



2011 ACUHO-I AWARD WINNERS

HONORING THOSE WHO MAKE THE CAMPUS HOUSING PROFESSION SPECIAL



THE ACUHO-I AWARD

JAMES M. CHITWOOD

Dr. James M. Chitwood began his residence hall experience as a resident assistant at the University of Wisconsin-Platteville. As a graduate student, he served as a hall director at the University of Northern Colorado. In July, 1975 Jim was hired as the first associate director of housing at UW Whitewater. While at Whitewater, he was active in UMR-ACUHO and served as its president from 1980-81. In March 1981 Jim began his 28 years of employment at the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh, serving as the director of residence life, and later as dean of students. Jim was actively engaged in the evolution of the Oshkosh Placement Exchange. In ACUHO-I Jim served on numerous committees and has presented dozens of conference programs and workshops. Jim has served as a faculty member for both STARS College and NHTI. Jim is a member of the Parthenon Society of ACUHO-I. In retirement, Jim stays involved in campus activities, township government, Oshkosh Southwest Rotary Club, local political campaigns, United Way, golf, gardening, grandchildren, and the consulting company, owned by his wife Kay, Chitwood e-Learning Design and Development.

The ACUHO-I Award constitutes the highest recognition by the association of a person (member) who has made an outstanding contribution to ACUHO-I and the field of housing and food service. Presented only after a person has retired or left the housing and food service field, the award is intended to truly recognize distinguished service.



BETTY L. HARRAH JOURNAL MANUSCRIPT OF THE YEAR

VANESSA D. JOHNSON, ED.D.

Dr. Vanessa D. Johnson is associate professor and director of the College Student Development and Counseling Program at Northeastern University. She has created two instruments that address cultural understanding and racial climates in residence halls. The first, the Perception of Racial Climate in Residence Halls (PRCQ) measures residents' perceptions of hall staff, peers, government and overall climate. The second instrument, measures resident assistants' perceptions of their ability to handle racial issues in residence halls.



GEORGE F. THOMPSON, PH.D.

George F. Thompson is the assistant dean of the McCallum Graduate School at Bentley University in Waltham, Massachusetts. Dr. Thompson has completed research in the area of college adjustment and retention with historically under-represented populations. His next research project includes an examination of self-authorship outcomes with college students planning graduate study.

YOUNG SHIN KANG was also a recipient for this award but was not available for contact.

Winning manuscript: "Structural Analysis of the Residential Assistant Cultural Diversity Questionnaire" in Volume 37, Number 2

ACUHO-I/EBI ASSESSMENT AWARD

EMORY UNIVERSITY

Emory's application addressed improvements that were made to the Second Year at Emory (SYE) living-learning community. The results of the ACUHO-I/EBI assessment in 2008 indicated that second year students not living in the SYE residential halls were very dissatisfied and reported a lesser learning experience that those second year students that were living in the SYE residential halls. As a result, the University decided that more efforts needed to occur to improve the overall second-year residential experience, and the SYE program expanded to include all second-year students living on campus. In addition, Emory used the EBI assessments to measure the success of this initiative - a true continuous improvement model in effect. Emory used institutional specific questions to address specific concerns that were raised, and overall program effectiveness has steadily increased since this project began. Emory University has used ACUHO-I/EBI assessment to improve the quality of the student resident experience and the results of the assessment continue to guide the future of the SYE program at Emory.



We recognize Emory University's commitment to continuous improvement and applaud their use of the ACUHO-I/EBI assessment as an opportunity for professional development, collaboration, and information sharing with campus stakeholders at their University.

GLOBAL INITIATIVES AWARD

GLEN W. WEPLER

Glen Wepler is currently the director of student community life at Toronto's Ryerson University. Wepler oversees student housing services, the Tri-Mentoring Program, international student services and student life programs. His involvement in student housing began in 1995 and has included stops at the University of Western Ontario, University of Guelph, McMaster University, and Georgian College. At Georgian he created a student housing department as the school opened its first residence in 2002. Wepler served on the OACUHO board for four years including a term as president in 2005. He also served as the Canadian District Representative on the ACUHO-I Executive Board from 2006-2008. He worked with EBI to "Canadianize" the resident assessment questionnaire and helped the association "stick-handle" its way to the new governance structure (as only someone from a hockey loving nation could). At home, the Wepler's welcomed their first daughter into the world in January.



The Global Initiatives Award honors the contributions of dedicated housing professionals who have contributed to furthering strategic initiatives of ACUHO-I and its aims of becoming a pre-eminent international association.



THE HERSTORY AWARD

ANDREA J. TRINKLEIN

This award honors the past Women Presidents of ACUHO-I and is presented to recognize an outstanding woman professional who has served the housing profession through courage, leadership, forging new paths as pioneers, honor, and commitment. This award is meant to recognize our past, celebrate our future, and encourage more women to lead our Association.

Andrea is Emory University's executive director of residence life and housing. She has over 28 years of professional housing experience, including positions at Georgia State University, Western Illinois University, UNC-Charlotte, and Nebraska Wesleyan University. Her education includes a Ph.D. in Administration, Curriculum, and Instruction with a Higher Education Emphasis from the University of Nebraska, a master's degree from Wichita State University, and a BA from Stephens College. She became a LEED Accredited Professional in 2009. Andrea has presented over 75 workshops regionally, nationally, and internationally. Her ACUHO-I involvement includes serving on the Media Board, Program, Internship, and Host Committees, and the 2006 Conference Host Chair. At Emory, she played an integral role in the program design and construction of five residence halls since 2007. Three of those halls are LEED Gold and one is LEED Silver. Andrea has taught as associate graduate faculty and as an adjunct faculty member. She is currently a senior faculty member for DeVry University's Keller Graduate School of Management.



JAMES A. HURD AWARD

RICHARD L. GIBSON

The James A. Hurd Award is presented annually by ACUHO-I to a member of color to honor and recognize outstanding contributions to our association and profession.

Rick Gibson is a student affairs professional with over 25 years of experience in housing and residence life. Presently, he is the director of residential programs and services with the department of university housing at the University of Georgia. In this role, Rick works with the team responsible for residence life, staff development, student conduct, academic initiatives, the residence hall association, and the night security program. Additionally, he serves on various department, division and university committees and task forces. Prior to working at UGA, Rick served in various undergraduate, graduate, and full-time positions at Indiana State University, Ball State University, and The University of Memphis. At every institution he was actively involved in and supported organizations such as GLACUHO, TACUHO, GHO, SEAHO, and ACUHO-I. He is committed to supporting and representing underrepresented student populations. While currently working full-time, Rick is also a doctoral candidate at UGA. He hopes to complete the Ph.D. program in the near future.

JAMES C. GRIMM LEADERSHIP AND SERVICE AWARD

CONNIE L. CARSON

Connie Carson is the vice president for student life at Furman University in Greenville, South Carolina. Prior to coming to Furman, Connie served as the assistant vice president for campus services and planning at Wake Forest University after being the chief housing officer there for many years. Connie has served as ACUHO-I President and Foundation Chair and remains active in the association. She received her Master of Business Administration from Wake Forest and two undergraduate and a masters degree in counseling from North Carolina State University.



This award recognizes individual(s) who have assisted ACUHO-I with dedicated service and outstanding leadership, and devoted their professional time and effort to strengthening the goals and objectives of the Association.

JUDY SPAIN AWARD

SEAN J. PIERCE

Sean Pierce began his career at Frostburg State University as a resident assistant and graduate resident director. Since then, he has worked at the University of Houston and at SUNY Cortland. In July 2000, Sean began working at Florida Atlantic University's Boca Raton campus and in July 2004, he moved to the Jupiter Campus. He has been highly involved in NACURH, serving as the State Adviser for Florida prior to serving as the SAACURH Regional Adviser from 2006-2010. Sean was also named Hallenbeck Distinguished Service Award winner for the region of SAACURH in 2010. In his home region of SEAHO, Sean served as a member of the Conference Programming Committee and authored articles for the SEAHO Report. Additionally, Sean has served as a member of the *Talking Stick* Writers Committee for several years and has been very involved in ACUHO-I, the GLBT Network, attended numerous conferences, and served on the EBI Task Force. On his home campus, Pierce serves as a mentor to GLTBQ students, promoted Safe Zone training to his colleagues, and served as the adviser to the FAU Jupiter Campus "Day of Silence" project, through GLSEN, for the past five years.



This award was created to honor the contributions of a dedicated housing professional that mentored many staff and students throughout her involvement with NACURH and ACUHO-I. Also, Judy Spain's unique personal journey is a source of pride for all Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender (GLBT) individuals and their allies. The nominees should have contributed to the GLBT community through activities and interventions that promote positive growth, development, and education of GLBT individuals and their allies.



OUTSTANDING CORPORATE FRIEND AWARD

JOSEPH A. PICA

Joseph Pica is the CEO and founder of EBI, an organization that provides nationally-benchmarked assessments and student retention services to over 1,500 colleges and universities. EBI was founded in 1994 with a mission to help students make the most of their college experience through the creation of assessment and retention solutions rooted in theory, research, professional standards, and the principles of continuous improvement. In 1986, Dr. Pica became the first director of the MBA Program at the Indiana University Kelley School of Business and in 1991 assumed a newly created assistant dean position. In 2006, Dr. Pica was presented the ACUHO-I Distinguished Service to the Housing Profession Award, and in 2008 became the inaugural recipient of the Lawrence J. Miltenberger Excellence in Housing and Dining Award. He received his Ed.D. in higher education administration from Indiana University, a Master of Education in counselor education/student personnel services and a B.S. in community development from Pennsylvania State University.

This award recognizes corporate individuals who contribute to our association and our profession. Many companies have a sincere interest in ACUHO-I beyond a profit motive, helping sponsor events, contribute to the Foundation, becoming sustaining affiliate members, and offering valuable insights and feedback on the direction of ACUHO-I and its activities.



RESEARCH AND PUBLICATION AWARD

MAUREEN E. WILSON

Maureen Wilson is associate professor and chair of the Department of Higher Education and Student Affairs at Bowling Green State University in Ohio. Dr. Wilson received her B.S.B.A. from Aquinas College (MI), M.A. from Michigan State University, and Ph.D. from The Ohio State University. She was a residence life professional at the College of William and Mary (VA) and University of South Carolina-Columbia and worked as an academic advisor and departmental GA at OSU. She was an assistant professor at Mississippi State University for three years prior to joining the faculty at BGSU in 2001. She became department chair at BGSU in 2010.

This award recognizes an individual who is or is not directly related to ACUHO-I, but who has made a significant contribution to the body of research and publications related to the housing profession. Nominations may be submitted by a housing professional from a currently active ACUHO-I member institution.

ELIZABETH M. COX

Cox is this year's winner for her article "An Open House", found in the March+April issue 2011.

Elizabeth currently serves as a community director for the University of Alabama. She came to Tuscaloosa from Washington, DC, where she worked as an area coordinator for The Catholic University of America. Elizabeth began her career in housing as an area director at her alma mater, Emory University, in Atlanta. She earned her bachelors and master's degrees from Emory where she focused on the study of religion and theology. Elizabeth also worked as an undergraduate admission counselor at Emory. She has enjoyed being an active member of both ACUHO-I and SEAHO through conference presentations and writing for various publications. She has had articles published in the *SEAHO Report*, *Reslife.net*, and now the *Talking Stick*. She also works as a contributing writing for *Crimson Nation Illustrated*, a sports magazine that covers the University of Alabama sports.

Winning article: "An Open House", found in the March+April issue 2011.



The *Talking Stick* Article of the Year award is granted based on the quality of writing; organization of the article; use of supporting documentation, where appropriate; capacity of the article to provoke thought; usability of the article to student housing programs or staff, and contribution to the student housing field.

S. EARL THOMPSON AWARD

PAUL J. WUENNENBERG, AIA, ASAI, LEED AP

Paul Wuennenberg is recognized nationwide as a leader in the design of residential life facilities. A principal at Mackey Mitchell Architects, he is a frequent presenter at ACUHO-I conferences, and is consistently lauded for his significant contributions to improving student life. Paul participated in ACUHO-I's "21st Century Project." His team's concepts garnered the "People's Choice Award" for two consecutive years, and he received a "Compelling Community Award" for the documentary short "New Urbanism Meets Student Development." Paul's participation in the "21st Century Project," allowed him to dream large about the residence hall of the future. Several energy efficient and sustainable features have been implemented in the design of his current projects, including the anticipated LEED-platinum building at the University of Colorado-Boulder. He is the lead designer on the Indiana University project in Bloomington which was selected for implementation of the "21st Century Project" design concepts. He has self-published books on collegiate gothic architecture and student housing.



This award recognizes an individual who is not directly related to ACUHO-I, but who has made a significant contribution to the college and university housing field through his or her efforts.

