CONFERENCE TRACKS

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

STUDENT ORGANIZATION

BEYOND THE QUESTIONS: BUILDING EFFECTIVE WITNESS INTERVIEWS IN HAZING INVESTIGATIONS

Presenters: Harriett Wrinkle, University of Tennessee; Mya Rudder, University of Tennessee

Effective witness interviews require more than asking the right questions. Through interactive case scenarios, participants will explore strategies for selecting witnesses, navigating cooperative and reluctant witnesses, establishing an effective interview environment, and determining next steps after an interview. Attendees will leave with practical approaches for strengthening witness interviews in individual and organizational misconduct investigations.

BUILDING CAPACITY THROUGH COLLABORATION: A MULTIDISCIPLINARY APPROACH TO ORGANIZATION INVESTIGATIONS

Presenters: Kristi Johnson, University of Florida; Aimee Peeples, University of Florida

As organizational conduct cases rise across higher education, institutions need sustainable, student-centered approaches to hazing investigations. This session highlights the University of Florida's multidisciplinary Organization Hazing Investigator Model, which trains Student Life staff to collaboratively lead investigations. Participants will learn key challenges, lessons learned, and adaptable tools and templates to support similar efforts on their campuses.

CONVERSATIONS WITH FRATERNITY AND SORORITY LIFE

Presenters: Gina Donato, The University of Delaware; Sara Lowery, The University of Delaware

This session explores how the University of Delaware uses restorative practices across fraternity and sorority life, including proactive restorative circles addressing hazing, community-building, and belonging; mutually agreed-upon restorative outcomes within the conduct process; and restorative processes requested by student organizations. Presenters will share the development, implementation, and assessment of FSLL Community Connection, which engaged more than 160 students in facilitated dialogue.

CRACKING THE HAZING CODE: 17 WAYS TO WORK THROUGH ORCHESTRATED STORIES

Presenters: David Westol, J.D., Limberlost Consulting, Inc.

It's our biggest challenge: Unpacking the orchestrated story to determine if hazing is occurring. There are at least 17 ways to probe, question, challenge and disprove orchestrated stories, ranging from the obvious inconsistencies to the space/time continuum. This is a session premised upon practical methodology and sharing your experiences will be appreciated.

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FROM SIGNED AGREEMENT TO LIVE CASE: WHAT A NATIONAL PARTNERSHIP ACTUALLY CHANGES WHEN THE REPORT COMES IN

Presenters: Dr. Maleta Wilson, California State University, Chico; Dr. Mona Davenport, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.; T Elaine Johnson, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

A signed national agreement changes nothing on the Wednesday a report involving a chapter lands in a conduct office. A campus administrator and a Delta Sigma Theta representative walk the first seventy-two hours together: notification, what FERPA permits, choosing an investigation model rather than defaulting into one, and building shared services after the finding.

FROM SLIDES TO SKILLS: DESIGNING TRAININGS STUDENTS ACTUALLY REMEMBER

Presenters: Kermitra Tweedy, Longwood University

Many student conduct and higher education trainings are rich in content but struggle to produce lasting learning, engagement, and skill transfer. Whether training conduct board members, student leaders, peer educators, or campus staff, professionals are often challenged to move beyond information delivery and create experiences that prepare participants to act effectively in real-world situations.

Grounded in the ADDIE instructional design model and informed by Nancy Schlossberg's Theory of Mattering and Belonging, this interactive session provides a practical framework for designing learner-centered trainings that promote engagement, retention, and application. Participants will explore how to conduct meaningful training needs assessments, identify performance-based learning outcomes, and transform passive content into active learning experiences.

Through hands-on activities, attendees will experience and analyze several training strategies, including scenario-based learning, structured reflection, decision-making exercises, facilitated debriefing, and learner engagement techniques that can be immediately implemented in conduct and student affairs training environments. Participants will also examine how belonging, relevance, and participant voice contribute to learning outcomes and knowledge retention.

Attendees will leave with a customizable training design worksheet, practical engagement strategies, and a structured approach for redesigning existing trainings into skill-based learning experiences. Rather than focusing solely on what participants should know, this session challenges professionals to design trainings around what participants should be able to do.

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INCIDENT TO IMPACT: RETHINKING CONDUCT PROCESSES, SANCTIONING, AND ORGANIZATIONAL ACCOUNTABILITY

Presenters: Tishana Lawhorne, Virginia Tech; Dave Stuart, Virginia Tech

This session will explore Virginia Tech's Office of Student Conduct's rebuilding of the organizational conduct process from initial report through resolution, with particular attention to sanctioning groups and organizations in a meaningful way.

NOT YOURS OR MINE, BUT OURS: BUILDING COLLABORATIVE PARTNERSHIPS BETWEEN FRATERNITY & SORORITY LIFE AND STUDENT CONDUCT

Presenters: Kaela Lindquist, UNC Charlotte; Michelle Guobadia, UNC Charlotte

This interactive session combines presentation, guided discussion, and collaborative brainstorming. Participants will examine barriers to cross-functional partnerships, explore practical tools such as Memoranda of Understanding and shared accountability frameworks, and engage in small-group reflection on opportunities for collaboration at their institutions. Attendees will leave with actionable strategies and adaptable resources.

POWERING YOUR ORGANIZATION FORWARD: A CULTURE CHANGE WORKSHOP FOR STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

Presenters: Andie Barfield, University of Nebraska - Lincoln; Dr. Kia HIll, University of Nebraska - Lincoln; Adam Fitzwater, University of Nebraska - Lincoln

The University of Nebraska-Lincoln developed a multiple tiered workshop to help student organizations recognize and address challenges that may contribute to repeated incidents. POWERing Your Organization Forward workshop empowers our students to enhance their leadership and communication skills to start looking for ways to shift their internal culture.

THE POWER OF PARTNERSHIP: COORDINATING COMPLEX FRATERNITY & SORORITY INVESTIGATIONS

Presenters: Dr. Bailey Mitchell, Pi Kappa Phi Fraternity; Donovan Golich, J.D, University of Michigan

Fraternity and sorority conduct cases often require close collaboration between campus professionals and inter/national headquarters. This session explores strategies for effective communication, coordinated investigations, and collaborative resolutions in complex organizational conduct cases. Through practical guidance and real-world case studies, participants will gain tools to strengthen partnerships, enhance investigations, and promote fair, student-centered outcomes.