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Editor's Corner: Embracing Transition

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As student affairs professionals, we are constantly in a state of transition. We transition from year to year as we adapt to different groups of students, from role to role as we try on different hats and experiment with different functional areas, and from strategic plan to strategic plan as we experience changes in institutional leadership. We even help our students transition. Yet, as graduate students in this field, we transition even more.

As graduate students, we transition from undergraduates ourselves, to aspiring student affairs professionals, caught between two different worlds. In fact, even when we are tasked with the same responsibilities as full-time staff, it is difficult to see ourselves as such. It is difficult to adopt the titles of supervisors, practitioners, and scholars. It is difficult to improve our writing, adopt our own philosophies, and advocate for what we believe in—to work toward social change and social justice. Becoming *real* full-time professionals is not easy.

That being said, as editor-in-chief of this journal, I have come to see it for what it is. I have come to see it as an opportunity for aspiring student affairs professionals to navigate these transitions and embrace these newfound titles, to bring their research to the forefront, to express themselves, and to explore the issues they are passionate about.

And no, not every piece published in this issue is perfect, but is not that our goal? Is not it our prerogative to support students' learning and development? To help them embrace imperfections as opportunities for growth? And navigate transitions without fearing failure? Well, it is my belief that this journal affords graduate students the same liberty. And, it has been my privilege to assist with this publication, as the *College Student Affairs Leadership* experiences a transition as well.

It is with this issue, that we say goodbye to our founder, faculty mentor, and managing editor, Dr. Donald Mitchell, Jr., as he transitions to a new role at a new institution. And, while this leaves the future of this journal somewhat uncertain, it also presents us with the potential for both change and growth as we move forward.

I would like to thank those who have helped make this last issue possible. Whether by submitting a piece for review, reviewing those submissions, editing their copy and content, or formatting them for publication—I sincerely thank you. Without your dedication, this would not have been possible, and without you, there would be no hope that this journal might continue.

Finally, for those of you reading this issue, let this be a reminder to embrace transition.

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