The primary mission of the Association for the Study of Higher Education (ASHE) is to foster scholarly inquiry of the highest standards of excellence for the purpose of increasing knowledge about and the understanding of higher education. To help advance this mission the ASHE Board has approved an ad hoc Subcommittee on Community Engagement. In order to understand higher education for local communities and for local communities to understand our scholarship, it is valuable to have a reciprocal relationship with local communities, however brief. This in turn will allow ASHE as an association to keep moving towards standards of excellence and to be inclusive of service-oriented future goals.

Howard University, a culturally diverse, comprehensive, research intensive and historically Black private university, provides an educational experience of exceptional quality at the undergraduate, graduate, and professional levels to students of high academic standing and potential, with particular emphasis upon educational opportunities for Black students. Howard is dedicated to attracting and sustaining a cadre of faculty who are, through their teaching, research and service, committed to the development of distinguished, historically aware, and compassionate graduates and to the discovery of solutions to human problems in the United States and throughout the world. With an abiding interest in both domestic and international affairs, the University is committed to continuing to produce leaders for America and the global community. Three particular groups of students from Howard University will be served through this year’s ASHE service project:

The Howard University TRiO Scholars Program (Tekora Scruggs) was developed to promote the academic, social, personal, and professional success of all our students by building a strong sense of community and drawing on resources both within and outside of the program. The TRiO Scholars Program assists undergraduates in making a successful transition from secondary to postsecondary education. The goals of the program are to increase participants' retention and graduation rates and to foster an institutional climate that supports the success of income-qualified, first-generation college students and individuals with disabilities. TRiO Scholars understand that academic, social, personal, and professional growth are important keys to success, during and after enrollment at Howard.

The Howard University Preparing Future Faculty Program (Gwen Bethea) prepares students to enter the nation's professoriate. The program presents an integrated view of the roles of a professional academic through:

- Workshops on development of professional credentials, seeking employment, & career plans
- Seminars on designing courses, teaching techniques, and solving instructional problems
- Case studies of ethical issues in academic life
- Hands-on instruction in the uses of new technology for teaching and research
- Presentations on the governance and functions of academic departments and institutions
- Campus visits to different types of institutions

The Atlantic-Coast Social Behavioral and Economic Sciences, Alliance for Graduate Education and the Professoriate (AGEP, Koren A. Bedeau ) program focuses on increasing the numbers of underrepresented groups in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) fields. Significantly, each AGEP school has alliances with at least two other institutions. The relationships that were established through AGEP will facilitate the inclusion of more social, behavioral, and economic sciences programs at additional schools.

The ASHE Subcommittee on Community Engagement will facilitate the following service activities:

- **Professional Development and Research Roundtables**: Leading scholars from ASHE membership will have informal discussions with the students and answer questions that will be helpful in their studies and future careers (Friday, November 21, 8:00 AM – 8:45 AM, International Ballroom).

- **Opportunities for Research Feedback**: For the students who choose to submit an electronic version of a poster, grad students will provide critical feedback to help them advance their research.

- **Grad Student Lounge**: Informal opportunities to meet and chat with grad students.

- Students will be provided **free registrations to the entire ASHE Conference**, where they will have the opportunity to attend keynote presentations and concurrent sessions, as well as interact with scholars throughout the conference.

- **Summative Reflection Session** for all participants to discuss their conference experiences (Saturday, November 22, 2:00 PM – 3:15 PM, Lincoln West Room).

### 2014 ASHE Community Engagement Ad-hoc Subcommittee

- **Amalia Dache-Gerbino, PhD, Ad-hoc Committee Chair**
- **Denisa Gandara, Ph.D. Candidate**
- **Brian A. Burt, Ph.D**
- **Drew Pearl, Ph.D. Candidate**
- **Keon McGuire, Ph.D.**

- **Jill Jones, Ph.D. Student**
- **Katherine Wheatle, Ph.D. Student**
- **Constance Ilo, Ph.D. Candidate**
- **Carita Harrell, Ed.D.**
- **Molly Sarubbi, Ph.D. Student**