2018 MIMSAC Schedule and Session Descriptions

7:45-8:30 a.m. | Registration & Breakfast | Ballroom Lobby
8:30-8:45 a.m. | Welcome and Introduction of Keynote Speaker | Ballroom

- Dr. Darrell Ray, Vice President for Student Affairs, The University of Memphis
- Abigail Brumfield, NASPA Region III
- Dr. Scott Radimer, Conference Chair

8:45-9:45 a.m. | Keynote Address by Dr. Sonja Ardoin | Ballroom
9:45-10:00 a.m. | Break

10:00 - 11:00 a.m. | Breakout Session I

- **Building Community: Inside & Out** | Connie Beck & Dr. Tim Doyle, Christian Brothers University | Memphis Room
  - Creating student engagement opportunities for a campus that is equally divided between residential and commuter students can often be a challenge. The purpose of this program is to address the needs of both populations and how they can best be engaged co-curricularly. Student Affair Practitioners in this session will learn options to implement programming that can not only create community, but help create an environment that will help students persist towards graduation.

- **First Generation Beyond the Statistics: Discovering and Defining their Stories** | Jacki Rodriguez & Micheal Clinton, University of Memphis | Bluff Room
  - The campus community is ever changing and constantly growing. One of the fastest growing communities nationwide is first-generation students. As this community continues to be a hot topic for public and private universities, we are constantly assessing ways to connect and support this population of students. The First Scholars Program is specifically designed to meet the needs of first-generation students. Through our programming, advising, and practices, we have seen a proven and marked increase in the success and retention of our first-generation students. While this program is not tailored to encompass all of the first-generation population, many of the practices within the program could help other student affairs and higher education professionals build a thriving first-gen community on their campuses.

- **Barbershop Series: A New Way for Males to Cut It Up!** | Franklin Soares, Louisiana State University | Poplar Room
  - Historically, men of color have been viewed by society as threatening and antisocial. In the male culture, it is a form of weakness for males to share problems or issues. In this presentation, the program will show how colleges can support males in a welcoming and supportive environment.

- **Tradition vs. Innovation: Fostering Resilient Student Activities for Student Success** | Pamela Hilton, Mississippi Valley State University | Shelby Room
  - One of the challenges in promoting the development of student success on rural HBCU campuses is whether to maintain tradition or implement innovative student programs. During this session, the presenter will explore how both tradition and innovation play a
2018 MIMSAC Schedule and Session Descriptions

major role in achieving successful programs; and will share some innovative strategies for maintaining tradition while incorporating new ideas.

- **Developing Mentoring Relationships with Students and New Professionals** | Tiffany Murphy & Amanda Virag, University of Memphis | Iris Room
  - This session will discuss how to develop mentoring relationships in Student Affairs. Presenters will share personal trials and tribulations, successes and accomplishments of mentoring students and entry-level professionals. From a mid-level professional lens, presenters will discuss best practices and ways to build thriving relationships with those you supervise.

- **The Importance of Viewing Ourselves as Scholar-Practitioners** | Dr. Sonja Ardoin, Boston University | River Room
  - Do you see the term scholar-practitioner and wonder what that means or why student affairs educators may identify with it? This session will explore the concept of scholar-practitioner, why it can be important to view ourselves through this frame, and how you are likely already engaging as both a practitioner and a scholar.

11:00 - 11:15 a.m. | Break

11:15 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. | Breakout Session II

- **The Involvement Menu: How hungry are your students for engagement?** | Jessie Wortham
  Dickert & Brian Deal, University of Memphis | River Room
  - It’s no secret that students who are engaged not only persist but also have an increased sense of belonging on college campuses. The UofM tackled this challenge through the creation of an Involvement Menu and Engagement Plan. The Involvement Menu creates a buffet of opportunities for every student to be satisfied while connecting them to the skills employers are looking for in new graduates. Join us as we indulge in the process of creating the Menu and explore appetizers, desserts and more!

- **Cultivating transferable skills through studying abroad with an intercultural workplace experience** | Dr. Grahaeme Hesp, FIE: Foundation for International Education | Iris Room
  - Students who benefit most from an international internship experience are those who regard each experience as an opportunity to learn something about themselves, the world of work, and society around them. This best-practice discussion details how students can articulate the transferable skills that will differentiate them in the job market.

- **Critical advising operationalized: Employing advising for minority female undergraduates in a public university** | Danesha Winfrey, University of Memphis | Bluff Room
  - The University has engaged in innovation conducive to cultivating thriving communities through more intrusive advising and with more sincere interactions with students. Academic advisors are at the cusp of the thriving communities of students, faculty, and staff. Therefore, this Program represents the academic advisor’s perspective of cultivating thriving communities.

- **Finding Your Swing** | Michael Courson, University of Memphis | Poplar Room
  - When you hit a challenge then another challenge then another challenge, it can be easy to say “it is not my day” and move on. But what if it becomes a bad week or month or
Why Student Affairs Professionals Should Reject Respectability Politics | Marcellius Braxton, Austin Peay State University | Memphis Room
- Marginalized groups are often taught to adhere to respectability politics, which encourages groups to assimilate to mainstream culture and society in order to be treated better or respected. This program will examine how an idea that might seem harmless leads to dangerous outcomes, particularly in higher education.

Synergistic Supervision: Challenging and Supporting Staff to Maximize Potential | Dr. Dan Bureau & Sally Parish, University of Memphis | Shelby Room
- Enacting supervision to help staff maximize potential and fulfill divisional and institutional goals is a huge responsibility. This session will help participants identify strategies for synergistic supervision, explained as cooperation between a supervisor and supervisee with a focus on joint-effort, two-way communication, and competency building for the betterment of the organization.

VPSA Roundtable | Fountain View Boardroom (350)
- Senior Student Affairs Administrators are invited to meet with Dr. Darrell Ray to hold a follow-up discussion about topics related to the keynote address.

12:15 - 1:15 p.m. | Ballroom | Lunch

1:15 - 2:15 p.m. | Breakout Session III

Beyond Orientation: The First Year Experience | Kristin Gray, Patrick Walker-Reese & Barbara Kannard, Tennessee State University | River Room
- A challenge in assisting students with a successful transition into the campus community is helping them to understand themselves and finding their purpose. During this session, attendees will participate in a shortened version of Tennessee State University’s Extended Orientation program that was designed to deliver college & career readiness core competencies in efforts to support and increase retention in URM, FTF, academic foci and undecided majors.

Integrity, Empathy and Compassion –The Keys to Nurturing Thriving Communities | Anthony Maranise & Rob Marczynski, University of Memphis | Iris Room
- Student affairs professionals are integral in cultivating thriving student communities in a variety of campus settings. The success of these communities depends upon practitioners who nurture an understanding of integrity and empathy. Equipped with this understanding, students can emerge as strong, successful, and open-minded community leaders and positive societal “changemakers.”

Grassroots Leadership: Creating Professional Communities from the Bottom Up | Karen Thurmond & Amanda Savage, University of Memphis | Shelby Room
- There has been an Academic Advising Network (AAN) at University of Memphis for more than 30 years. In the last five years the leadership of this community has been assumed by leaders from within rather than from an administrator. Leadership opportunities have produced a community with greater participation and productivity.
2018 MIMSAC Schedule and Session Descriptions

- **Oh #*&, Can They Say That? A Look at the First Amendment | MK Tyler & John Michael Ryall, University of Memphis | Memphis Room**
  - The First Amendment, at first glance, seems simple however is filled with complexities, especially when it is applied to college campuses. This conference aims to equip and empower professionals to better understand and articulate the First Amendment and its implications on college campuses.

- **Saving the 13% at PWIs: Building compassionate relationships with African-American students in Student Conduct | Brittany Dawson, Arkansas State University | Bluff Room**
  - African-American students that come from urban communities think that when going into the Conduct Office, they are automatically going to be found responsible. This session will discuss the importance of building compassionate relationships with African-American students in Student Conduct through critical conversations about behavior; specifically, those that are first generation or those from urban communities.

- **The Struggle is Real | Nigel Stephenson, Jivanta Farmer & Shenay Nolan, Southwest Tennessee Community College | Poplar Room**
  - First-generation students are eager to make a better life for themselves, but are unaware of barriers they may face when enrolling in college, progressing through college, and graduating from college. The Struggle is Real focuses helping these students overcome obstacles through the use of support services on college campuses.

2:15 - 2:30 p.m. | Break

2:30 - 3:30 p.m. | Breakout Session IV

- **A Doctorate in Higher Education: Will This Help Me Thrive? | Dr. Scott Radimer, Dr. Justin Lawhead, Dr. Eric Bailey, & Dr. Linh Luu, University of Memphis | River Room**
  - New and Mid-Level professionals often hear that getting a doctorate is necessary to advance your career, but is that true? Is pursuing an advanced degree the right choice for you? Join our diverse panel to talk about the process of earning a doctorate and answer your questions.

- **The Village Approach: Creating Community Partnerships for Holistic Learning Outcomes | Dr. Meredith Davis, Rhodes College | Poplar Room**
  - This presentation explores holistic approaches to student learning when internal and external partnerships abound on college campuses. By examining current research and models of sustainable partnerships, participants will gain a better understanding of how to create relationships and programs for the campus community that increase cultural capital for not only student scholars but also institutions.

- **Multicultural Student Leaders Building a Thriving Campus | Dr. Evette Allen, Rachel Hendrix, Diana Smith & Niani Williams, Arkansas State University | Iris Room**
  - This interactive program will guide participants through the strategic program planning process for the multicultural ambassador team at Arkansas State University. The process is used to intentionally engage students, effectively market programs, and assess events for student feedback. Using this process, our center has seen increased engagement with our programs.
2018 MIMSAC Schedule and Session Descriptions

- **Smokey’s Closet: Increasing Access Through a Campus Clothing Closet** | Abigail Brumfield, University of Tennessee | Shelby Room
  o Smokey’s Closet is an initiative coordinated by the UTK Center for Career Development and the Student Government Association. Smokey’s Closet provides students with free, gently used, clean professional clothes that can be worn to interviews, career fairs, and in professional work settings. This presentation will cover information regarding the planning and implementation of our professional clothing closet over the past two years including utilizing corporate partnerships, creating experiential-learning opportunities for current and incoming students, and increasing access for disadvantaged student populations.

- **Innovating an Academic Success Course with Online Learning and Mentoring** | LaTanya Dixon, Dr. Rebekah Reysen & Dr. Kyle Ellis, University of Mississippi | Memphis Room
  o In keeping with the conference theme of “cultivating thriving communities,” this presentation will discuss how the University of Mississippi has helped students on academic probation in their collegiate studies. Presenters will discuss the original conception of the program, how it has evolved over time, as well as key elements that keep the program successful such as incorporating mentoring and adaptive technology in specific sections.

- **The Class Menagerie: Animals on Campus and in the Classroom** | Jennifer Murchison, University of Memphis & Daniel Nuss, University of the Pacific | Bluff Room
  o Participants will learn the differences between Service Animals, Emotional Support Animals, and Comfort/Therapy Animals. Learn what is and isn’t considered an appropriate animal for these categories, their public access and utility, and personal utility.

3:30 - 4:00 p.m. | Ballroom | Closing Program