November: a month full of papers, presentations, research, and thanksgiving. November is a month in which undergrad students, graduate students, professors, and staff members alike become more busy and overwhelmed. It is also a time in the year when burnout and exhaustion settle in just when you need the motivation and energy you had on the first day of classes.

Now is the time to reflect on what motivates you. What keeps you coming back every day? What is your passion? Why do you like the work you do? By reflecting on these questions hopefully you can be reminded of your passion and enthusiasm to sustain you through the end of the year!

Sometimes, you need to step outside, get some air, and remind yourself of who you are and who you want to be.
May of 2013 I participated in a learning trip to San Diego, California with Awareness through Performance students and advisors. I joined my fellow ATPers to learn about immigration and issues affecting the United States and Mexico border. I entered the trip hoping to explore the paradigm of “solidarity, not charity” and hoping to find room for empathy and understanding every step of the way. As an aspiring Student Affairs professional, I was especially interested in learning about issues that may affect undocumented students and their access to higher education.

Our itinerary included: a tour with the United States Border Patrol along the fourteen most secure miles of the border, attending a naturalization ceremony, spending a day at the University of California – San Diego to learn about their services for undocumented students, volunteering with Water Station, day laborer outreach with Border Angels, and learning about community development and planning with Casa Familiar in San Ysidro. While at UC-San Diego, we had the opportunity to visit with students who are referred to as “AB 540” students, otherwise known as DREAMers. The students shared some of the opportunities they have found at UC-San Diego, along with the barriers. While the Cal Dream Act has increased opportunities, the students still face significant challenges, among them, the fear of detainment or deportation. Checkpoints line the highways between Los Angeles and San Diego. Because some students and families fear being stopped at the checkpoints without documents, it limits their options of travelling north to visiting their hometowns and having their families visit UC-San Diego. In understanding this barrier, it provides a new perspective on events such as “Family & Parents Weekend” – this is not a safe or viable option for all families. It also means that during holiday breaks when residence halls are closed, UC-San Diego must work to assist students in finding alternative housing if they cannot go home. During our visit, one student stated: “My parent leaves for work; I don’t know if they’ll come back. I leave for school; I don’t know if I’ll come back.” Being a UC-San Diego student does not necessarily negate the fear of living without documentation.

Spending the day at UC-San Diego was an amazing opportunity to broaden my understanding of the issues some students face regarding access and persistence in higher education, to learn more about my own privilege as a United States citizen and graduate student, and to identify opportunities to better serve DREAMers. If you are interested in learning more about the Cal Dream Act, I encourage you to check out the following resources:

10 Things You Need to Know about the California Dream Act

California Dream Act of 2011 – Myths and Facts
I am proud to announce our two Graduate Student Senators Whitney Hedge and Libby Thorson.

There are several WI legislator bills in the works that could greatly affect UW-L students that we work with. Representative Jill Billings came in to talk about these bills. Below is a quick write up of two bills:

**Brown Jug Bill:** if found using fake ID or illegally entering a tavern, subject to civil lawsuit up to $1,000 plus WI tickets & fines

**Landlord rights:** giving more rights to landlords such as ability to evict tenants via mail, putting more liability on tenants to fix house/apartment, if a criminal offense occurs in the house/apartment all tenants are subject to eviction

Whitney is working on a resolution to have the board of director’s petition against the new landlord bill.

Other than that, each week different speakers come in to talk about issues on campus. Currently, the only voting items we’ve voted on include approving of the new senators, passing the Cartwright no candle policy, & approving that UW-L implement the STARS program that assesses our campus sustainability efforts. Most recently we are working on rebranding Student Senate.

There are still seats open, if you know any student you interact with or advise please let me know of this leadership opportunity!

Please don't hesitate to contact us with any concerns that you want us to look into. We are here to represent YOU the graduate students.

Whitney Hedge:
Hedge.whit@uwlax.edu

Libby Thorson:
Thorson.eliz@uwlax.edu

Shout Outs

*Alyssa* for great work, informative presentations and increased numbers at the International Job Club each week!

*SAA Faculty* for the job resource document!

*Angela* for taking Alden trick or treating while Kayla was recovering from surgery!

*Kati Van Wyk* for being an excellent presentation partner for student development!

*Libby Thorson* for being the best roommate & friend!

*River Falls Cohort* for the hard work you put to your assistantships and classes!

*SAA Buddies* for providing guidance insight and support to the 1st years!

*LIC* for a wonderful job at the Eagle Roundtable!

News from Our Graduate Student Senators
Event Insight!

Please read the following descriptions about upcoming events from both the SAA ORG and community events!

ETTIQUETTE DINNER *(Hosted by Career Services)*
Join Career Services and Janie Spencer, Certified Etiquette Consultant and Executive Director of the UW-L Alumni Association. This hands-on presentation will help you prepare to make a fantastic impression. The delicious food is a plus!

- **When:** November 12 at 5:30 P.M.
- **Location:** Cleary Alumni & Friends Center
- **Contact:** Rebecca Lee (rlee@uwlax.edu)

TRANS* INCLUSION PRESENTATION AND Q&A WITH AGNES SCOTT COLLEGE *(Planned by Carrie Bero)*
Agnes Scott College is a historical women's college that is working towards becoming more inclusive to students who identify as transgender. Join us for a skype conversation with Dr. Kijua Sanders-McMurtry, the Associate Dean of Students & Special Assistant to the President on Diversity.

- **When:** November 15 from 4:30-5:30 P.M.
- **Location:** Wing 102
- **Contact:** Carrie Bero (cbero@uwlax.edu)

SUMMER OPPORTUNITY PANEL
Join the SAA ORG in our Summer Opportunity Panel. Learn from students in the 2nd year Cohort about all the opportunities you have for the summer, including ACUHO-I, NACA, NODA, UW-L Opportunities, other campus opportunities, and more! For a fun treat, we also might be skyping in the UW–River Falls cohort!

- **When:** November 22 at 12pm
- **Location:** SoE Learning Studio, 273 Murphy Library
- **Contact:** Noelle Ponasik (ponasik.noel@uwlax.edu)

BOWLING NIGHT
Come join SAA members for $1 Bowling, Nachos, and Slushies at Pla Mor Lanes!!

- **When:** November 25 at 8PM
- **Location:** Pla Mor Lanes, 807 S. 4th St.
- **Contact:** Alyssa Gostonczik (gostoncz.alys@uwlax.edu)

Please join us on MyOrgs!

Do you use twitter? Use #SAAOrg to engage in discussion and stay up to date on events.