CONFERENCE TRACKS

ASCA ANNUAL CONFERENCE
February 10 - 13, 2027
Washington, DC

PROFESSIONAL GROWTH

FROM EMOTIONAL LABOR TO RESILIENCE: SUPPORTING STUDENT CONDUCT PROFESSIONALS

Presenters: Dr. Tiffany Shierling, Lynn University

Explore how emotional labor shapes the work of Student Conduct Administrators. Participants will learn about key research findings and discover practical resilience strategies to support well-being, prevent burnout, and thrive in demanding accountability-focused roles.

IMPACTFUL CONDUCT CASES & THE LESSONS WE LEARNED

Presenters: Dr. Matt Khoury, New England College

Sponsored by the Director and Senior-Level Administrator Community of Practice, this presentation and dialogue will explore the various lessons that senior administrators and directors have learned from challenging conduct cases they have adjudicated over the years. Take advantage of this opportunity to learn through the hindsight of our own challenges!

PIVOT, PURPOSE & BELONGING: ATTORNEYS REFLECT ON THEIR JOURNEY INTO HIGHER EDUCATION

Presenters: Romie MIchel, Esq., Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey; Kristi Patrickus, J.D. , Patrickus Consulting LLC; James Bond, J.D., University of Maryland

This session features a panel of attorneys who have successfully pivoted from traditional legal practice into positions within higher education. Panelists will share their perspectives on navigating the pivot, identifying and applying transferable skills, the differences in work culture, and exploring the diverse career paths available within Student Conduct. Panelists will also reflect on how professional and personal identity can evolve through career transitions. Q & A will follow the panel discussion.

Attendees will leave this session with insight into navigating career transitions, applying their legal expertise in a new professional setting, and reflecting on how their identity has evolved as student conduct professionals.

THE LIFE OF A STUDENT CONDUCT PROFESSIONAL

Presenters: Nathan Fontaine, M.Ed, UMass Dartmouth

This program will focus on the multiple eras that and strategies that will help an early professional or professional newer to conduct. This presentation will focus on providing tips, strategies, and resources for new professionals that are coming into the world of Student Conduct/Community Standards.

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THE CURIOUS CONDUCT OFFICER: POWERFUL QUESTIONS FOR STUDENT CONDUCT CONVERSATIONS

Presenters: Gene Roberts, Jr., JD, EdD , Sam Houston State University

Student conduct conversations often focus on facts, policies, and outcomes. In this interactive session, attendees will explore how intentional questions drawn from mediation, conflict resolution, and restorative practices can encourage reflection, accountability, and personal growth. Attendees will leave with practical questioning strategies and a question bank they can immediately use in their work with students.

THE MIDDLE CHILD: NAVIGATING THE UNIQUE CHALLENGES, IDENTITY, AND RETENTION OF MID-LEVEL STUDENT CONDUCT PROFESSIONALS

Presenters: Breanna Worthy, Winston-Salem University; Cord Jennings, Winston-Salem State University

This session explores the unique professional identity, workplace dynamics, and burnout risks associated with mid-level conduct administrators. Caught between executive vision and front-line execution, mid-level managers face distinct systemic strains. Presenters will share practical frameworks for establishing firm boundaries, advocating for career growth, managing up and supervising down, and building long-term career longevity without sacrificing personal well-being.

THROWN INTO THE CONDUCT WORLD? HOW TO NAVIGATE YOUR NEW RESPONSIBILITIES

Presenters: Dr. Matt Khoury, New England College

Have conduct responsibilities been added to your portfolio? Are you now responsible for adjudicating conduct situations or are you now supervising someone who does conduct work? Wondering how all of this works? This session is designed to answer your questions and provide you with tangible ideas for how to step into the conduct world and see success on your campus.

TRAINING THAT STICKS: CREATING ENGAGED AND EFFECTIVE CONDUCT BOARDS

Presenters: Heather Cohen-Stanley, Valencia College; Luzmi Valenzuela , Valencia College

Move beyond information-heavy board training and create learning experiences that stick. This session examines engaging training techniques, including simulations, discussion, and case-based learning, that help hearing board members develop the knowledge and skills needed for effective service. Attendees will gain actionable ideas for enhancing engagement, retention, confidence, and decision-making throughout the hearing process.