our work within ASHE.

Reviewing proposals. One of the most important benefits of being a member in a scholarly organization is to propose and present our work and receive professional feedback on that work. The goal is to prepare our work for article submission and publication. I would like to encourage proposal reviewers to provide professional and substantive comments regarding the work they have reviewed. Explaining what and why you found the proposal to be lacking will help clarify meaning to your assigned scores and help guide the proposal’s author(s) on how to improve their current and future research.

Submitting multiple presentations. ASHE policy clearly states that you can be on the program four times: three as a presenter, and the fourth time as a session chair or discussant. Some individuals exceeded the policy by knowingly submitting multiple proposals in order to have something accepted. These individuals were notified and withdrawn from the program, a practice which will continue to ensure that ASHE remains an inclusive organization.

Selecting and notifying symposium participants. Professional protocol suggests that when a symposium proposal is submitted, all scholars on the proposal had been notified and confirmed their participation prior to submission. This is a key point as proposals are accepted on the scholarly merits and the expertise of the presenters. Changing symposium participants after the proposal has been accepted is a major concern to our members. Moreover, those reviewing symposium proposals should apply careful consideration regarding the number of presenters on a symposium as to what is realistic within the 75-minute allotted time frame. Too many presenters not only decrease the amount of time each person is allotted but also minimizes the quality and effectiveness of the discussion.

Recycling work. Work presented at ASHE should not have been presented elsewhere. ASHE and AERA have clear written policies on this topic. The research topic may be the same or similar, but the substantive, theoretical, or methodological underpinnings and research queries should clearly be different.

Submitting papers to discussants. Research or scholarly papers should be submitted to the session discussant two weeks prior to the conference. We need to be respectful to
others’ time commitments. While a few discussants may allow a later submission date and will notify those presenters directly, this is not the professional norm within ASHE. Moreover, those discussants that are unable to receive last minute submissions are not and should not be perceived as villains. Discussants who do not receive a paper from the presenter are under no professional obligation to comment on the paper during the session.

Providing copies. Hard copies or online access to obtain the research paper that is or has been presented should be available to the scholarly community, either in attendance or by request. When a proposal is submitted and accepted for presentation, the authors are assuring the organization that the work has been completed and a manuscript will be available to those who are interested in the work.

Scheduling personal requests. Requesting specific days and times to present is an exception to the rule and should not be deemed as an expectation. More than 100 personal requests were made from a range of individuals that included graduate students, and junior, mid-career, and senior scholars. This created tremendous scheduling difficulties, particularly when multiple presenters were involved. The lack of scheduling software means all changes have to be done manually.

Canceling professional commitments. Emergencies are not at issue here. These cancellations were made by individuals who volunteered to serve in a professional role on the program or have offered to conduct proposal reviews, and subsequently changed their mind, or failed to complete their assigned work.

I want to thank everyone for their candid input, and as many of you know I have presented these and other issues to the ASHE board prior to this newsletter. I was honored to have served you and I wish you all my sincere best in your professional and scholarly endeavors.

2008 Conference Update
Jay Dee, Chair
University of Massachusetts Boston

Preparing for the 2008 Conference
Jay R. Dee, program chair (University of Massachusetts Boston)

As we prepare for the 2008 conference, it may be useful to consider our goals for this annual event. Primary among those goals has been improving the quality of research in our field. Essential to that goal are opportunities for graduate students and early-career faculty to explore new lines of research and to develop their own voices as emerging scholars. Equally important are opportunities for more experienced scholars to test new ideas in the realm of critical inquiry. What may be most important, however, are opportunities for inter-generational dialogue among scholars at different career stages. These interactions can yield productive, new collaborations and ensure the long-term vitality of research in our field.

A related goal (and one where we may be coming up short) is to connect higher education research and practice. Interactions among researchers, policy analysts, and college leaders can strengthen both scholarship and leadership. The annual conference can facilitate those interactions and serve as a test of the relevance of our scholarship: do practitioners attending the conference gain useful knowledge? Relevance, however, is not our only goal. Frequently, scholars in ASHE take a critical stance toward current policies and practices. The findings of our research may make some higher education
leaders and policy makers uncomfortable, but those initial responses of discomfort may give way to an understanding of the need for change or to a desire to re-envision who higher education serves and toward what aims.

The 2008 program committee will take several steps to facilitate these types of scholarly interactions at this year’s conference in Jacksonville.

- Under the leadership of ASHE president Linda Eisenmann, we will convene sessions that explore the nexus between research and practice.

- In cooperation with the Council for International Higher Education, we will incorporate an international strand into the general conference, which will provide new opportunities for conference participants to consider higher education issues from a global perspective.

- We will communicate more explicitly norms and practices associated with ethical and responsible scholarship. As one example, when submitting proposals, authors will need to check a new “agree to these terms” statement, which identifies several ethical responsibilities (e.g., originality). We will also clarify and communicate more frequently the responsibilities of proposal reviewers, session chairs, and discussants.

I thank the members of the 2008 program committee, who will manage the proposal review process in their respective sections and lead our efforts to develop an outstanding program for our conference in Jacksonville.

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**Council on Ethnic Participation (CEP)**
Barbara J. Johnson, Secretary
Jackson State University

**Recognition of Our Past While Moving Forward**

During the months leading up to ASHE 2007, the leadership of the Council on Ethnic Participation (CEP) was busy establishing the infrastructure for four major initiatives. These initiatives included the junior and senior scholar awards, mentoring program, research grant committee, and CEP group list.
Junior/Senior Scholar and Service Awards
Denise Green served as the chair of the awards committee that recognized junior and senior scholars as well as facilitated the naming of the awards for two CEP pioneers: Mildred (Millie) Garcia and the late Berta Vigil Laden. Consuella Lewis noted that the newly elected ASHE president-elect (Jeff Milem) was instrumental in assisting with the crafting of the awards proposal to the ASHE Board.

Lynette Danley presented the award for exemplary scholarship to Millie Garcia at California State University, Dominguez Hills. Unfortunately, Millie was not able to attend the ceremony but Daryl Smith accepted the award on her behalf and read a brief note expressing Millie’s appreciation for the award.

The senior scholar award for exemplary scholarship was presented to Sylvia Hurtado at UCLA. She spoke of how biography is intermixed with our work. The junior scholar award was presented to Joy Ann Williams at the University of Washington. Joy commented that receiving the junior scholar award was great motivation to seek the senior scholar award.

Two members of the CEP community who have served CEP were awarded the Founders’ Service Award. The first award was posthumously awarded to Berta Vigil Laden and accepted by Consuella Lewis. This award was also bestowed on Bonita Butner, at the University of Missouri - Kansas City, who has had unwavering commitment to advancement of the field and our organization and has played a key role on several CEP committees. Bonita recounted attending her first CEP meeting in 1996 and remarked that CEP has certainly grown.

Immediately following the business meeting and awards ceremony was the reception, “The Cake Walk” which was co-sponsored by the University of Pittsburgh.

Mentoring Program
An invitation lunch was held for the protégés and mentors. Protégés and mentors were queried about their experience and asked to provide feedback on how the mentoring program could be improved. The co-chairs (Consuella Lewis and V. Barbara Bush) urged everyone to think about the role of mentors in their personal and professional life and to consider becoming a mentor.

Research Grant Committee
The purpose of the CEP Research Grant Committee is to support the scholarship initiatives of ASHE-CEP members who conduct research on and about people from underrepresented racial/ethnic groups in higher education. One of the primary responsibilities of this Committee is to identify and solicit external funding that would enable the allocation of monetary research awards. Special consideration will be given to providing research support to tenure-track assistant and associate professors in an effort to encourage and increase their development and submission of grant proposals related to the Committee's purpose. This Committee will also seek funding to support professional development workshops for CEP members. Currently, this Committee is finalizing the proposal for research grants.

ASHE-CEP Yahoo Group Account
A group list for ASHE-CEP has been established. All communication regarding CEP will occur via the yahoo group list. Additionally, minutes of the CEP cabinet and other pertinent information will be posted to the CEP group account.
What Does This All Mean?
As a new generation of leaders begins to embrace the ideals of CEP, it is imperative that we recognize our past while moving forward. This recognition can occur in a number of ways but this year occurred through the naming of awards for two women who were integral to the establishment of CEP. CEP is appreciative of all of the individuals who were instrumental in establishing the Committee on Ethnic Participation which has now transitioned to a standing Council of ASHE. Yet, CEP must continue to build on the foundation that has been laid to ensure the Council continues to move forward. The awards ceremony at the 2007 ASHE annual meeting provided an excellent illustration of an organization moving forward while recognizing the past. It is only through reflecting on the significance of the past that we will be able to assist future leaders of CEP in further building on our legacy.

CEP Leadership
CEP Officers: Consuella Lewis (Chair), Terrell Strayhorn (Chair-Elect) and Barbara J. Johnson (Secretary)

Advisory Committee: Dannielle Joy Davis, Sharon Holmes, Jerlando F.L. Jackson and Dafina Stewart

Awards Committee: Denise O. Green (Chair), Wanda B. Coneal, Lynette Danley, Saran Donahoo, Sharon Holmes, Eunyoung Kim and Kimberly Rogers

Research Awards Committee: Pat Boyer and Dannielle Joy Davis (Co-Chairs), Sharon Holmes, Terrell Strayhorn, Dafina Stewart and Eunyoung Kim

Mentoring Initiative: V. Barbara Bush and Consuella Lewis (Co-Chairs) and John Michael Lee

Council on Public Policy in Higher Education
Patricia M. Yaeger, Chair
American Education Services

This year’s Public Policy Forum opened with a presentation from Kentucky’s Council on Postsecondary Education, highlighting the state’s efforts on workforce development. Kentucky’s higher education policy agenda is well articulated and serves as a model to other states. Presenters shared their struggles and accomplishments carrying out the agenda in the areas of adult and basic education, their Double the Numbers initiative to increase degree attainment, and long-term policy development. Many thanks to Heidi Hiemstra for putting together a thought-provoking panel discussion that helped set the tone for the Forum.

The sessions that followed on state and federal policy issues lived up to the same high standard. Topics included state funding of higher education, community college financing, distance education, online outreach, and accountability. Thanks to all the presenters and moderator/discussants Will Doyle and Kevin Kinser who did an outstanding job involving Forum attendees in the conversation.

Colleen O’Brien of the Pell Institute chaired a session on communicating research findings to legislators from the policy institute perspective. Mike Collins of Jobs for the Future, Alisa Cunningham of the Institute for Higher Education Policy, and Deborah Santiago from Excelensia in Education offered many helpful tips from their personal experiences. The panel did a phenomenal job of connecting with the audience, making it clear why they are so effective in their work at the policy/research institutes.
This year, the ASHE/Lumina Fellows joined Public Policy Forum and Graduate Student Public Policy Seminar participants in a joint session held Wednesday. Attendees fanned out across sixteen tables to discuss current policy issues including financial aid, state funding, accreditation, affirmative action, and state-level P-16 policy. Kudos to the roundtable facilitators (Chris Brown, Michelle Cooper, Alisa Cunningham, Diane Dean, Frank Harris III, Don Heller, Heidi Hiemstra, Pat Inman, Linda Johnsrud, Jason Lane, Karen Miksch, Chris Morphew, Erik Ness, Kimberly Rogers, José Luis Santos, Celina Sima, Marvin Titus, and Kristan Venegas), who did an excellent job of keeping the conversations flowing. The roundtable format was new to the Forum and very likely will be back next year. Thanks to Karen Paulson of NCHEMS and Kristen Renn of Michigan State University who worked with me on this session.

Many people helped make this year’s Public Policy Forum possible. In addition to her work on the roundtables, Karen Paulson served as my sounding board as I put the program together, and I greatly appreciate her guidance and suggestions. I am not sure I could have done it without her. Patty Farrell, ASHE Executive Director and a frequent Forum participant in prior years, also gave me the benefit of her expertise and went way above and beyond the call of duty by reviewing the program and making some great recommendations. Vicki Rosser, the 2007 program chair, did a fabulous job of putting the conference together and she helped me tremendously through the rough spots. Thanks to Linda Johnsrud for developing a policy-oriented conference theme. I admire her vision and leadership in tackling the tough issues.

Many others worked behind the scenes to help make the Forum a success. I hope they know how much I appreciated their help. Special thanks to: Susan Campbell, Alisa Cunningham, Karen Miksch, Laura Perna, Don Heller, Kimberly Rogers, Scott Thomas, the ASHE Board, and program committee members, including Mario Martinez and Jay Dee. Kate Shaw, immediate past Chair of the Council on Public Policy in Higher Education, made critical recommendations on the program draft that enhanced the quality of the Forum. It was great working with her this past year.

PowerPoint presentations from the 2007 Forum will be posted to the ASHE Council Website. Next year’s Forum will continue as a pre-conference starting Wednesday and continuing until noon Thursday, November 5-6. Please contact me if you have any suggestions or comments on the Public Policy Forum.

In other news, we will be sending out ballots to Council members in January to elect a new vice-chair, secretary, and member-at-large. If you would like to get involved in the Council on Public Policy in Higher Education, officially or unofficially, please email me at pyaeger@pheaa.org.

Thanks again to everyone who helped make the Public Policy Forum a success.
Graduate Student News

Kelly Risbey, University of Minnesota
Judy Marquez Kiyama, University of Arizona

Acknowledgments
Welcome to another exciting ASHE year! We would like to officially welcome Judy Marquez Kiyama as the 2007-2009 graduate student representative to the ASHE Board of Directors. Many of you had an opportunity to meet Judy a few weeks ago in Louisville during our ASHE 2007 graduate student sessions and during Judy’s program sessions. Judy is a doctoral candidate in the Center for the Study of Higher Education at The University of Arizona and is currently in the final stages of her dissertation. Judy’s dissertation research is centered on the educational ideologies of Mexican families and explores the foundation of the funds of knowledge theory as it applies to college access. Additionally, Judy currently works as an assistant director in Undergraduate Initiatives, Multicultural Affairs and Student Success and focuses on retention initiatives for under-represented students at The University of Arizona. In serving on the ASHE Board of Directors, Judy hopes to increase the graduate student participation in ASHE by bringing awareness to the many opportunities already available and by making those opportunities more accessible to graduate students. In welcoming Judy, we also must bid a fond farewell to Ashley Mouberry Sieman. Ashley completed her term as a graduate student representative of the ASHE board at the end of the 2007 ASHE conference. We want to thank Ashley for her hard work, dedication, enthusiasm, and passion for graduate student issues and the ASHE community at large.

Reflections on ASHE 2007
The ASHE 2007 conference was an incredible success! The graduate student program consisted of three amazing sessions: If Only I’d Known: Factors Affecting Completion of Research Projects (held on Thursday, November 8); Transitioning from Graduate Student to New Professional (held on Friday, November 9); and the Graduate Student Luncheon (held on Saturday, November 10). We had excellent attendance at all of our sessions and participants quickly connected with the topic and asked excellent questions to all of our presenters. We want to thank all of our presenters—Cristi Ford, Wendell Hall, Tonya Saddler, Beth Tankersley-Bankhead, Shouping Hu, Diane Auer Jones, Ralph Kidder, Anthony Lising Antonio, Linda Johnsrud, Linda Eisenmann, and Jeff Milem—for giving so generously of their time and effort to help create outstanding sessions for ASHE graduate students. As always, we encourage students to contact us with ideas for sessions and presenters at future conferences.

We would also like to recognize the 2007 conference interns who worked to support the ASHE staff during the fall conference. The 2007 interns included: Tam Le (Louisiana State University), Stephanie Krusemark (Morgridge College of Education), Carly Fletcher (The University of Alabama), and Maura Murphy (North Carolina State University). Conference interns are selected through an application process that occurs early in the fall semester. Conference interns receive a fee waiver in exchange for volunteering to provide support for ASHE program functions (i.e., working at the registration table, hanging posters, trouble shooting, etc.). Our four interns in Louisville were incredible and we want to thank them for all their hard work and commitment to ASHE and the ASHE conference.
Feedback from ASHE 2007

Your feedback confirmed the overwhelmingly positive responses that this year’s conference has already received. We were excited to see so many graduate students attend the graduate student sessions, especially the luncheon. Over 100 people attended the luncheon and it was there that we collected evaluations based on the graduate student sessions. We received 97 responses and we thank you for your thoughtful feedback and suggestions. We specifically asked questions about what students would like to see at next year’s conference, how we should use the ASHE graduate student fund, and how we can better serve graduate student members throughout the next year.

In general, students appreciated the opportunity to network with senior scholars, the free books at the luncheon (thank you to our donors), and the quality of the sessions presented. Mentoring was commonly mentioned on the evaluations and many students expressed an interest in connecting with a faculty mentor at another institution both during the year and at the conference. Additionally, students were interested in a graduate student social at future conferences. We will be working to incorporate many of your suggestions for future conference sessions. Some of those suggestions included: the steps in getting published, how to navigate the PhD and dissertation process, and transitions – into and out of a doctoral program.

Finally, we will be considering your suggestions to determine how the graduate student fund should be utilized. Most people expressed that travel or conference scholarships would be helpful. Suggestions also included using the fund to sponsor a graduate social during the conference and to help fund research projects.

Facebook Group

We found that many students did not know about our new “ASHE Graduate Student Network” Facebook group. We will be working throughout the year to make sure we increase our membership on Facebook and will use the site to keep you up to date with future ASHE opportunities, conference ideas, and decisions on how the graduate student fund will be utilized. Our Facebook site is designed as a tool for ASHE graduate student members to connect with old friends, meet new colleagues, network, share ideas about research and trends in higher education, share dissertation and thesis topics, strategies, and struggles, discuss opportunities for funding and calls for proposals, find roommates for upcoming conferences, etc… The possibilities are endless!

Facebook is a free service and the website is easy to navigate (although somewhat addictive). If you are already on Facebook, you can find and join our site by searching for the “ASHE Graduate Student Network” under the “Groups” search option. For those who are not on Facebook yet and want to join our group, the steps are super easy. All you have to do is go to www.facebook.com and register a valid email address. Once you are registered you can begin to build your own Facebook page by joining our ASHE group. You can quickly find our group by searching for the “ASHE Graduate Student Network” under the “Groups” search option. We hope that you will consider joining the ASHE Graduate Student Network on Facebook.

We are looking forward to another exciting ASHE year! As always, we encourage students to submit comments, suggestions, or questions.

Kelly Risbey, risb0012@umn.edu
Judy Marquez Kiyama, jkiyama@email.arizona.edu
**ASHE Seniors**

James Bess

Please make a note to check the day and time of the second annual luncheon and address in the Harland G. Bloland lecture series at the next ASHE meeting. This special gathering is open to all seniors (loosely defined as about 60 years old). It is an opportunity to renew friendships from years past and to engage in a lively discussion of the views of a well-known national expert on a controversial subject. Further details will be available in the upcoming ASHE newsletters. Best wishes for the New Year. For further information, please contact JLBess1@aol.com.

**Notables**

Michelle Nilson
Simon Fraser University, Canada

This column is ASHE’s posting place for news about people, places, publications, and other items of interest in higher education. Keep your friends and colleagues apprised of your news, whereabouts, recommendations, kudos (yours, others), new book titles, announcements, awards, and website information. Please take time out of your busy schedule to toot your own horn or to pay homage to others—send your articles, snippets, and photos to Michelle Nilson, email address: michelle-nilson@sfu.ca

**Notable Moves**

Ryan J. Davis joined the Pell Institute for Opportunity in Higher Education as a Research Analyst in Fall 2007.

Samuel D. Museus joined the University of Massachusetts-Boston as an Assistant Professor of Higher Education in the Graduate College of Education in Fall 2007.

KerryAnn O’Meara joined the University of Maryland as an Associate Professor of Higher Education in the Department of Education Leadership, Higher Education, and International Education in Fall 2007.

Michelle Pidgeon will be joining the Faculty of Education at Simon Fraser University, beginning May 2008.

Stephen John Quaye will join the University of Maryland as an Assistant Professor in the College Student Personnel Program in January 2008.

Becky Ropers-Huilman has joined the faculty of the University of Minnesota as Professor of Higher Education in the Department of Educational Policy and Administration. Additionally, she has recently become the editor of the National Women's Studies Association Journal.

Marvin A. Titus joined the University of Maryland as an Assistant Professor of Higher Education in the Department of Education Leadership, Higher Education, and International Education in Fall 2007.

**Notable Reads**

Paula Myrick Short has co-authored a new book, Academic Quality Work: A Handbook for Improvement, with William Massy and Steve Graham available from Jossey Bass. Dr. Short is Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs for the Tennessee Board of Regents, Dr. Massy is President of the Jackson Hole Higher Education Group and Professor Emeritus at Stanford University, and Dr. Graham is Interim Vice President for
Academic Affairs at the University of Missouri System.

**Noteworthy**

ASHE members *David Arendale* and *Jeanne Higbee*, faculty members in the Department of Postsecondary Teaching and Learning in the College of Education and Human Development at the University of Minnesota received awards from the College Reading and Learning Association (CRLA) at the professional organization’s national conference in Portland, Oregon on November 2nd. Arendale was the recipient of the Karen G. Smith Special Recognition Award, while Higbee was recognized with the Robert Griffin Long and Outstanding Service Award.