

## Zaneta Rago – Promising New Professional Award

Presented at the Creating Change Conference 2014 in Houston, Texas

Zaneta Rago is a unique professional. Her nominators spoke glowingly of Zaneta's commitment, creativity, attention to detail, and resourcefulness. In her work with the Consortium, we can speak first hand about her initiative and her dedication, first in her role as the mid-atlantic regional representative and now as one of the People of Color constituency chairs. Her nominators spoke of her service as Social Justice & Community Service chair for the





Association of Student Affairs Professionals, Production Editor for the Journal of Student Affairs at NYU, co-chair for Rutgers' Diversity Council for Student Affairs.

Zaneta joined Rutgers as the Assistant Director for the Center for Social Justice Education and LGBT Communities (SJE) in July 2012. Among her accomplishments within her first year at Rutger's she strengthened the LGBT Programming. She cultivated a vibrant Social Justice Living Learning Community. She used technical wizardry to broaden the social & web presence -- creating videos, websites, and presentations to increase the visibility of her office and continue advancing the mission of social justice. She has done amazing work on LGBT issues in South Africa, prison outreach, and the needs of first-year students. And importantly, throughout this work, she spotlights issues of marginalization both inside and outside of our community.

In Zaneta, we see someone who is both confident and consistent, someone who is brilliant and approachable, and an amazing guide and mentor to those around her. On this board, we are grateful to have her as a self-care champion, who reminds us to slow down every once in a while. To paraphrase one of her nominators, she lives up to the hype.

With a number of regional and national accolades to her credit including being part of the team which garnered NYU's Ally Week a NASPA Gold Excellence Award. We would like to add one more, we are honored to join the chorus of voices of Professional Organizations, Researchers, and Practitioners to recognize Zaneta for her contributions to the profession.

On behalf of the Consortium we are proud to present the Consortium's Promising New Professional Award to... Zaneta Rago.