

NACTM

E SPORTS

2018 NATIONAL CONVENTION



2018 NACE Convention Recap

It's amazing to think NACE just completed the first-ever national convention for varsity esports! Thank you to the 150 attendees who braved the Atlanta heat to learn about collegiate esports. I hope this is just the first of many NACE conventions to come.

The convention included three major esports announcements. The first is that the [Esports Coaches Association](#) (ECA) was formed to establish and maintain collegiate esports standards, affect legislation, and support esports programs.

Second, in partnership with Hi-Rez Studios, NACE announced a fall 2018 [SMITE and Paladins league](#) for varsity programs with a total of \$100,000 in scholarships to be awarded. Schedule and placement information will be shared soon.

Finally, NACE announced that in partnership with Harrisburg University, the [HUE Festival](#) will be the collegiate esports kick-off for the 2018-19 academic year. Varsity teams from across the country will be invited to compete in League of Legends and Overwatch, competing for \$50,000 in scholarships.

This year's convention covered a range of esports professional development led by experienced esports administrators. Networking opportunities were also encouraged, allowing attendees with active esports programs to interact with those just considering an esports program. We've heard overwhelmingly positive feedback from attendees and are proud this event was valuable to so many. (You can check out the keynotes [here](#).)

Thanks to everyone who was able to join us. If you haven't already, please complete the [convention survey](#). We're already planning next year's event, so stay tuned for the details.

All the best,

Michael Brooks
NACE Executive Director

P.S. Don't forget to complete and submit the [NACE Declaration of Intent](#) by July 31.

Convention Photos



What Attendees Are Saying

"The NACE Convention was an awesome experience! It was great to be around like-minded individuals and see so many new schools getting into collegiate eSports. Without NACE, it would be hard to see collegiate eSports expanding and growing as quickly as it is."

Kris Weissmann
University of South Carolina, Sumpter

"The first annual NACE convention was absolutely amazing. The ability to network and share ideas and strategies with other Esports professionals is not something that you can put a price tag on. Events like this convention will be the cornerstone of developing quality programs for years to come, and we are lucky that NACE is in the forefront of the collegiate space."

Josh Knutson
University of Jamestown

"The NACE National Convention was such a great experience. I went to my first work conference 15 years ago and this was easily one of the most positive and affirming ones I have attended."

Eugene Frier
Texas Wesleyan University

"Was exciting seeing all the NACE updates. You guys killed it!"

Gidd Sasser
Kansas Wesleyan University