

The Nonprofit Leadership Alliance

(formerly American Humanics)

The Nonprofit Scholars Program

@ EMU

CONTACT

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Winter/Spring 2011



Message from Office



NONPROFIT LEADERSHIP ALLIANCE

Certified to Change the World

We have made it through another exciting school year, full of events, programs and activities in the Nonprofit Leadership Alliance (formerly American Humanics). The most important one is the name change. To better express who we are and what we do, the national organization, and all affiliated campuses, changed their name to Nonprofit Leadership Alliance.

This Winter semester we spent a great amount of time and effort on the re-branding. We are grateful to Dr. Kathy Stacey and her Organizational Communication class for assist us in getting the word out about the new name. The students held several events to promote NLA and explained the benefits of earning a nationally recognized certificate.

Throughout the year, The NLA Student Association (NLASA) held several seminars for the EMU campus that offered Learning Beyond the Classroom credit, as well as competency building skills for NLA students.

Ten NLA students went to Orlando, FL in January for AHMI. They had a great time meeting their peers who also plan on entering leadership roles in the nonprofit sector.

Last year we organized a Career Summit where experts from the field held seminars in several NLA competencies. This year, the NLA students took over the organization of the Career Summit and with the assistance of the NLA Advisory Board delivered a well attended event. Students representing all colleges on campus came to learn about risk management, community collaboration and public policy advocacy in the nonprofit field. We had the three CEOs from nonprofit agencies join us for a lunch panel discussion about employment trends in the sector and tricks in getting a job in a nonprofit organization.

Many students are graduating. We will miss them but we also wish them success! We wish our student leaders, Constance and Amanda, success. A new Student Leadership team is taking over and we are all excited about their plans for the upcoming year.

Sincerely,

Sammy DeMarco, Graduate Assistant

Claudia Petrescu, Campus Director

Nonprofit Leadership Alliance Rebranding Efforts

As many of you know, The Nonprofit Leadership Alliance changed its name from American Humanics. The rebranding efforts began in January 2011. The name change was to better reflect our mission.

Mission Statement

“The Nonprofit Leadership Alliance (formerly American Humanics) is a national alliance of colleges, universities and non-profit organizations dedicated to educating, preparing and certifying professionals to strengthen and lead nonprofit organizations.”

It is a challenging and costly process. All materials with “American Humanics” must be changed to “The Nonprofit Leadership Alliance” and the new logo.

We are gradually revising all our documentation, literature, website, and marketing materials such as pencils, highlighters, posters and even everyone’s favorite, the brains.

We appreciate your patience during the transition. The plan should be fully implemented by December 2011, but we are shooting to have all materials updated by the end of summer 2011.



NONPROFIT LEADERSHIP ALLIANCE

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NLA’s new logo

Follow NLA on Facebook and Twitter!

NLA has a new Facebook and Twitter page! We post nonprofit-related news and articles, and updates on events and happens on campus and near campus. You can also post what you’re doing, share your own nonprofit news or promote an event of your own.

To “friend” us on Facebook, go to your Facebook page and search “emu nla” and send an invite. To follow us on Twitter, go to the website and search “emunla” and click *follow*.



Welcome New NLSA Executive Board Officers!

Our 2011-2012 board officers

President—Joe Yelick

Philanthropy and Civic Engagement

Coordinator—Jennifer Rokakis

Event Coordinator - Drew Holbrook

**Positions still open, contact*

humanics@emich.edu to apply for leadership

positions

NextGen Leadership Award Winners!

Allison Skinner & Kristen Alonzi



Allison Skinner



Kristen Alonzi

Upcoming Deadline

June 24, 2011 for internships starting during the Fall 2011 or Spring 2012 semesters

**Will be the last NextGen award*

AHMI 2011

While many of us recovered from the holidays and struggled to stay warm, 10 NLA students went to Orlando in January for the 2011 Non-profit Leadership Alliance Management Institute conference (AHMI).

Every year, NLA students from all over the country attend the conference to network and enhance their skills through various team building exercises and workshops. The stu-

dents especially liked the promotions and re-branding exercise by the Girl Scouts of America.

"I really enjoyed the Girl Scouts' workshop. It gave me a real-life experience."

-Amanda Tew

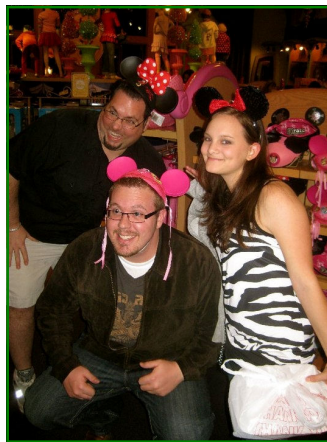
"I felt the YMCA and Girl Scouts case studies and workshops were very valuable. They gave us hands-on experience." -Constance Howard

"The experience was more than just the workshops, expos and speakers, it allowed NLA students from various universities to interact and share their nonprofit experiences and ideas."

—Joe Yelick



NLA students having fun at AHMI!



EMU NLASA attendees from the left front: Melanie Blackney, Erin Maxam, Constance Howard, Amanda Tew, Cara Carson, Joe Yelick, Heather Messina, Back: Ben Holland, David Kanaan, Mary Alice Truitt



NLA teams up with communications class to promote

In an effort to spread the word of NLA's name change, we incorporated the help of Dr. Kathy Stacey's Organizational Communication class.

They did a great job planning and running two events for us. On March 10, with the help of several NLA students, the class held a promotional event at the EMU Lake House. After Dr. Petrescu and several NLASA students spoke, we enjoyed pizza and Buffalo Wild Wings while drawing pictures on bags for The Kids Food Basket, a nonprofit organization

from Grand Rapids. They are used to promote nutritional meals for underserved children.

The communications class also assisted us by providing feedback on NLA literature and the website. We are highly thankful to Dr. Stacey and all the students in her class.

****A special thanks to Dominos Pizza and Buffalo Wild Wings for donating food!***



Melanie Blackney and Constance Howard draw pictures on bags for The Kids Food Basket

NLA member Maia Hardy helped organize the event



NLASA Graduates: Ben Holland



Ever wonder what you will do after you graduate? Is it too much to expect a dream job just after graduating?

Ben Holland is heading for Honolulu, HI to do just that. Ben, who graduated from EMU in December 2010, was selected by AmeriCORP to assist the Council for Native Hawaiian Advancement with capacity building efforts.

He applied to AmeriCORP before graduation and was offered a position in D.C., Colorado, West Virginia or Hawaii.

Ben was very active in the NLA program and credits his participation with his recent success.

"I know that getting my NLA certification made a huge difference in getting the jobs with AmeriCORP and POWER, Inc." he said. "Working

towards that certification shows them you're in it for the long haul."

Ben served his internship with POWER, Inc., a 501 (c)3 serving the Washtenaw County area, where he was a volunteer coordinator.

At his new job, Ben will help native nonprofits find grants to enhance their capacity building. He will serve there from April 2011 until April 2012. After his AmeriCORP term is up, he said he hopes to become a VISTA Leader in the D.C. area.

He encourages NLA to get the most out of the student organization and program they can while in school. He believes it gave him an advantage over experienced business applicants.

"Being active in NLA gave me an advantage over someone experienced in the business sector because nonprofits operate differently."

NLASA Student(s) of the Semester: Amanda Tew & Constance Howard

This semester was difficult to choose just one outstanding NLASA member, so we choose two.

Constance Howard

Constance served in the NLASA membership, filling in for every position. She initially served as vice president of membership and recruitment, but didn't hesitate to step up when other officers graduated in December. Her leadership and efforts in planning the NLA Career Summit were exemplary.



Constance Howard (left) and Amanda Tew are NLASA students of the semester

Students who display an outstanding record of participation and leadership are recognized from each semester.

Amanda Tew

Amanda served in NLASA leadership 2010-2011. Initially she filled the Secretary position, but quickly took on other roles as needed. She served as this year's AHMI representative, where she coordinated with the NLA national office and EMU NLA students who attended.



Mary Alice

Internship Reflections: Mary Alice Truitt

Mary Alice interned with United Way of Washtenaw and shares what it was like

My internship with United Way of Washtenaw County has provided me great exposure to the complex synergy needed in nonprofit infrastructures to make them successful. It would not have had an impact on my education without the enthusiasm and support of Debbie Jackson, the Director of Community Investment at United Way of Washtenaw County.

lines, board development and committees were my focus. I presented to the Board of Directors of United Way a snapshot of my work.

It was an incredible honor to be included as a part of the Community Investment Committee's report to the Board of Directors regarding the progress of the Coordinated Funding project .

Debbie Jackson is being awarded the NLA Outstanding Internship Provider Award of the year.



Mary Alice presenting her work

My project of focus was the Coordinated Funding Project; which had been established by the Office of Community Development, the Ann Arbor Area Community Foundation and the United Way of Washtenaw County. The process focused on assessing best governance and fiscal practices. Compiling pieces of information such as operating reserve, strategic plan structures and time-

NLA Alumni: Hodan Saed



NLA Alumni and Girl Scouts of Washtenaw Membership Specialist

Hodan Saed is an NLA Advisory Board member, Membership Specialist and 2008 EMU graduate. She spoke to us about about her job and how being an active member in NLA (then AH) prepared her for it.

Describe your job as Girl Scouts of Michigan membership specialist.

Oversee the designated region for the development, extension, management and maintenance of Girl Scout membership. Manage and supervise, administrative support coordinate administrative support activities. Adult Recruitment & Education facilitated volunteers and

worked collaboratively with co-facilitators to plan and lead a thoughtful and dynamic dialogue and all necessary session preparation and follow ups.

How did NLA prepare you for your career?

It really helped me in the areas of management and helped me develop my grant writing skills.

What do you enjoy most about your job?

Working with my volunteers and meeting their needs.

Any advice to offer students?

Being active in NLA will help prepare you for managing in the nonprofit sector.

NLASA Advisory Board:

**Caryn Charter
EMU**

**Char Luttrell
Girl Scouts**

**Cathi Duchon
YMCA**

**Diane Hockett
EMU ISFC**

**Dallas Moore
NEW Center**

**Dr. Chris Wood
Foreman
EMU**

**Laura Pipis
American Red Cross**

**Patty Jacobs Warner
Sparrow Foundation**

**Kelley Kuhn
Michigan Nonprofit
Association**

**Hodan Said
Girl Scouts**

**John Fike
Philanthropy
Solutions, LLC**

NLA March 19 Career Summit



Panelist from left: Tom Goddeeris, Joan Doughty and Bob Brown

The event offered a variety of topics, including risk management, public policy advocating and community collaboration. It also included a panel luncheon with **Bob Brown**, Executive Director of the **Senior Alliance Area Agency on Aging 1C**, **Tom Goddeeris**, CEO, **Grandmont Rosedale Community Development Corporation** and **Joan Doughty**, CEO of **Community Action Network**.

The panelist suggested the hot jobs in the NP sector are in program development, project managers and executive directors. Sites to check job postings are:

www.michigan.gov
www.mnaonline.org
www.new.org

And check with the NLA office for daily updates on internship and jobs postings.



Advisory Board members John Fike (above) and Diane Hockett explaining lobbying and community collaboration



NLA Hosts German Students at EMU

Students from Kehl University (Hochschule für öffentliche Verwaltung Kehl) in Germany met with NLA students and EMU Student Government representatives in February to talk about student life in America, student activities and community engagement. At a lunch sponsored by the Political Science Department, the visitors shared thoughts on cultural differences and politics.



Sharing thoughts at lunch



Students from Kehl University with EMU and NLA students

Leaving 12 degree Michigan weather for sunny Santa Barbara, CA





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Dates to remember
in 2011



April 15

NLA & AS-L End of
the Year Celebration
11:30am—1:30pm at
the EMU Lakehouse

April 16

Commencement

May 2



Spring semester
begins

NLA Spring semester
hours

Mondays 9-12pm

Contact Info

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Campus Director

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Sammy DeMarco

NLA Graduate Assistant

nonprofit@emich.edu

NLA Student Grant Group Project

Ever wonder what it's like to be on the funder's side of a grant? Many of us have written to have grants awarded to us, but rarely do students experience what it's like to decide the awardees, but this semester students had the opportunity to do just that.

Students from EMU Professor John Fike's nonprofit fundraising classes and the NLA awarded \$500 each to 10 local nonprofit organizations in Washtenaw County to help build capacity in their fundraising and



SGG MBA student Laura Matney presenting the project to a group of German political science students

marketing programs.

The project's purpose was to involve students in an hands-on demonstration of several aspects of fundraising and nonprofit management. It was funded by a generous grant of \$5000 from the Women in Philanthropy at EMU.

We sent out the call for proposals to over 200 organizations and received 35 applications. There were



The Student Grant Group from the left: Melissa Fava, Joe Yelick, Mary Alice Truitt, Laura Matney, Mackenzie Lake, Jessica Husby, Sammy DeMarco

**not pictured Meghann Hollowell*

several steps involved in selecting the recipients of the award, but the most interesting aspect of this project was, for many students, the selection process. They spent an entire afternoon evaluating each proposal based on a rating system they had devised earlier. Students learned just how concise grant proposals must be written, as well as how vital a clear understanding of each member's duties are during the grant process.

On behalf of my project classmates, I'd like to thank Dr. Petrescu, Professor Fike and the Women in Philanthropy at EMU for the chance at this learning experience! - Sammy DeMarco

Congratulations to all 2010-2011 NLA graduates!

Allison Skinner

Ben Holland

Heather Messina

Jessica Clay

Amanda Tew

Constance Howard

Cara Carlson

Wendy Gonzalez

Mary Alice Truitt

Good Luck!

Have a great summer break! See you back in the fall!

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