**Unit 14. Things You Can Do to Begin Developing Your Personal Learning Network**

-Join a professional social network.

-Pick 5 Blogs you find interesting and start reading them

--Set up an[iGoogle account](https://www.google.com/ig) and subscribe to the blogs you selected in[Google Reader](https://www.google.com/reader/view/).

-Become a part of the conversation and start commenting on the blogs you read.

-Join the microblogging phenomena by reading Tweets at[Twitter](http://twitter.com/home).

**-YouTube**

This is an area I feel that the student affairs profession could take on more aggressively, both in developing content, as well as expanding on current videos. To get you started, I wrote a piece recommending [10 women to follow on YouTube](http://www.sawomentalktech.com/blog/2014/01/23/10-females-to-follow-on-youtube/). In addition, here are two resources pumping out student affairs/higher education specific content:

* [**Higher Ed Live**](https://www.youtube.com/user/higheredlive)
* [Student Affairs Live](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCTHQFL5ZZSrz93qW6ihYVzQ)

**- Facebook Groups**

I enjoy Facebook groups because the sense of a personal and professional community, and the interaction is strong. It also gives one an opportunity to find others on Facebook that have liked interests, but are not yet formally Facebook ‘friends.’ This also swings the other way, connecting with professionals whom you would choose not to include in your Facebook friend list. The list below varies from professional to personal related content that could be of interest to a student affairs professional:

* [Student Activities Professionals](https://www.facebook.com/groups/394281700668916/)
* [NASPA Technology Knowledge Community](https://www.facebook.com/groups/NASPATechKC/)
* [Student Affairs Professionals](https://www.facebook.com/groups/2204795643/)
* [Student Affairs Runners](https://www.facebook.com/groups/sarunners/)

**-Website Collaborations**

Growing resources for PLNs are collaborative student affairs websites that have a collection contributors writing. Created and managed by student affairs professionals themselves, a collaborative spirit fosters as these projects grow and take on addition contributors in guest posts, as well as co-management. A few examples of these include:

* [Student Affairs Collective](http://studentaffairscollective.org/)
* [**The Student Affairs Feature**](http://studentaffairsfeature.com/)
* [**Student Affairs Women Talk Tech**](http://www.sawomentalktech.com/blog/)
* [Student Affairs Fitness](http://studentaffairsfit.com/)
* [Student Leader Collective](http://studentleadercollective.com/)