

The Nonprofit Leadership Alliance

(formerly American Humanics)

The Nonprofit Scholars Program @ EMU

CONTACT

INFORMATION:

215 Rackham
Ypsilanti, MI 48197

Phone: 734-487-1612

E-mail:
humanics@emich.edu

Website:
www.american
humanics.emich.edu

General Fall

2010

Office Hours:

M & W 9 - 2
Tuesday 12 - 5
Thursday 12 - 3

Dr. Petrescu's

Advising Hours:

Mon & Thur 9 - 2

Or by appointment:

Contact
cpetrescu@emich.edu to set
up appointments

FALL 2010



Message From Dr. Claudia Petrescu, Campus Director



NONPROFIT LEADERSHIP ALLIANCE

We are already in the middle of the Fall semester, enjoying another year of exciting changes within the program.

The new name of American Humanics, the Nonprofit Leadership Alliance, is a better reflection of our mission and objectives. The name change comes with new challenges and opportunities. Our main focus has been to work on a dissemination plan which will allow us the opportunity to re-establish our connection with the EMU campus and the community.

Our students continue walking on a path filled with successes and hard work. Four students received the prestigious and very competitive Next Generation Leadership Award this year! We would like to congratulate Allison Skinner, Amanda Tew, Kristen Alonzi and Heather Messina for continuing a well established tradition of bringing this award to our campus. All of our students continue serving the community through life changing internships while completing their competencies.

The new Student Association leadership team, which began working in the Summer, is planning various seminars for the whole campus on hot issues that are relevant to the non-profit sector as well as on ideas on how to take the organization further into the future. It is exciting to see the energy that these students have and the great ideas that they generate!

We have many students coming, asking about the program and then joining. It is wonderful to see the young generation interested in learning about the nonprofit sector and thinking about nonprofit careers! I feel fortunate to work with all these students, to see them learn, change, grow, and to be part of their lives.

You can read in detail about all these successes, plans, challenges that we are undertaking in the newsletter. Enjoy the reading and have a wonderful Fall and Winter!

Sincerely,

Dr. Claudia Petrescu, PhD

NLA (formerly AH) Campus Director at EMU

American Humanics is now the Nonprofit Leadership Alliance

American Humanics is changing its name to the **Nonprofit Leadership Alliance**. The new name will more clearly link our name to our mission. Although we are changing the name, our mission will remain the same as it was at our founding in 1948.

Mission Statement

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

The name change will occur over the next 15 months and be completed in January, 2012.

The transition occurs in the following phases:

October 1, 2010 AH National Office begins the re-branding campaign using the name The Nonprofit Leadership Alliance (formerly American Humanics).

November 15, 2010 the entire alliance begins using the "Nonprofit Leadership Alliance (formerly American Humanics)" name.

January 1, 2012 the name "Nonprofit Leadership Alliance" will be used and the transition completed.



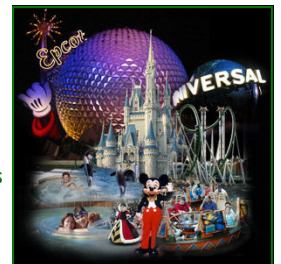
AHMI 2011: ORLANDO, FLORIDA



The Management/Leadership Institute of the **Nonprofit Leadership Alliance (formerly American Humanics)**, also known as AHMI, is an intensive national event of college students, alumni, campus directors, faculty members, nonprofit workforce partners, nonprofit professionals, nonprofit HR executives, volunteers and AmeriCorps members.

The unique, interactive format of the Institute exposes the next generation of nonprofit leaders to the realistic experiences of a nonprofit organization.

This year, Amanda Tew, our EMU AHMI student liaison, is helping organize EMU AHSA students to attend AHMI 2011. In the past, AHMI has been a wonderful experience for our AHSA students. We look forward to hearing more from the returning AHMI students on



Friday, January 14, 2011 at 11:00am Mandatory Student Meeting with Dr. Petrescu for all AHMI attendees.

A Message from AHSA President David Kanaan



**AHSA President
David Kanaan**

It is a welcome challenge to be an officer with the Nonprofit Leadership Alliance (formerly American Humanics) Student Association. It is an honor to be working with such a fine group of colleagues and mentors. I graduated with a Bachelors Degree (Arts Management) from EMU in 1998 and enjoyed a decade in the private sector before returning to Graduate School (Public Administration). My professional experience as an executive, agent, and project manager has been useful in my present capacity as President.

I am a firm believer that passion and diligence are necessary ingredients for greatness. Our focus this semester has been to engage organization members and the University community at large with thought provoking, relevant seminar topics. Our new slogan, "Do you want to change the world?" and topics such as "Detroit: Past and Present" and "Citizens United: The death of representative government?" all conform to that belief system.

Our members are the next wave of executives in the regional nonprofit community. We realize that positive change can only be achieved when approached in a multi-dimensional manner. "Band Aid" solutions and bloated bureaucracy are the foundation of antiquated nonprofit management thinking - that time has passed. If we can help ourselves and others like us to be passionate and informed about the issues surrounding us, that elusive goal of greatness may one day manifest. Our organization is poised to promote an essential and fun experience to our future community leaders. I look forward to the continued momentum of our new refined focus.

-David Kanaan-

“Detroit: Past and Present” NLASA Seminar

This semester, the NLASA is hosting a series of free seminars designed to help members receive the competencies needed to earn their certificates. The first seminar was given by NLASA Advisory Board member and EMU adjunct professor John Fike.

The subject of his seminar “*What caused Detroit to become the symbol of urban decay and how can nonprofits help?*” presented a compelling argument as to why Detroit went from an industrial powerhouse to a city riddled with blight, poverty and crime.

The seminar included an analysis of historical factors that have plagued Detroit, as well as the current challenges the city faces. Fike talked about the “Roots of Detroit’s Problems,” racism and discrimination, and about the city’s industrial problems of the 1940s and 50s.

He went on to encourage students to volunteer as part of the solution.

Fike’s seminar, along with upcoming seminars, are thought of as not only a way to earn competencies credit, but also function as a catalyst to encourage participation in the community.

David Kanaan, president of the NLASA, said, “As with all our AH events, we are hoping that through knowledge and participation there will arise a passion in the student body to affect real world change.

“By attending and participating in this seminar, NLA and community members will learn to use the past in broadening their perspective and effectiveness as future nonprofit sector leaders.”

Next Seminars

Nov. 11 “Citizens United: Supreme Court Case—what effect will it have on democracy and nonprofits?” 5:30—7:30p.m. at the Student Center 310b

Dec. 12 “AHSAs End of Semester Celebration”

Please contact the NLA (AH) office to find out more at humanics@emich.edu.



Advisory Board member John Fike and audience during the Detroit: Past & Present Seminar



Mentorship Program and New NLASA Competencies

The mission of the Eastern Michigan University - Nonprofit Leadership Alliance (AH) program is to educate, prepare and certify university students to become professionals that will strengthen and lead nonprofit organizations in the future. A part of that mission is the Mentoring Program. The Mentoring Program’s goal is to further empower, educate and prepare EMU – NLA students to strengthen and effectively lead NPO’s through a sustainable experiential learning environment.

What is Mentoring?

Mentoring is simply a pairing of an established NPO Leader with a student in the EMU-NLA program. The pair decides how often they meet, how they meet, and what goals the student (or mentee) would like to accomplish through the mentoring relationship. The NPO Leader (or mentor) will make sure that the student receives guidance and suggestions for how they can work toward their goals.

Students (mentees) select which competencies they wish to develop and work with their mentors to achieve their goals.

If you wish to learn more about the Mentorship Program visit our website, www.americanhumanics.emich.edu or email us humanics@emich.edu

The revised competencies are:

Professional Competencies

- Board/Committee Development.
- Community Outreach/Marketing and Public Relations
- Diversity Awareness
- Ethics and Values
- Fundraising Principles & Practices
- Historical & Philosophical Foundations
- Information Management & Technology
- Nonprofit Accounting & Financial Management
- Nonprofit Management
- Program Planning, Implementation and Evaluation
- Risk Management and Legal Issues
- Volunteer Management.
- Youth and Adult Development.

Foundational Competencies

- Career Development and Exploration.
- Communications Skills
- Employability Skills
- Personal Attributes

Kristen Alonzi:

NLA INTERNSHIP REFLECTIONS



Kristen helping out

Internship Reflections By Kristen Alonzi

I am currently in my senior year majoring in Special Education, focus Cognitive Impairment, with a minor in Health Education and earning a certificate in Nonprofit Administration. I plan to finish up my last two classes and complete my NLA internship next semester and spend all next year student-teaching. I'm married to a great guy and living in Pittsfield Township. I serve at Special Ministries of Livingston County teaching a cooking class for

adults with disabilities, planning annual events, and working creatively when needed. Life is good, let me tell you! Busy, but beautiful.

I spent some time this past summer in Chichicastenango, Guatemala with a group of 14 adults from 2|42 Community Church in Ann Arbor/Brighton. The experience was phenomenal, so much in fact my husband and I are considering a 3-month trip this summer doing the same work with MANOS DE JESUS, a program with Pray America, a 501 C3 nonprofit.

We were able to build five houses for widows and their children



Waiting at the food program



"Building homes for children is one most rewarding experiences of my life."



Kristen gathers with a family



Building houses

in the time we were there. In addition to the house, each widow was given a large tub of food and supplies. Being able to give such a meaningful gift to a family is one of the most rewarding experiences of my life.

Each day we spent our evening at a local feeding program for children to hear the gospel and receive a full, nutritious meal. Culturally, I learned a lot and felt refreshed by the lack of constant stimuli and the abundance of simplicity. Relationally I developed some great relationships and enjoyed using my conversational Spanish. Spiritually, I grew closer to God. Physically, well, I used my muscles! Emotionally, I was strained trying make sense of the injustice and determine what ways I could maintain a global impact with my life.

For that reason, desiring to make a global impact, I am SO EXCITED to be in the Nonprofit Leadership Alliance program; learning how to facilitate programs and organizations that do exactly what I dream of!

NextGen Leadership Awards!

The **NLA (AH) Next Generation Nonprofit Leaders Program (NextGen)** is a competitive internship scholarship/stipend program for Nonprofit Leadership Alliance students. NextGen is designed to help a diverse group of students with demonstrated leadership potential complete their NLA certification requirements, specifically the minimum 300-hour nonprofit internship. NextGen Leaders earn a scholarship of \$4,500 from NLA during their internship, along with access to and support from a network of nonprofit leaders who will serve as Career Coaches.

Congratulations to our EMU NextGen Award Recipients

Spring 2010 - Amanda Tew and Heather Messina

Fall 2010 - Allison Skinner and Kristen Alonzi

For more info on NextGen Awards, visit the website, www.humanics.org or

- Go to www.facebook.com
- Search for "American Humanics NextGen Leaders"
- Click "Request to Join Group." Once approved, you will be able to post messages and discussion items.

Deadlines for upcoming NextGen Awards:

February 18, 2011 for internships starting during the Summer of Fall 2011 semesters

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

***June 2011** is the last date for all NextGen Awards!

Nonprofit Leadership Alliance Student of the Semester: Nick Russell



My name is Nick Russell and I serve as a board member and as Project GO-Kart's manager. I am one of the original founders and will be with Gamers Outreach Foundation (GOF) for many more years. Working with GOF has exposed me in many ways and allows me to serve my community through one of my favorite pastimes, video games.

In 2007, high school student, Zach Wigal wanted to unite all types of students in his school by holding a *Halo 2* tournament.



Zach Wigal, founder of GOF

At the time, *Halo 2* was one of the most played video games. After planning for several months and receiving clearance from his school's superintendent, Zach managed to sign up 300 competitors.

However, a police officer with the *Parents Television Council* called the superintendent and exclaimed that the game was "corrupting the minds of America's youth." The

superintendent had no choice but to cancel the tournament.

Although discouraged, Zach bounced back and decided that the "corrupted youth" could indeed unite for good causes and inspired him to create a nonprofit.

GOF was founded in March of 2007. Since its creation GOF has held several successful tournaments receiving up to 1,000 people per event and has signed sponsors such as Red Bull, Best Buy and Astro Gaming, to name a few.

GOF has three primary initiatives: *Project GO-Kart*, *Fun for our Troops* and *Gaming 4 Others*.



GO-Kart allows bed-ridden children to play games

What is a GO-Kart?

A GO-Kart (Gamers Outreach Kart) is a kart equipped with a monitor/ TV, headphones and a video game system (Xbox 360, Playstation 3 or Nintendo Wii) which can be wheeled into rooms of bed-ridden children. The project's focus is bringing these karts into children's hospitals.



Up-close look

Fun for our Troops was formed by Stephanie Shea, whose husband was a soldier and always requested video games, sparking her to start an NPO that focused on sending video games to troops, which has since merged with GOF. The *Fun for Our Troops* initiative has obtained several game donations from companies, volunteers and supporters over the years, enabling us to provide entertainment to our troops.

Gaming 4 Others hosts online tournaments for a variety of causes and charitable events. Online tour-



A group plays on GO-Kart

naments allow those not living in Michigan to participate in our tournaments. It also allows those who cannot leave their house for whatever reason, to contribute from the comfort of their own home.

AH Advisory Board:

Caryn Charter
EMU

Char Luttrell
Girl Scouts

Cathi Duchon
YMCA

Diane Hockett
Independent Consultant

Dallas Moore
NEW Center

Dr. Chris Wood Foreman
EMU

Laura Papis
American Red Cross

Patty Jacobs Warner
Sparrow Foundation

Kelley Kuhn
Michigan Nonprofit Association

Hodan Said
Girl Scouts

John Fike
Philanthropy Solutions, LLC

Learn How to Create and Implement a Re-branding and Communications Plan

The Nonprofit Leadership Alliance (formerly AH) is in the midst of a creating a re-branding plan. We are strategizing on how to get the word out about our name change, as well as developing ways to implement the plan. In addition to learning valuable skills such as marketing, planning and message development, your efforts can earn you competency credits. If you wish to participate on the AHSA re-branding committee, please contact us or one of the board officers.



NONPROFIT LEADERSHIP ALLIANCE



NLASA (AH) Board Officers

David Kanaan
President
dkanaan@emich.edu

Allison Skinner
VP of Communication
allisonskinner@gmail.com

Constance Howard
VP of Membership &
Recruitment
csr.howard@gmail.com

Amanda Tew
Secretary
atew@emich.edu

Dr. Claudia Petrescu
Campus Director
cpetrescu@emich.edu

UPCOMING NLASA DATES TO REMEMBER

Fall 2010

NLASA End of Semester Celebration **Dec 12 @ Tower Inn**

Winter 2011

AHMI **1/3/11-1/6/11**

Winter Classes Begin! **1/5/11**

AHMI Mandatory Meeting **1/14/11 @ 11am**

ADVISORY BOARD MTG **1/19/11 @ 10am**

NEXTGEN DEADLINE **2/18/11**

ADVISORY BOARD MTG **3/9/11 @ 10am**

NLA/ASL End of Year Celebration **4/8/11 @ 11am**

Last Day of Finals! **4/19/11**

Commencement **4/16/11**



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Please contact us at humanics@emich.edu or 734.487.1612, or visit our website at www.americanhumanics.emich.edu