

Northeast Regional Chair 2010-2011 Angela Jia
End-Of-Year Report

Community Engagement and Retention

The 2011 Northeast Regional Board consisted of:

Regional Chair/President	Angela Jia	Columbia University
Vice Chair	Nila Devanath	The University of Pittsburgh
Director of Communications	Alfonso Mendoza	Pennsylvania State University
Director of Outreach	Natalia Castaner	Seton Hall University
Legislative Concerns Chair	Andy Guess	Columbia University
Regional Conference Coordinator	Angela Jia	Columbia University

Board members attended monthly meetings using FreeConferenceCall[®]. Agenda was created by the Chair and sent out two days before the meeting. The Director of Communications took minutes and distributed them after the meeting. Regular meetings are of critical importance to build cohesion among the board, to enhance dissemination of information, and to support institutional retention.

2011 Regional Conference

This year, the Northeast region had a successful regional conference with 19 attendees from 9 Universities. The attendance could be attributed to the Conference falling on the Easter/Passover weekend. The conference was hosted by Columbia University, with the Regional Chair also serving as the conference coordinator. Matt Cooper, the National Director of Relations, helped create the conference booklet. The booklet can be viewed [here](#); there is also a link to it on the Northeast Regional website, under “Regional Updates and Newsletters”.

US Congressman Charles Rangel delivered a keynote speech on the last day of the conference on *Mobilizing Students in Advocacy in Higher Education*. This is the first NAGPS Regional Conference to house a US Representative.

This conference featured the “Best Practices” presentations, which had been the centerpiece of our previous regional and national conferences, and “Collaboration Sessions”, introduced at the 2010 Regional Conference where attendees were invited to submit abstracts on problems they faced or on programs or events which they self-identified as doing poorly. As always, the conferences afforded us an opportunity to do outreach.

Outreach

In coordination with the National Director of Outreach, we created both an email template and phone template for member school recruitment. Schools we have contacted were:

Brown University	Point Park University	University of Massachusetts (Amherst)
Wheeling Jesuit University	Fordham University	University of Vermont
West Virginia University	New York University	University of Maine
Chatham University	Lincoln University	Drexel University
Cornell University	Temple University	Princeton University
Duquesne University	University of Connecticut	
University of Rochester	University of New Hampshire	

All efforts are documented on our online google document entitled, "NAGPS Northeast Region Outreach Tracking".

Schools that have joined during 2010-2011 were: Syracuse University; University of New England; Chatham; Bryn Mawr. In summary, there are currently 15 organizational members in the Northeast Region.

Legislative Concerns

For Spring LAD, students from the Northeast Region visited the following Representatives and Senators: Congressman Guinta (New Hampshire), Senator Ayotte (New Hampshire), Congressman Welch (Vermont), Congressman Capuano (Massachusetts), Congressman Lynch (Massachusetts), Congressman Markey (Massachusetts), Senator Brown (Massachusetts), Senator Kerry (Massachusetts), Congresswoman McCarthy (New York), Congressman Serrano (New York), Senator Gillibrand (New York) and Senator Schumer (New York).

In addition to national NAGPS legislative efforts, MIT independently generated leave-behind materials for "supporting science education and research".

Communication

Headed by our Regional Director of Communication, Alfonso Mendoza, Northeast has circulated three regional newsletters thus far and will distribute the fourth in December 2011. The newsletters this year included an introduction to the regional board, promotions for upcoming conferences and events, re-caps of preceding events, updates from regional member schools, and information on the member benefits.

The Regional Chair continued to be the gatekeeper for the northeast@nagps.org e-mail list.