



The New  
American  
Colleges &  
Universities

Integrating Liberal Arts,  
Professional Studies, and  
Civic Responsibility

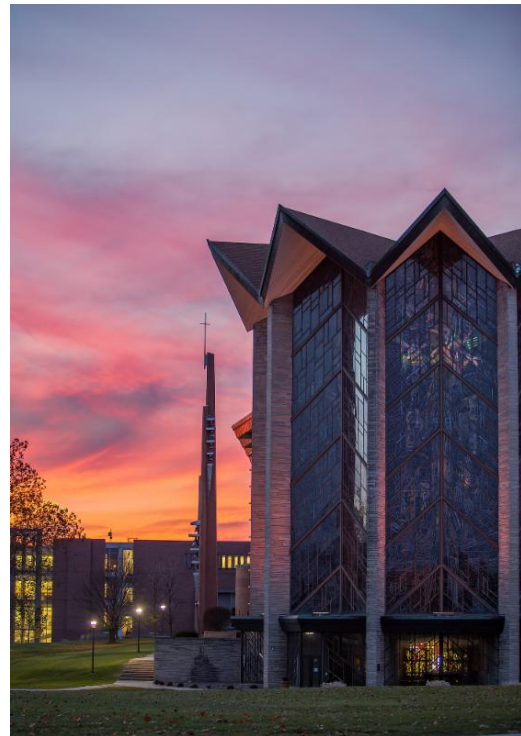
## News and Notes

*March 2017*

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### NAC&U 2017 Summer Institute Will Address Difficult Dialogues on Campus

This year's [Summer Institute](#), to be held June 21 - 23, 2017, at **Valparaiso University** in Indiana, will give NAC&U members a multi-day opportunity to discuss and hear from experts on '**Dialogue and Understanding: Conversations Across Difference.**' The Summer Institute will host keynote speakers and also draw on the expertise within the consortium to share best practices for supporting civil dialogue on difficult subjects in our classrooms and on our campuses. The format of the Summer Institute will be different this year to maximize small group discussions but the outcome will stay the same - campus teams will be able to return to their home institutions with strategies that they can put into practice. [Read more.](#)



**Registration is now open** [at this link](#). The deadline to register is May 30, 2017.

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### NAC&U Student Excellence Award Update

Thank you to all campuses who sent a submission for the inaugural **NAC&U Award for Student Excellence**. NAC&U will recognize up to three undergraduate seniors at its member institutions for their knowledge and experience in liberal arts, professional studies and/or civic engagement. The recipients will be announced in April.

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## The Sage Colleges Announces New President

Christopher Ames, Ph.D., provost of Shepherd University in Shepherdstown, West Virginia, longtime literature professor, and published author, will become the tenth president of The Sage Colleges on July 1, 2017.

"I am a firm believer in liberal education, but I do not believe that the liberal arts should be sequestered into one world while professional programs are housed in another," Ames said. "If we believe in the power of broad liberal education, we believe in having liberally educated nurses, accountants, therapists, and managers, as well as professionally prepared artists, designers and social scientists. Sage has been dedicated to pragmatic liberal education from its founding, and I am convinced those values will inform the institutions that thrive in the century ahead."



[Read more.](#)

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## Member News

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### ***Blogs & Contributed Articles***

["Campus civility in the age of President Trump."](#) a blog from Roger Williams President Donald Farish

["All Are Welcome In This Place."](#) a post from Valparaiso University President Mark Heckler

["Innovation is in our DNA"](#): University of New Haven President Steve Kaplan wrote about innovation and its impact on students as part of a special feature for Forbes.

["Managing HigherEd Disruption through Planning."](#) a contributed article on edcircuit.com co-authored by Nicholas R. Santilli, Associate Provost for Accreditation and Institutional Effectiveness and Professor of Psychology at John Carroll University

### ***Civic Engagement***

["They wanted to inspire kids of color to dream big. Here's how these Hampton University students did it."](#) - an article from The Virginian-Pilot

[University of La Verne Student Selected for National Civic Engagement Program](#)

[Samford Mission Trip to Dominican Republic Teaches Health Professions Students that Medicine is Only a Piece of the Puzzle](#)

[Manhattan College Leadership Intensive Focuses on Civic Engagement in New York City](#)

### ***Research & Grants***

[Hampton University Receives NSF Grant to Promote STEM Teaching in High-Need Areas](#)

[Westminster College's Great Salt Lake Institute Receives \\$250,000 Grant for SALT: Scientists and Artists Learning Together](#); Grant will fund first STEAM (science, technology, engineering, art and math) curriculum for undergraduates

[California Lutheran University Faculty Members Receives Grant to Study Brainwave-to-Speech Technology](#)

[Ohio Northern Technology Studies Students, Faculty Present at Annual Professional Meeting](#)

[Nearly 100 University of Scranton Students Participate In Faculty/Student Research Program In Academic Year](#)

[Arcadia's Oatis Awarded R01 Grant for Total Knee Replacement Research](#)

### ***Programs & Endowments***

[Hamline Receives \\$1.4M Gift for Endowed Professorship in Computational Science](#)

[University of Evansville Announces New Ethics and Social Change Major](#)

[Pacific Lutheran University Launches New Peace Corps Prep Certificate Program](#)

### ***Appointments***

[Wagner College President Richard Guarasci Elected Vice Chairman of AAC&U Board](#)

[California Lutheran Appoints Dean of Arts and Sciences](#)

[Wagner College Appoints Patricia Tooker as Dean of its Evelyn L. Spiro School of Nursing](#)

[Valparaiso University Appoints Karen Allen as Dean of College of Nursing and Health Professions](#)

### ***Rankings & Recognition***

Four NAC&U members were among the Top Producers of U.S. Fulbright Scholars and Students -- institutions with the highest numbers of U.S. students (primarily recent graduates) and scholars (faculty, researchers and administrators) who received Fulbright grants for the 2016-2017 academic year. They are St. Edward's University (6 awards), [The University of Scranton](#) (5 awards), [Nazareth College](#) (3 awards), and [Samford University](#) (3 awards).

Kiplinger Ranks Four NAC&U Members Among Nation's Best Values: Samford University, [Drury University](#), the University of Evansville, and Belmont University were ranked among the top 100 private institutions in the U.S. for best values in higher education according to Kiplinger's Personal Finance.

[Widener Law Commonwealth Ranked Number Five on The National Jurist Magazine's 'Best Schools for Bar Exam Preparation'](#)

### ***Campus News***

[Roger Williams University First in RI to Partner with Gateway to College to Help High School Dropouts Earn College Degrees](#)

[Nazareth Welcomes Ace Fellow James Spiller](#)

[Belmont Breaks Ground on New Residence Hall](#)

### ***Faculty News***

[Wagner College Professors Publish "Seeing Straight: An Introduction to Gender and Sexual Privilege"](#)

### ***Student News***

[North Central Student Essay Adds Voice to The Huffington Post](#)

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## **University of Evansville Takes Creative Approach to Promoting Service Trip**

The Office of Study Abroad at the University of Evansville issued a unique construction challenge to UE civil engineering professor Mark Valenzuela. Build a birdhouse in one hour with no plans and no materials - except for whatever



wood, instructions, and tools can be "won" for him by participants in a trivia contest.

The activity was



designed to bring awareness to a study abroad program that will enable students to travel to Nicaragua to work with Habitat for Humanity on building a home for a family in need.

Dr. Valenzuela began with no materials, no safety equipment, and no instructions. Holly Carter, UE's Director of Education Abroad, served as the MC and asked the crowd trivia questions about Nicaragua (where the team of students will go to build a house for a family through Habitat for Humanity) and every time the crowd answered correctly, he received a tool or piece of information to finish the birdhouse, although some of the items received were in jest, such as the giant blow-up hammer.

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Please join the Barbara and Edward Netter Center for Community Partnerships  
at the University of Pennsylvania for its  
25th Anniversary International Conference on  
"Higher Education-Community Partnerships for Democracy and Social Change"  
November 16-17, 2017



The conference will begin approximately 8:30 am on Thursday, November 16th and conclude at approximately 2:30 pm on Friday, November 17th.

### The New American Colleges & Universities

Arcadia University Belmont University  
California Lutheran University Drury University  
Hamline University Hampton University  
John Carroll University Manhattan College Nazareth College  
North Central College Ohio Northern University  
Pacific Lutheran University Roger Williams University  
St. Edward's University Samford University The Sage Colleges  
The University of Scranton University of Evansville  
University of La Verne University of New Haven  
Valparaiso University Wagner College

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