

Teaching in Higher Education Conference Award

Post-Conference Summary

NASPA Strategies Conference, January 2024

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Conference Overview:

I recently had the opportunity to attend the NASPA Strategies Conference, where I, along with my team, presented a session titled "You've Got a Friend in Me: Successful Collaboration Between Fraternity & Sorority Life (FSL) and Violence Prevention." The conference, held on January 18th, 2024, provided a platform to discuss practical strategies and theoretical frameworks for fostering collaborative partnerships in addressing violence prevention initiatives in higher education.

Presentation Summary:

Our session at the NASPA Strategies Conference provided a comprehensive exploration of successful collaboration between Fraternity & Sorority Life (FSL) and Violence Prevention, offering insights and strategies that transcend the University of Iowa campus. We began by setting the theoretical groundwork, drawing upon established models and frameworks for building effective partnerships in higher education institutions. Through a historical lens, we examined the evolution of both offices, emphasizing the unique approach of Violence Prevention at Iowa and the shifting dynamics within the FSL community. This contextual understanding laid the foundation for our discussion on partnership building, where we emphasized the importance of authenticity, trust, and communication in fostering collaborative relationships.

Moving beyond theory, we delved into practical strategies for initiating and sustaining partnerships, emphasizing the significance of identifying common goals, understanding diverse perspectives, and prioritizing Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion considerations. Through interactive activities and real-world examples, we engaged participants in discussions on navigating differences, building trust, and establishing meaningful connections with campus

stakeholders. Furthermore, we shared insights from our Tiered Education curriculum, illustrating the tangible impact of our collaborative efforts on student learning outcomes. By highlighting completion rates, participant feedback, and data analysis, we provided concrete evidence of the effectiveness of our partnership in addressing violence prevention challenges on campus.

In conclusion, our presentation not only showcased the successful collaboration between FSL and Violence Prevention at the University of Iowa but also offered practical strategies and actionable insights for fostering similar partnerships in higher education institutions nationwide. By grounding our discussion in both theory and practice, we provided participants with a holistic understanding of the complexities and opportunities inherent in cross-campus collaboration for violence prevention initiatives.

Sharing Insights:

Upon my return, I disseminated the knowledge gained from the conference through various channels within my department, college, and campus community. I shared our presentation content and key learnings in organizational and collaborating office staff meetings, providing colleagues with actionable strategies and theoretical frameworks for fostering collaborative partnerships. Additionally, I have explored opportunities to incorporate insights learned from the conference in violence prevention initiatives in higher education at Iowa. Through these initiatives, I aim to contribute to a broader dialogue and foster a culture of collaboration and innovation in addressing violence prevention challenges on our campus.

Conclusion:

I am sincerely grateful to the award for honoring me with this prestigious opportunity. Attending the NASPA Strategies Conference has been an immensely rewarding professional journey, providing me with invaluable insights and actionable strategies for tackling the complex challenges of violence prevention on our campus. Moving forward, I am dedicated to disseminating these insights within my department, college, and campus community to cultivate a culture of collaboration and innovation in addressing critical issues in higher education.