

Suggested Topics for the 2009 TABS Conference

A compilation of suggestions from 2008 conference attendees

Academic Administration:

- Innovative teachers talking about what really works at their schools
- Implementing assessment processes
- Staff training workshops
- Improving a residential curriculum through training (residential/academic/dorm faculty)
- Faculty evaluation – specific programs/models
- New faculty orientation
- Faculty motivation
- Recruiting and retain house faculty
- Peer mentoring programs
- Working with faculty of different backgrounds/beliefs
- Keeping faculty connected after they move out of the dorm
- Opening Days– juggling orientation, leadership, pre-season, settling in
- Emergency preparedness training for students and adults
- New student orientation
- School Traditions and Hazing – legal, ethical and educational implications
- Sessions for aspiring heads
- Advanced professional development for experienced staff

Admission Financial Aid & Enrollment Management:

- International recruitment
- Use of educational agents in attracting international students – pros and cons
- Admissions demographics
- Admission marketing
- Enrollment, marketing and recruiting strategies – domestic and international
- New admission practices
- Affordability enrollment management
- Financial aid

Development & Advancement:

- Globally connecting our students (*semester programs, exchanges, community service projects*)
- Transitions for faculty
- Being a leader: School decision-making
- Development/Advancement/Marketing

Financial Management & Sustainability:

- Financial issues: sustainability in uncertain times
- Schools facing current economic challenges
- School improvement
- Programmatic sustainability

Heads & Senior Management:

- Sessions for aspiring heads
- Financial sustainability

Marketing & Communications:

- Marketing research demographics
- Web marketing, viral marketing
- Innovative marketing

- Selling your product
- Media relations
- Crisis communications

Residential & Student Life:

- GLBT workshops
- Discipline issues
- Substance abuse: best practice, policies & discipline
- Student Dismissals: community responses
- Student activities
- Student leadership
- After hours curriculum: character education, life skills training, reslife curriculum
- International Students issues – Specific to dorm life
- Programming for students in relation to the issue of "over-programming"
- Risk-management/crisis-management planning for residence life
- "Parent's weekends" AND dealing with issues like homesickness
- Discipline – substance abuse, cell phones, etc.
- Training younger residential faculty and ways to improve a residential curriculum that aren't dependent upon special schedules
- Opening Days– juggling orientation, leadership, pre-season, settling in

Health & Counseling:

- Infectious diseases in boarding schools
- School Traditions and Hazing – legal, ethical and educational implications
- Adolescent brain development – understanding of adolescents
- Eating disorders
- Drug & alcohol abuse

Technology:

- Old world etiquette with new world technology
- Challenges of technology– both in terms of teaching and student use.
- Integrating technology throughout the learning process
- Technological advances: i.e. virtual worlds, webinars, viral videos, etc.
- Student misuse of technology & solutions
- Developing “acceptable use policies”

Multidisciplinary/Other:

- Topics on athletics
- Environmental topics: Going green on a budget
- College counseling topics specific to boarding schools
- Student leadership
- Legal issues facing schools
- School/local community involvement
- Educational/cultural travel programs
- Parental communications
- Parent association topics
- Multicultural Integration
- Transitional programs for underprivileged students
- Diversity/cultural awareness & issues
- Korean student topics
- Asian cultures: conflict resolution
- Implementing healthy global residential life programs