2019 CSA
SUMMER FORUM
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What’s the Policy Landscape for Student Affairs

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DISCLAIMER: It’s Alive!

The NASPA blog: http://www.naspa.org/about/blog


The Man in Question, CC BY-SA 4.0, via Wikimedia Commons
Only about a third of Americans have a mix of conservative and liberal positions; in 2004, nearly half had mixed political values.

*Distribution of the public on a 10-item scale of political values*

Notes: Ideological consistency based on a scale of 10 political values questions (see report methodology).
Source: Survey conducted June 8-18, 2017.
Free Speech on Campus

- DOJ interest in judicial cases
- President Trump’s Executive Order
- State action: free speech zones
  - 10 states already bans free speech zones
  - 26 bills in 15 states in 2019
State Legislation regarding Free Speech on Campus Introduced in 2019 (as of 6/5/19)

# of Bills

1 - 7

[Map showing distribution of bills across the United States]
Mental Health

- Hate speech and historically marginalized populations
- Increase in mental health demands on campuses
  - Help-seeking behavior is good, but comes at a cost
  - Continued attacks on the Affordable Care Act, Medicaid expansion
Guns on Campus

• Guns on campus are complicated
  – Concerns about accidental or intentional shooting
  – Sense of security for survivors of relationship violence

• Broad changes in gun laws impact colleges & universities

• Increased access to firearms is linked to increased suicide fatality

• 2019 has seen more “red-flag laws”
Hazing Prevention and Response

- Persistence in student groups, including Greek life, athletics
- Cultures around hazing are deeply embedded & protected
- Campuses know their communities and students best; no one-size-fits-all solution
Proposed Free College Legislation in 2019

• 90 bills across 31 states (6/4/19)
• 5 enacted (AR, MD, UT, WV)
• 3 passed first chamber (CA)
DACA/Dreamer Developments

• It’s come to this. Action in the U.S. Supreme Court

• Can Congress ever solve this problem?
Trump Admin. & Intl. Students

- Processing Delays
- Optional Practical Training (OPT)
- Unlawful Presence
- Duration of Status
- APLU engagement w/ administration
High-Skilled Immigration Reform

• Employment/“Merit-based” vs. family-based/“chain”
• Change in political dynamics on the Hill
HEA Reauthorization

• Have the stars aligned? Is now the time?
• What are the political challenges aside from the typical difficult dynamics?
• Should we want an HEA reauthorization?
• Senate GOP and Dem competing rollouts of priorities
• State of negotiations
Digging into Issues

- Affordability
- Accountability
- Transparency
- Campus Safety
Budget & Appropriations

- Budget Control Act of 2011: Please, let’s be done with it.
- Status of FY 2020 Appropriations
- Yet Another Potential Fiscal Cliff
QUESTIONS?