# NABS Notes – June 2021

**“The most powerful weapon on earth is the human soul on fire.” -Ferdinand Foch**

Welcome to the June edition of our NABS Notes! In lieu of the 2021 National Convention on the horizon, now, more so than ever, is a great time to get up close and personal with the latest NABS news. We hope you’ll take some time to catch up on all things new and exciting in our student movement. Read on to learn more about our upcoming events and updates from committees. In this edition you will find:

•A Message from the Board

•June Episode of the NABS Now Podcast

•Committee Updates

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## Bringing NABS to New Heights

Now that summer is in full swing and June is drawing to a close, we are mere days away from our largest events of the year! We invite all blind students and allies to join us for our exciting programming at the 2021 NFB National Convention. After having a blast at NABS Networking, taking place on July 6 at 6:30 PM EST, plan to attend our annual business meeting, happening on July 7 at 8:00 PM EST, by registering using [this form](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeGUWqixI8V8vhIOGxsnutPcvWNhQpsFC1bwRhM8q3uUkWsig/viewform). Please note that anyone can register to attend up until the start of the convention on July 6, 2021; however, you are only eligible to vote in this year’s election process if you registered and paid your dues by June 21, 2021. For more information about the fun to come, we invite you to check out this [NABS at National Convention page](https://nabslink.org/national-convention).

It has been a very unique year in NABS, but we cannot wait to celebrate all that we have accomplished together. Let’s both reflect on the past twelve months and look forward to the work yet to come.

## June Episode of the NABS Now Podcast | Guiding Your Future - The Decision to Own a Guide Dog as a Blind Student

The process of owning a guide dog is a rich and rewarding one. Still, certain considerations must be made in several key areas when making this important life decision. In this episode, you will hear from two blind student guide dog handlers and receive advice from an experienced professional who works with both guide dogs and handlers alike. Please note that the NABS Now Podcast does not endorse one guide dog school or program and that this episode is intended for general informational uses only.

Thank you to special guests Alycia Howard, Seyoon Choi, and Lisa Derleth.

Created and produced by Nina Marranca, Kinshuk Tella, and Seyoon Choi.

Are you interested in assisting with the planning and production of the NABS Now Podcast? Email Nina at: [ninam0814@gmail.com](mailto:ninam0814@gmail.com) for more information.

Find us on [Spotify](https://open.spotify.com/show/47rJlZrFHD4EIqvgLRNhHM), [Apple Podcasts](https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/nabs-now-podcast/id1507437256?uo=4), [Google Podcasts](https://podcasts.google.com/feed/aHR0cHM6Ly9hbmNob3IuZm0vcy8xYWRjNWZmNC9wb2RjYXN0L3Jzcw==%20), or see [our Anchor page](https://anchor.fm/nabs-now%20) for more ways to listen!

## Committee Updates

### Celebrating Another Year of Success!

The NABS Outreach Committee cannot express how appreciative we are for all the amazing membership support and feedback given during the 2020-2021 year. Your thoughts, ideas, and efforts make the work we accomplish together possible, and we cannot wait to continue our initiatives in the coming year. Stay tuned for future information, including next year’s leadership team and committee call time, and enjoy National Convention!

### Raising and Reflecting

The NABS Fundraising Committee has been hard at work, ensuring that the 2021 National Convention is one of the most beneficial and lucrative yet. Our 5th annual NABS walk-a-thon is live, and we encourage all of you to [register](https://go.rallyup.com/9cebd4/Campaign) and/or pledge and support your fellow students in their quest to both become fit and grow our organization. Additionally, you can now order our Greek-inspired Tees by simply completing [this form](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScfRtjUZAxzZ3KN1TF856pDf2PK8lrtbyh_wHEo-txo6dA3LQ/viewform) and following up with your payment. Remember that if you are interested in purchasing one of our NABS Nuggets cookbooks, launching July 1, you can do so at a discounted price if you have purchased a Greek Tee already. Stay tuned for more information about joining our committee in coming months when new leadership and meeting times will be announced.

### Writing as a Tool for Activism

In June, the NABS Legislative and Self-Advocacy Committee hosted a call about using our student writing skills for activism. Trisha Kulkarni and Cricket Bidleman, both students at Stanford University, shared parts of their personal experience with us so that we could better understand the tools we possess as student writers. Trisha is an accomplished contributor to the Stanford Daily News. She has been writing since her freshman year. Cricket recently served as student body vice president at Stanford and has subsequently been working as a reporter for the Stanford Daily. Many students have excellent writing skills and a passion for activism in their hearts, and our committee wants to help students foster those writing skills in order to change the world.

Stay tuned for more LSAC initiatives coming soon, along with information about committee leadership and call times.

### Farewell from a Fabulous Friend

“I want to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has participated on the NABS Diversity and Inclusion Committee and its subsequent efforts over the past year. We have had some great conversations, and I am hopeful that we have moved the needle even slightly in our efforts. I am so excited to watch this committee evolve under new leadership in the upcoming year. Serving as your chair has been a truly humbling experience in terms of how much I have yet to learn. Thank you especially to co-chairs Sara Luna and Qualik Ford. This year would have never happened without you.” – Monica Wegner, Chair, NABS Diversity and Inclusion committee

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