

National organization taps AU as 'Lead Institution'

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Alfred University (AU) has been chosen as a National Association of Student Personnel Administrators (NASPA) Lead Institution as part of the organization's 2012-13 Lead Initiative.

The Lead Initiative recognizes institutions of higher learning and student affairs professionals who are making contributions to democratic engagement and civic learning.

“NASPA has long been committed to ensuring that a college education includes developing students as leaders and as citizens through a commitment to civic engagement,” says Kevin Kruger, president of NASPA. “In a time of concern and worry about our civic society, it is critical that college administrators are doing all that they can to present students with opportunities to help them develop as productive and engaged citizens.”

Alfred University's commitment to engagement and civic learning is apparent through its various leadership and service-learning resources, said NASPA officials. For example, the Beth Robinson Judson Leadership Center holds the Gary Horowitz Leadership Development Program, the Women's Leadership Academy, and the Saxon Sidekicks program, which connects first-year students with sophomore, junior, and senior student mentors.

In addition, the Career Development Center hosts the Gary Horowitz Service Learning Program, which serves to promote social responsibility and foster community engagement among students. AU also has several service-based courses available including Concepts of Service Learning and Drawn to Diversity.

NASPA, founded in 1919, includes more than 13,000 members in all 50 states, 29 countries, and eight United States Territories. As the leading association for the advancement and sustainability of the student affairs profession, NASPA adheres to the guiding principles of integrity, innovation, inclusion, and inquiry to recognize the potential in all of its members.