

November 2014

It’s time for some important and exciting updates related to our official integration with the NASPA [Socioeconomic and Class Issues in Higher Education](http://www.naspa.org/constituent-groups/kcs/socioeconomic-and-class-issues-in-higher-education) (SCIHE) Knowledge Community. Take a look at the recent posting on the SCIHE website:

[**Announcement of NASPA S&CIHE Knowledge Community Sub-Community on Students Who Experienced Foster Care or Homelessness**](http://www.naspa.org/constituent-groups/posts/scihe-kc-announces-new-sub-community)

As co-chairs of the Sub-Community we have been participating in the monthly SCIHE Advisory Team’s planning calls. They have welcomed us into the KC and have advanced plans for the KC’s website to include a prominent ‘Signature Initiative’ tab for access to information on students who experience foster care and homelessness. We will look to all of you to help populate this page with resource, news articles and research on supporting students who experience foster care and homelessness.

In addition to carving out our web presence, we have also begun discussion on creating our physical presence known at the [2015 National NASPA Conference in New Orleans (March 21-25)](http://conference2015.naspa.org/). We will have our inaugural sub-community event on Monday the 23d from 2:30-4:30. We have tossed around ideas…some combination of celebration, showcase of promising practices and support programs from around the country, displays of resources and *fun* – of course, but need your help in planning and organizing the activities! It will be wonderful to see everyone again and invite others into our work to improve higher education outcomes for students coming from foster care and those experiencing homelessness.

**So, What’s Next?**

We have reviewed the [SCIHE Leadership Roster](http://www.naspa.org/constituent-groups/kcs/socioeconomic-and-class-issues-in-higher-education/roster) to understand the KC organizational structure. We need to develop our sub-community committees and leadership roster positions to compliment that of SCIHE. To that end, we suggest a modest approach for 2015 that might include these seven areas:

* Co-Chairs – **John and Maddy**
* Vice Chair(s)/Chair(s) Elect
* Communications coordinator(s) (newsletters, blogs, email blasts, etc.)
* Website coordinator(s) (in coordination with Jessa Carpenter, SCIHE’s webmaster)
* Recruitment/membership coordinator(s)
* 2015 National Conference gathering coordinator(s)
* Events and Calendar coordinator(s)

Please don’t hesitate to identify other areas where leadership may be needed to accomplish priority work in 2015 (and beyond!). Coordinators for each of these areas (and others we decide to add) will form our sub-community’s Advisory Team.

**Action steps NOW!**

Reply to this email with:

* What [NASPA Region (I, II, III, IV-E, IV-W, V & VI)](http://www.naspa.org/constituent-groups/regions) you belong to. **We need to work to have members from each of the seven Regions!**
* Areas you are interested in providing some leadership or time to help make our first year strong
* B[ecome a member of the SCIHE Knowledge Community](http://www.naspa.org/constituent-groups/kcs/socioeconomic-and-class-issues-in-higher-education) thereby joining a sub-community

We are delighted to be officially recognized by NASPA and embedded in the SCIHE KC. It is a good fit and will help advance our advocacy work in many practice and policy areas.

Welcome aboard!

John and Maddy

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