

UNIVERSITY of HAWAII®
MAUI COLLEGE

MEMO

Date: December 20, 2016
To: Joyce Yamada, Professional Development Committee Member
From: Francine Ching, Student Life Coordinator
RE: NASPA Experience

Aloha Members of the Professional Development Committee,

I would first like to start off with a big mahalo to all of you for providing me with the opportunity to attend the NASPA 2016 Conference in Seattle, WA. Once again I was fascinated with the efforts that were made by the NASPA organization in putting on such a well coordinated conference. Over the course of 4 days, I was able to immerse myself amongst 1000 Student Affairs professionals and graduate students who are passionate about higher education. The distinguished speakers set the tone each day by sharing their experiences and expressed how each and every one of us can make a difference in a student's life. The energy throughout the conference was one of high spirits with constant conversations and the exchanging of business cards. With over 16 sessions offered each hour, it made the selection process difficult as I found the topics very interesting and applicable to my position in Student Life.

The workshop that was most relevant with what I am focusing on for the next academic year in Student Life was the presentation by a team from Portland State University called Flipping the Script: A Developmental Approach to Online and In-Person Student Leader Training. Leadership training specifically with our student leaders needs to be top priority focusing on topics such as: learning and reasoning, self-awareness and development, interpersonal interaction, group dynamics, civic responsibility, communication, strategic planning, and personal behavior. With past practices and leaderships in place, leadership training was never enforced therefore resulting in setbacks and the inability to carry out the duties set forth in the mission of the councils. I am planning to establish a comprehensive training program utilizing what I learned from the workshop and the guidance from other faculty and staff, combined with student learning outcomes and assessment tools. It is time that we take our Student Government Council, Student Activities Council, and Campus Clubs to another level! Once again, mahalo for this wonderful learning opportunity.

Mahalo,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Francine Ching".

Francine Ching
Student Life Coordinator