



NIPSA ANNUAL CONFERENCE SPEAKER BIOS AND PROGRAM DESCRIPTIONS



Candice Pinares Baez

Session Title: "Adult-Student Interaction, Watch the Boundaries"

Program Description: The world is different today when it comes to student interactions. Well-meaning conversations, promised confidentiality, looking the other way, pool parties, enthusiastic hugs, and the friendly squeeze are all ingredients that would not have caused a second look ten years ago.

Today, those same actions can lead to student claims that may result in a range of actions: from the loss of career, to the defense of a lawsuit, or even facing criminal charges. When you add social networking, texting, smart phones, and pop culture's sexualization of adolescents the situation can quickly evolve into something truly tragic for all involved.

Participants will work through several boundaries scenarios and learn the potential liability that could arise from even well-intended behavior. They will also gain an understanding of why perceptions have changed and will receive concrete guidelines on how to change behavior to avoid liability and prevent risky situations that invite poor judgment.

Speaker Bio: Candice C. Pinares-Baez is an associate in the Fort Lauderdale office of Fisher & Phillips, LLP. Her practice is focused on defending employment-related matters, including claims for age, race, sex, disability, religious, and national origin discrimination arising under the various civil rights laws, as well as claims involving family leave issues, wage hour matters, and breach of contract.

Candice's practice includes preventive counseling, training, audits, policy reviews, drafting of contracts, defense of claims in the administrative setting, and litigation in all courts. Candice is also an active member of the firm's Education Practice Group, actively representing private educational institutions with respect to employee and student issues.

Candice is a frequent presenter to both educational and corporate associations and regularly authors articles on all aspects of employment law and risk management in the employment and educational context. She was named a Florida Super Lawyers Rising Star.

Candice is also fluent in Spanish and a member of the Advisory Board of Fisher & Phillips' Women's Initiative in Leadership Council. 4



Bena Kallik, Ph.D.

Session Title: "Habits of Mind"

Program Description: With all of the focus on “the common core” and getting students “college and career ready,” it is easy to lose sight of the fact that we are educating students and helping minds and people grow and mature, not creating workers to fit into some international testing system. We recognize that difference when we talk about the gap between what we value as educational essentials and how we evaluate results. One key question is how we can be true to our values while still addressing issues of accountability.

“Minding this gap” has been the focus of the most recent work of Bena Kallik and Art Costa. In *Learning and Leading with Habits of Mind*, they discuss 16 Habits of Mind that are essential to knowing how to behave intelligently under challenging situations; habits of mind that create a foundation for what we want for students.

In their most recent book, *Dispositions: Reframing Teaching and Learning* they build on the Habits to focus on how to structure learning environments to build on student strengths and get the results we want.

In this general session, Bena will describe the Habits of Mind and provide rich examples of practice in which the Habits are taught and assessed.

Speaker Bio: Bena is the Co-Director of Institute for Habits of Mind and Program Director for Eduplanet21. She is a well known consultant providing services to school districts, state departments of education, professional organizations, and public agencies throughout the United States and abroad.

Some of her written work includes: *Assessment in the Learning Organization* (ASCD, 1998) , the *Habits of Mind series* (ASCD, 2000), *Strategies for Self-Directed Learning* (Corwin Press, 2004) , *Learning and Leading with Habits of Mind* (ASCD, 2008), *Habits of Mind Across the Curriculum* (ASCD, 2009), *Dispositions: Reframing Teaching and Learning* (Corwin,2014) (all co-authored with Arthur Costa), and *Using Curriculum Mapping and Assessment to Improve Student Learning* (Corwin Press, 2009, (co-authored with Jeff Colosimo). Her works have been translated into Dutch, Chinese, Spanish, Italian, Hebrew, and Arabic.

Her work with Dr. Art Costa led to the development of the Institute for Habits of Mind (www.instituteforhabitsofmind.com), an international institute dedicated to transforming schools into places where thinking and Habits of Mind are taught, practiced, valued and have become infused into the culture of the school and community.

She and Art Costa have an online course using the EduPlanet21 platform. Eduplanet is a company dedicated to Professional Development for Educators using the most contemporary tools and thinking to be successful engaging students and teachers as 21st century learners.

Kallik's teaching appointments have included Yale University School of Organization and Management, University of Massachusetts Center for Creative and Critical Thinking, and Union Graduate School. She was formerly on the Boards of the Apple Foundation, Jobs for the Future, Weston Woods Institute, and Communities for Learning.



Adriana Munoz-Restrepo, Ph.D.

Session Title: "Education in the Era of Helicopter Parenting"

Program Description: Do you remember what our parents were like raising us? Have you wondered how today's parenting became so different? This session deals with how to successfully work with students being raised in the era of helicopter parenting and the impact on education and educators this parenting trend has had.

Session Title: "Technology – The Good, The Bad, & The Ugly"

Program Description: Are you a Digital Native or a Digital Immigrant? Technology has changed the way we live, think and function in society. So many aspects of our lives are easier while others have become more complicated because of technology. This presentation looks at all sides of the impact of technology on us as society and things we can do prevent it taking control of us and our students.

Speaker Bio: Adriana Munoz, Ph.D. earned her BS in Psychology from FSU in 1991; her MS in Mental Health Counseling; her Specialist in Education degree from FSU in 1993; and her Ph.D. in Counseling Psychology from the University of Miami in 1997. She is a Florida Licensed Psychologist who has worked in numerous settings such as Miami Children's Hospital Behavioral Medicine Department; in her own private practice; at Nova's Community Mental Health Center; and at various public schools in Miami-Dade County and Broward County. She has taught college students at the Master's and Doctoral level at the University of Miami. She was a school counselor for 7 years at Epiphany Catholic School and has been at Gulliver since 2005 working as a College and Guidance Counselor at Gulliver Preparatory School. She has completed numerous professional presentations on numerous topics to various audiences throughout Florida.



Peter Lavaroni, M.A.
Principal – Kittredge School

Session Title: “Implementation of Habits of Mind Program in Kittredge School”

Program Description: In this session, Peter will share how Kittredge School implemented the Habits of Mind Character Program into their school setting, their process for the school staff and the positive effects on their institution. He will talk about the experience of his school becoming the first school in the San Francisco Bay area to become certified in the program.

Speaker Bio: Peter Lavaroni has been teaching at Kittredge School since 1981. He was the Primary Class (first and second grades) teacher for 16 years. He finally left the “World’s Greatest Class” in 1998 to assume his current role as Principal. Mr. Lavaroni received his BA from California State University, Chico, and his Master’s degree at Dominican College. His teaching credential was also earned at Dominican College. He has served as President of the Board of Directors of the National Independent Private Schools Association.



Nancy Mendes, MBA
Regional Vice President - Facts Management, a Nelnet Company

Session Title: “Why Schools Outsource Tuition Management”

Program Description: This session will cover the top five reasons schools outsource their tuition management and financial aid assessment.

Speaker Bio: Nancy Mendes grew-up attending independent schools and brings 14 years of education experience to FACTS working in the areas of recruiting, admissions, enrollment management and financial aid. She has worked with various organizations and schools across the nation providing educational solutions that were flexible and tailored to the needs of her clients. She has a keen understanding of both the business and student side of the education industry and has helped many students achieve their educational dreams. Nancy is originally from the New York City area and currently makes her home in the Tampa/St. Petersburg area. She holds a BS degree from the Florida Metropolitan University and a Master’s in Business Administration from the University of Phoenix and is fluent in Spanish and Portuguese.

Session Title: “Increasing Enrollment Through Inbound Marketing”, Presented by RenWeb Staff

Program Description: This session will present ways to bring visitors in to our schools rather than having marketers go out to get prospects' attention. The discussion will include earning the attention of customers, making the company easy to be found and drawing customers to the school's website by producing interesting content.

Session Title: “Accreditation Team Training”

Program Description: Each NIPSA school prepares for an accreditation visit by a team of their peers. Each school is committed to having at least one individual trained to assist in this ever important role for our schools. Attendees will be trained to successfully be a member on a team that is involved in the accreditation/re-accreditation process of NIPSA schools.