

# 2017 Board of Directors Takes Office



**Deborah F. Stanley**, president, State University of New York College at Oswego, has assumed the chair of the American Association of State Colleges and Universities' (AASCU) Board of Directors. Before becoming chair-elect in 2015, Stanley completed a three-year term on the board of directors as secretary-treasurer. She also served on AASCU's Millennium Leadership Initiative (MLI) Steering Committee and on the Financial Review Task Force.



**Mildred García**, president of California State University, Fullerton, was elected chair-elect of the board; she will serve as chair in 2018. García's leadership experience includes serving on the AASCU Board of Directors and chairing the Committee on International Education and the MLI Executive Steering Committee.

**The following presidents and chancellors** will serve on the AASCU Board of Directors in 2017.

**PAST CHAIR:**

**Stephen M. Jordan**, president, Metropolitan State University of Denver (Colo.)

**SECRETARY-TREASURER:**

**George E. Ross**, president, Central Michigan University

**Newly elected directors include:**

**Denise A. Battles**, president, State University of New York at Geneseo

**Dianne F. Harrison**, president,

California State University, Northridge  
**Sandra J. Jordan**, chancellor, University of South Carolina Aiken

**Dennis J. Shields**, chancellor, University of Wisconsin-Platteville

**Jack Thomas**, president, Western Illinois University

**Charles L. Welch, II**, president, Arkansas State University System

**Karen Whitney**, president, Clarion University of Pennsylvania

**Those continuing their terms as members of AASCU's board:**

**Joseph Bertolino**, president, Southern Connecticut State University

**Linda M. Bleicken**, president, Armstrong State University (Ga.)

**Rita Cheng**, president, Northern Arizona University

**Philip L. Dubois**, chancellor, University of North Carolina at Charlotte

**Dana G. Hoyt**, president, Sam Houston State University (Texas)

**Emile (Mel) C. Netzhhammer, III**, chancellor, Washington State University Vancouver

**Scott Robert Olson**, president, Winona State University (Minn.)

**Nasser H. Paydar**, chancellor, Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis

# HONORING CIVIC Engagement

**Nominations** for the American Democracy Project's (ADP) three national civic engagement awards are due March 31, 2017. Recipients will be announced at the Civic Learning and Democratic Engagement meeting in Baltimore, Md., on June 8. The following are the three ADP awards up for nomination:

- **The William M. Plater Award for Leadership in Civic Engagement** is given each year to an AASCU chief academic officer in recognition of his or her leadership in advancing the civic mission of the campus. Chief academic officers may be nominated by anyone on the campus. The president or chancellor must endorse the nomination. For more information and nomination materials, visit [www.aascu.org/programs/adp/awards/WilliamPlater/](http://www.aascu.org/programs/adp/awards/WilliamPlater/).
- **The John Saltmarsh Award for Emerging Leaders in Civic Engagement** is presented annually to an emerging leader in the civic engagement field from an AASCU institution or ADP partner organization. Emerging Leaders may be nominated by anyone. For more information and nomination materials, visit [www.aascu.org/programs/adp/awards/JohnSaltmarsh/](http://www.aascu.org/programs/adp/awards/JohnSaltmarsh/).
- **The Barbara Burch Award for Faculty Leadership in Civic Engagement** is presented annually to a senior faculty member in the civic engagement field at an AASCU institution. Faculty members may be nominated by anyone, but must be currently active in ADP on campus and/or nationally, and have taught at an AASCU member campus for a minimum of five years. The provost or chief academic officer must endorse the nomination. For more information and nomination materials, visit [www.aascu.org/programs/adp/awards/BarbaraBurch/](http://www.aascu.org/programs/adp/awards/BarbaraBurch/).

For more information on the American Democracy Project, visit [www.aascu.org/programs/ADP/](http://www.aascu.org/programs/ADP/).



John R. Ballard



Toyia K. Younger

## AASCU Names New VPs

**John R. Ballard**, the former dean of the National Defense College in the United Arab Emirates, was appointed vice president for military and veteran partnerships/Servicemembers Opportunity Colleges (SOC) director. In his new position, Ballard implements the contract granted to AASCU by the U.S. Department of Defense (DOD), managing SOC and all of its projects and programs. Additionally, he coordinates all AASCU activities, programs and research related to military and veteran student populations. He also assists AASCU's government relations division with the review, articulation and understanding of the impact of proposed legislation on military and veteran student populations. Ballard began his career as a Marine infantry officer and has commanded at the company, battalion and group levels in both the active and reserve components. He has also served in faculty and academic leadership positions at various higher education institutions around the world, including service as a dean in three different institutions.

**Toyia K. Younger** is now the vice president for leadership development and member services (LDMS). Younger came to AASCU from Minnesota State Colleges and Universities, where she served as interim chief diversity officer and associate vice chancellor for student affairs. She brings with her more than 15 years of higher education experience. In her most recent roles, she provided leadership and direction for developing, implementing and monitoring programs and processes that promote and sustain access, diversity and equity throughout the system. She also provided system-level support and advocacy for student affairs functions on all 31 college and university campuses. As LDMS vice president, Younger leads the association in the creation, management and successful implementation of programs and activities in membership recruitment and retention. She also provides thought-leadership on conference programming and logistics—including registration, leadership, and oversight of corporate sponsorships and related areas for AASCU members and their constituents.

Learn more about Servicemembers Opportunity Colleges and the Division of Leadership Development and Member Services at [soc.aascu.org](http://soc.aascu.org) and [aascu.org](http://aascu.org).

## LESSONS IN GLOBALIZATION: INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS

**Increasing globalization** and the richness of China’s thousands-years-old history of philosophy, inventions and culture led to the beginning of the AASCU’s Chinese education partnerships more than 16 years ago. The Chinese government scholarship and the Rising Star Study Tour make up the AASCU Office of International Education’s Chinese scholarship program. Each year, the Chinese Embassy sets aside 15 scholarships for students from AASCU member institutions. The criteria for scholarship applicants, developed by both AASCU and the embassy, include being a full-time undergraduate student from an AASCU member institution; a GPA of at least 3.0; and a strong interest and a complete study plan for studying in China. The scholarship allows students to study the Chinese language and/or other academic subjects for either one academic year or one semester.

The Rising Star Study Tour is sponsored by the Chinese government and organized by the China Education Association for International Exchanges. Tour participants are undergraduate students selected from vocational colleges and universities in China and U.S. institutions. Winter 2017 Rising Star students returned to the U.S. just last month after traveling to Beijing, Shijiazhuang and Guangzhou in China for 10 days. Twelve students from California State University, Sacramento; State University of New York Cobleskill; City University of New York, York College; City University of New York Hunter College; University of the District of Columbia; and Jackson College (Mich.) took part in activities such as skills learning, industry visits and unique culture experiences.

For more information on international programs and outreach, visit [www.aascu.org/Programs/InternationalPrograms/](http://www.aascu.org/Programs/InternationalPrograms/).



## Stewardship of Public Lands—Student, Campus Engagement in Practice



**To promote** fully engaged and informed citizens, the American Democracy Project (ADP), a 250-plus college and university network, has hosted activities, including 14 national and 18 regional meetings, and a series of national civic engagement initiatives. The Stewardship of Public Lands is one of those key initiatives. As part of that program, and AASCU member faculty and administrators spend a week together studying political disputes in Yellowstone National Park. The project’s objective is to come up with new strategies and course ideas that colleges and

universities can implement to help undergraduates become thoughtful, informed and engaged citizens.

The impact of this initiative can, however, go beyond individual students and the classroom to the higher education institution as a whole. Recently, ADP member Longwood University in Farmville, Va., was awarded their largest gift ever—\$5.9 million—to create a broad range of “place-based” courses throughout the United States to highlight the duties and complexities of citizenship. This gift, according to the donors, Joan and Macon Brock, was based on the success of the Longwood at Yellowstone National Park program, where each spring, students spend several weeks with faculty and staff in an immersive interdisciplinary learning experience.

For more information, contact Jennifer Domagal-Goldman, ADP program manager, at [domagalj@aascu.org](mailto:domagalj@aascu.org).

## AASCU Leads Capitol Hill Forum on Campus Sexual Assault

On January 25, AASCU and NASPA (Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education) hosted the forum “How Do We Address Sexual Assault in the New Congress?” with university presidents and campus staff on Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C. The panel discussion reflected anxiety about possible changes to Title IX under President Donald Trump’s administration. Many of the panelists called for continued work on Title IX, while urging the new administration to provide more clarity on Title IX through engagement with stakeholders.

Twenty-five congressional offices and eight outside organizations were in attendance. Debbie Osgood, a nationally recognized expert on the civil rights laws and regulations that govern institutions of higher education, served as a panel moderator. Participants in this panel included: President John Jasinski, Northwest Missouri State University; President Alisa White, Austin Peay University (Tennessee); President Barbara Gitenstein, The College of New Jersey; and President Diane Harrison, California State University, Northridge. Penny Rue, vice president for campus life at Wake Forest University (N.C.), served as moderator for a second panel. This panel’s participants included: Candi Smiley, Title IX coordinator, Howard University (Washington, D.C.); Catherine Carroll, director and Title IX officer, University of Maryland; Fatima Taylor, assistant director of the CARE Office, University of Maryland; and Tammi Slovinsky, deputy Title IX coordinator for students, Virginia Commonwealth University.

AASCU will look to develop additional programming on this issue in the spring of 2017.

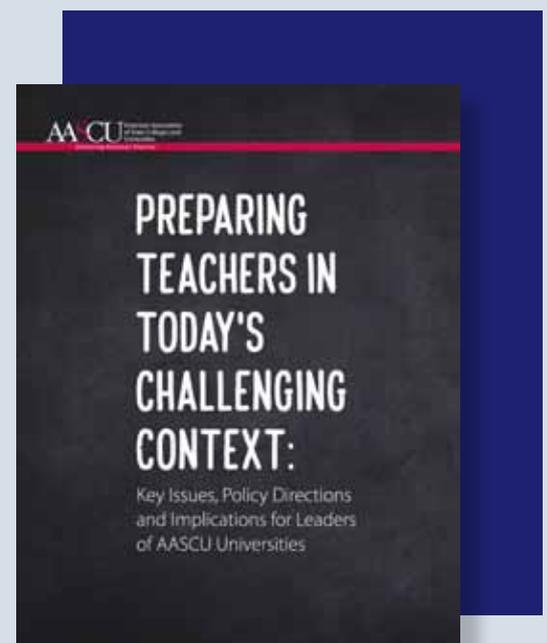


## New Report on Future of Teacher Education

**Survey results** and recommendations on teacher preparation are outlined in the new AASCU report, *Preparing Teachers in Today’s Challenging Context: Key Issues, Policy Directions and Implications for Leaders of AASCU Universities*. The report stems from AASCU’s Teacher Education Task Force of experts on teacher preparation, established in 2016, in addition to a survey of other higher education leaders.

AASCU surveyed presidents, provosts, and deans of schools and colleges of education at AASCU public colleges and universities to gain a better understanding of the current state of teacher preparation programs—and to inform future activities. Experts on the task force, who have considerable experience and particularly useful perspectives on teacher preparation within the AASCU context, and survey respondents, identified a broad set of challenges facing teacher preparation, including confronting growing expectations, coupled with declining autonomy for teachers, and university-based teacher preparation shifts in professional accreditation. Overall, the report underscores the need for presidents, provosts and education deans to more fully understand and support strong teacher preparation programs.

Visit [aascu.org](http://aascu.org) to download a pdf of the full 2017 AASCU teacher preparation report.



## Upcoming Meetings

**March 14-16**  
 Communications Conference  
 for Senior Professionals  
 Washington, D.C.

**March 15-17**  
 Council of State Representatives  
 Washington, D.C.

**March 23-24**  
 Presidential Symposium  
 Atlanta, Ga.

**April 20-21**  
 Board of Directors Spring Meeting

**June 4-23**  
 China Studies Institute (CSI)  
 Zhi-Xing China Academic Impact  
 Shanghai, Xi'an and Beijing, China

**June 7-10**  
 ADP/TDC/NASPA Civic Learning  
 and Democratic Engagement  
 Meeting  
 Baltimore, Md.

**June 9-18**  
 Japan Studies Institute  
 San Diego, Calif.

## 2017 Communications Conference for Senior Professionals

**Join other experienced** communications professionals at AASCU's 2017 Communications Conference for Senior Professionals, Communications Leadership in Uncertain Times: Challenges and Opportunities, March 14–16, in Washington, D.C.

This conference is designed especially for senior public relations and marketing professionals at AASCU member institutions. This year's program addresses the very tangible concerns many institutions have faced or are likely to confront in the future, including student protests, freedom of speech issues, and federal and state mandates. In addition, the conference offers attendees a unique opportunity to develop their professional network by connecting with colleagues from similar professional settings around the country. For more information, visit [aascu.org/meetings/comm17](http://aascu.org/meetings/comm17).

## Now Accepting Applications for Japan Studies Institute



AASCU's 2017 Japan Studies Institute (JSI) (June 5–18, San Diego, Calif.) is now accepting applications. JSI offers college and university faculty members without prior experience in Japanese studies the chance to learn from scholars, business leaders, artists and journalists about Japan, both past and present. The main goal of the institute is to encourage participants to develop strategies for incorporating Japanese studies into courses on their campuses.

## TDC Celebrates 5th Anniversary



**The Democracy Commitment (TDC)** celebrated its fifth anniversary with an event at The New York Times (NYT) in November. More than 70 guests were in attendance, including community college presidents, TDC's steering committee, TDC faculty and students, and many other partners and supporters. The event featured remarks from Kathleen O'Connell, NYT; George Mehaffy, AASCU; Verdis Robinson, TDC; Brian Murphy, De Anza College (Cupertino, Calif.); William "Bro" Adams, National Endowment

for the Humanities (NEH); and NYT columnist Ron Lieber, in addition to a panel from five TDC campuses and a panel of TDC students. At the beginning of the celebration, it was announced that Robinson, TDC's interim national manager, would be transitioning to a permanent role as TDC's national director in early 2017.