Top Higher Education Journal Focused on College Students Increases to Eight Issues Per Year

The January 2014 issue of the *Journal of College Student Development* (JCSD) will mark a milestone in the journal’s 55-year history.

The journal will change its publication schedule in the new year, expanding from six to eight issues per year. Subscribers will now receive the journal in January, March, April, May, July, September, October and November. The journal, the official journal of the American College Personnel Association (ACPA), is published by the Johns Hopkins University Press.

“We have had a significant backlog of accepted submissions for a while now,” said JCSD Editor John M. Braxton, Professor of Education in the department of Leadership, Policy and Organizations at Vanderbilt University. “The Editorial Board realized that the best solution was to increase the number of issues to try and shorten the wait time from acceptance to publication.”

Braxton said that the quality of submissions has remained strong, making the decision necessary to prevent an even longer wait for accepted authors. He said the delay can have unintended consequences.

“This is the sign of a very healthy journal, but delaying publication also creates problems for people who are in the tenure and promotion stream as well as affecting the impact of some research,” he said.

JCSD posts copy-edited versions of articles online prior to publication for ACPA members, but Braxton said the editorial board and journal staff still felt they needed to reduce the backlog.

The largest and leading source of research about college students and the field of student affairs, JCSD publishes scholarly articles and reviews from a wide range of academic fields. Since 1959, scholars in student affairs, higher education, sociology, psychology, social work, nursing, business administration, and health sciences have been finding their voice with JCSD.

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