From the President...

It is an honor and a pleasure to serve this year as President of NACAS South and I thank you for the privilege.

Our Region’s pinnacle activity is the Annual Conference. “HappyTogether” in Orlando provided 28 educational experiences to equip you with tools to build a stronger sense of organizational culture. Under the leadership of Victoria Fowler, Conference Coordinator, and Kerri Demeri, Host Chair, over 300 attendees received tremendous value from this event. Sharon Boyd, President-elect, enabled fruitful discussions with 65 Business Partners, including 13 who attended for the first time. Add to the mix a couple dozen volunteers, 42 educational session presenters, a great property in a beautiful city, perfect weather, etc. and the result was an impactful conference that will make a difference in your professional life.

Your Regional Board is ready to work hard to meet your needs. This group of volunteers has energy and know-how, but we need your guidance and involvement. Complete a survey, plan an educational session, attend the Regional Breakfast at the NACAS Conference in Indianapolis, volunteer, respond to an e-mail question. Regardless of how you connect with NACAS South, you will reap benefits from any level of involvement.

Feel free to reach out if you have feedback or a question – rich.steele@gatech.edu or (404)-895-0637. We look forward to a great year filled with “The Connections that Count”!

A few words from our Immediate Past President

As I reflect upon this past year, as I’ve had the privilege and honor of serving as your president, several things come to mind that I’d like to share with you:

1. It’s important that we know who we are and what we do. I’ve been intentional to remind our members who we are and what we do as an association, hopefully in a clear and concise way that has allowed you to understand what our association is all about. First, we’re all about networking. Our slogan “The Connections that Count” sums it up. It’s important that you as an auxiliary services professional have the personal contacts (and friendships) with practitioners and experts (both institutional and business partners) that you need to fulfill your job. Secondly, we’re all about professional development – growing ourselves so that we can grow others. As John Maxwell says, “You can’t fill someone else’s tank if you’re running on empty.” And why is this what we’re about? Our association’s purpose is to equip you to better fulfill the mission of your own university or institution. And we accomplish it best by serving others – each other, our students, faculty, staff and guests.

2. We have a strong association. I’m thankful this is the case, whether measured by relationships, by fulfilling our mission, by our financial standing, or by our organizational culture. We are privileged to be part of a unique group of professionals in a very unique association. This hasn’t happened by chance. No, it’s the result of a tremendous amount of tireless work by many dedicated people – which brings me to the third thing I think about as I reflect upon this past year...

Continued on page 4
The NACAS South 2016 annual conference at the Walt Disney World Swan and Dolphin Resort was a huge success! In addition to great attendance from our member institutions, we had the highest business partner participation at our conference to date. Great weather and wonderful sessions made this a conference to remember. Below are a few photos from the conference. More photos are available in the 2016 Conference Album on Facebook.

Did you miss a session at NACAS South 2016 or would you like to review a session you really liked? They’re available on our website: NACAS South 2016 Conference Presentations
Congratulations to Doug Ross of the University of Georgia, the 2016 Lifetime Achievement Award recipient! Doug has been Director of Auxiliary Services at UGA for almost twenty years, leading numerous award-winning auxiliary businesses. Doug is well-respected across campus, as well as throughout the higher education auxiliary services industry, because of his service with NACAS and NACAS South. In addition to presenting at regional and national conferences, Doug has served on the Host Committee for the national conference, and has filled multiple leadership positions for NACAS South, including Vice President, President-Elect, President, and Past President. His dedication to excellence shows in all that he does.

Doug is a person of impeccable character and the epitome of servant leadership, always giving for the benefit of others. He is a strong leader not only in the workplace, but also in his family, consistently earning their respect and adoration. In addition, Doug continually gives back – always looking for ways to add value to others. He has invested his life in others, serving as a mentor for many people and is a strong role model for aspiring auxiliary services leaders to follow. NACAS, NACAS South, the institution and all those who know Doug have benefitted from his influence, as he has made a true difference in the lives and development of so many people.
A few words from our Immediate Past President, cont’d from Page 1

3. I’m thankful for you, our membership. You’re involved, you’re active, you truly care about what we’re all about. And I’m thankful for our leadership. From our new CEO of NACAS, to our president of NACAS, to the entire Board of Directors of NACAS South, our association is led by strong, solid professionals of great character who are committed to our mission and purpose.

4. Finally, the thing that comes to my mind as I reflect on my past year as president is my desire for each of you to make a difference in the lives of others as you do your job day-to-day. Don’t just go through the motions. We are far more than meals to hungry students, rides to class, course material deliveries, and business transactions. We are people who have an incredible opportunity every day to make a difference in the lives of those around us. NACAS and NACAS South play a vital role in equipping us to do this well. So, I hope you’ve caught this past year a little of my passion and heart for serving others in a way that makes a difference. You may not be able to make a difference in every life, but you can make a difference in one – and then another – and then another.

Again, it has been a privilege to serve you all, and I thank you for the opportunity to do so.

Kyle Cullars, Immediate Past President, Georgia College & State University
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PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT Opportunities

Take advantage of all the great resources from NACAS!

NACAS Online Education
Business Innovation Forums, Virtual Roundtables, and Webinars

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NACAS Institutes and Conferences

For more information about the NACAS South Newsletter or to submit an article or feature for a future issue, contact Norman Grizzell.