What’s going on in Fort Collins

- The 2015 cohort has returned to campus after a summer full of practicum experiences! (See spotlights below.)
- SAHE orientation for the 2016 cohort took place on July 31 and August 1.
- Training for all has started!

Summer Practicum Spotlight

Whitley Hadley – Class of 2015

During the month of June I was able to participate in a practicum experience at Langston University (LU) in Langston, Oklahoma. LU is the most western Historically Black University (HBCU) in the US, and sits in a small town about 45 minutes away from Oklahoma City. Within my practicum I worked with the Dean of students on first year programming, worked with the Counseling Center on an alcohol awareness program for Homecoming week, had the opportunity to shadow group counseling sessions with their Upward Bound program, and I facilitated an activity based on Schlossberg’s Transition Theory for the Upward Bound student staff. I am grateful for the practicum opportunity because I had no experience with HBCUs prior to the practicum, and I was interested in knowing what some of the obvious and subtle differences would be between HBCUs and Predominantly White Institutions (PWIs).

I was able to meet with the Vice President of Student Affairs (VPSA) and talk about the difference between HBCUs and PWIs, HBCU campus culture, LU student demographics, the future of the LU campus, and navigating the student affairs field as a Black woman. I believe the Inclusive University and Organizational Behavior course, taught in second semester of the SAHE program, benefitted me the most in understanding LU as an institution. The campus politics, symbolism, structures, and resources all differed in some way from the PWIs I have attended and visited and have come to understand over time. The LU practicum opened my eyes to HBCUs as an institutional type, and also to a rural small campus of only around 4500 students. I’m grateful to have had the opportunity to experience a campus with Black culture and focus at its core, and I know the practicum has provided me with a new source of knowledge that will impact my decision on where I see myself progressing post-graduation from the SAHE program.
I spent the summer months doing a practicum in Blagoevgrad, Bulgaria at the American University in Bulgaria (AUBG) in their Student Services Office. AUBG is a small, private, liberal arts institution based on the American style of higher education. I chose to work at AUBG in order to first, gain skills at an institution different from CSU but also to gain skills working in an international environment with an international student population. AUBG students represent 40 different nationalities and 54% of the student body are considered international students. While working in Student Services I was able to work with the Dean of Students Office, Housing, Conference and Events Services, and Erasmus Study Abroad Programs. I was able to evaluate AUBG's student services programs and propose new programs to better serve their students while implementing new ideas, utilizing my academic knowledge of the field, and getting to know what challenges international universities face. Additionally I was able to observe how history, geography, politics, and culture influence students' experiences on global campuses which was fascinating. My time in Bulgaria was incredible and I know AUBG has given me new student affairs knowledge I will use in my future career as the world becomes more globalized and our U.S. campuses focus on serving visiting international students and supporting domestic students to learn abroad.

Save the Date!

Faculty, alums, and current cohorts! Please join us for the annual SAHE tailgate at Hughes Stadium on Saturday, October 18, 2014 from 2pm-4pm! Exact location to follow!

Congrats!
SAHE 2014: Don’t say we didn’t make you think!