TACRA

Texas Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers

TACRAO Spring 2014 Newsletter



What a pleasure and honor it is to address the membership of this important association. As your president for 2014, I'd like to recap some of "where we've been" and provide some insight into "where we're going."

First, I hope that many of you had the opportunity to attend our 2013 annual meeting in November. Georgina Antillon of the University of Texas at El Paso, along with Daryle Hendry, of El Paso Community College District, executed an exciting and educational event out west. It's also important to thank our exhibitors, whose contributions are an important component in making our meetings affordable.

If you participated in the newcomer reception in El Paso as a mentor, please remember to keep in touch with your mentee(s). Likewise, if you were a newcomer and were assigned a mentor, remember to contact your mentor for advice or just to network. The magic of all great associations is PEOPLE (and in my opinion, TACRAO is the greatest!)

All members can stay in touch with hot topics and challenges by keeping an eye on the listserv and by checking in with the association Facebook page. If you were in El Paso, remember to check back on the large bank of conference photos on FB. Also, remember that since everything is big in Texas, we have six regional associations. There are regional updates in this newsletter to keep you updated on your region's activities. If there is a regional meeting this year, I hope you can attend. If there isn't one…maybe you can be an organizer! During the summer and fall, we have our usual line-up of informative meetings to keep you in the know and ready for new challenges in the professions:

SPEEDE Users Group

Thursday, June 26 (Austin – The Commons Learning Center on the UT Research Campus)

ApplyTexas Meeting

Friday, June 27 (Austin – The Commons Learning Center on the UT Research Campus)

Summer Meeting for Universities

Tuesday, July 15 – Wednesday, July 16 (Austin – Doubletree) … meeting starts and ends at noon on these dates

Summer Meeting for Community Colleges

Thursday, July 17 – Friday, July 18 (Austin – Doubletree) … meeting starts early morning on Thursday, ends by noon on Friday

Annual Meeting ~ Monday, October 27 – Thursday, Oct. 30 (Waco – Convention Center)

Stay tuned to the listserv for announcements on registration dates, agendas, etc.

As for your executive committee, we are all working hard on association business. In December, VP of Admissions Trevor Thorn and I attended the AACRAO State and Regional Officers Workshop in Washington, DC. This meeting provides association officers with training on many issues (financial, legal, etc.) and also allowed us to share tips with others in similar roles from around the nation. Sadly, president-elect Chuck Kettlewell was "iced out" of that meeting (due to the big Dallas freeze), but he has been busy creating a new way of soliciting volunteer interest from the membership (to make our committees and sessions stronger). Trevor and our VP of Records and Registration, Sofia Montes, are busy harvesting session proposals for the Waco meeting from session planning committees. Secretary Maria Aguirre-Acuna is recovering from shoulder surgery, while managing our membership and subscription records and meeting minutes. Later in the year, she'll release the college day-night schedule. Treasurer Joe Papari is keeping a watch on the coffers, while he also prepares to take on a leadership role with SACRAO. And Past President Oscar Reyna is charged with scouting for our annual meeting location for 2016, as well as preparing for the audit of the El Paso conference. The executive committee will meet three times in Waco this year, in preparation for the October meeting where we'll be "Taking Charge of Change." Joining us are the Local Arrangement Co-Chairs for Waco, David Edwards and Lee Owens, both of Navarro College. They are being shadowed by Allison Dragon, Texas Tech Admissions Coordinator for the Houston Area (our LAC Chair for TACRAO Houston, 2016). Once again, I thank you for the trust you've placed in me, and I am (almost) always available to discuss any concerns that you have. The best way to contact me is by emailing bgriffit@lee.edu. Contact information for all TEC members is found under "Organization" on the home page of tacrao.org.



Oscar's Oratory

By Oscar Reyna, TACRAO Immediate Past President

It's hard to believe 2013 has come and gone. I hope that your holidays were spent with your loved ones and that you were able to get some well deserved rest. 2014 is here, providing us with crazy weather and promises to be a great year!

Our Annual Conference, **Leading Texans to Success**, in El Paso, was an amazing experience! It was an absolute honor to have served as President to an association that means to much to me. Congratulations go out to our wonderful Local Arrangements Co-Chairs, **Georgina Antillon** and **Daryle Hendry.** These two wonderful individuals worked hard to make sure all conference details were taken care of and to ensure a successful conference. Their hard work and the work of the entire Local Arrangements Committee paid off. We had a wonderful conference in a beautiful city!

As we all know, the conference would hot have been possible without all the hard work done by the Session Planning Committees. With over 100 sessions, membership had a vast number of presentations to select from. All of the association work and summer meetings would not have been possible without all the work done by the numerous Standing Committees. It truly takes a dedicated membership to run our wonderful association. Thank you to every single one of you who served on a committee for all your hard work this past year!

I was blessed to serve with such wonderful professionals this past year. Thank you for your work and dedication, **Berri O'Neal, Becki Griffith, Jamie Hansard, Sofia Montes, Stan DeMerritt, Joe Papari, Georgina Antillon** and **Daryle Hendry.**

This year's success would not have been possible without you all. I look forward to another exciting year under Becki's leadership. See you all this summer at our association meetings.



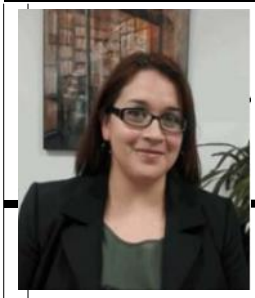
Chuck's Channel

By Chuck Kettlewell, TACRAO President-Elect

As a long-standing member of TACRAO, I am often asked about what makes this organization stand out among other professional groups. The answer is quite simple – the membership and its unfaltering willingness to assist their colleagues. TACRAO encompasses a wealth of experienced, bright, creative, and sage professionals who have pretty much seen it all. Why re-invent the wheel when almost certainly one of your trusted colleagues is willing to share not just their blueprints, but also the benefits, pitfalls, and hurdles they crossed to achieve the finished product. TACRAO has mentors who have taken extra effort to nurture less seasoned professionals in the business. I am continually impressed by this outpouring of valuable information that is conveyed at the annual meeting, regional meetings, summer, meetings, workshops, and on the listserv. Keep it up, my friends, and the organization only gets stronger. To that end, if you are not among the 65 energized members from the El Paso Annual Meeting who already submitted a TACRAO I'm Available form, you should not hesitate to march right over to your TACRAO website (www.tacrao.org) and you will find the form under the "Organization" tab. The new and improved form is a fillable PDF that is automatically forwarded to the President-Elect upon submission. The TACRAO Executive Committee extensively utilizes the I'm Available form for session and workshop ideas, standing and program committee composition, and suggestions for future leadership (which are forwarded annually to the elected Nominations Committee).

Your TACRAO Executive Committee is already busy preparing for the 2014 93rd Annual Meeting. Our unified goal will be to provide you with an invigorating and enlightening array of informational program sessions interspersed with exciting opportunities for fellowship, collegiality, and sharing new innovations. In other words, showcasing the best resource that TACRAO can offer – its amazing membership. The Annual Meeting always presents an outstanding opportunity for professional development of all attendees – ranging from the newcomers to the mossbacks. Even after all these years, this old dog still learns new tricks – every year!

On a personal note, I am incredibly honored to be your President-Elect and I am really looking forward to working the next few years with an outstanding Executive Committee.



Sofi Says

By Sofia Montes, TACRAO Vice President of Records and Registration

Greetings from the Alamo City, where we recently saw an ice day (not impressive enough to compete with our friends in the Dallas area, of course)! Your TACRAO Executive Committee just met in Waco to begin planning the annual conference. It is not too late to contribute to this year's session planning! If you have great session ideas for records and registrations, please contact me or one of your **Session Planning Chairs: Catherine Littleton** for *Certification & Legal Issues*; **Chris Villarreal** for *Data Collection & Technology*; **MaryJane McReynolds** for *Community/Technical Colleges and Transfer*; **Michael Rendon** for *Management, Organization & Professional Development;* or **Jeff Rhodes** for *Records & Registration*.

Famous face reader Ann Marks is slated to present again, with one session in particular dedicated to face reading in the hiring/interview process! Additional sessions are being planned with focuses on project management, institution-vendor relationships, and of course updates and assessments on the implementation of the New Texas Core Curriculum. Don't forget that breakout sessions this year will take place on Tuesday, October 28 and Wednesday, October 29. Stay tuned for program formats and additional confirmed sessions.

Don't forget to connect with fellow TACRAOans at **AACRAO** in Denver, **March 30th - April 2nd** at the Colorado Convention Center! Check with TACRAO's Facebook page to find out any gatherings of TACRAO colleagues!



Trevor's Truths, Tales, Tidbits and Tantrums:

By Trevor Thorn, Vice President of Admissions

Greetings from Sam Houston, where we normally get one snow day every five years but had two in less than one week! (although we only had real snow one of those days)! The 2014 TACRAO Executive Committee just met in Waco to begin planning the 93rd annual conference. It is not too late to contribute to this year's session planning, and just like Uncle Sam, "We Want You!"

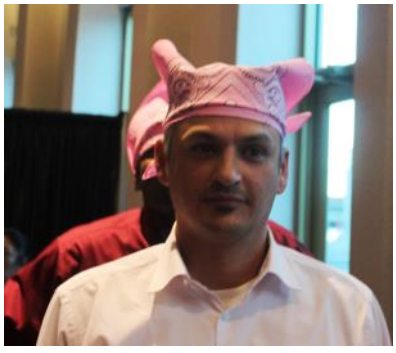
Congratulations to Angelina College's **Jeremy Thomas**, who received a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Texas Academic Advising Network (TEXAAN) for his accomplishments in the field of student advising and services! Jeremy currently serves TACRAO as the East Texas Regional Editor on the Communications Committee.

If you have a great session idea, or a fully planned out session for Admissions, please contact me or one of your **Session Planning Chairs: Chris Gore,** *Access and Equity;* **Aricka Cano,** *Health Science, Graduate and Professional Schools;* **Chris Reed,** *Strategic Enrollment Management;* **Patricia Hill,** *Student Success;* **or Sheila Gray,** *Undergraduate Admissions*.

Dr. Knox has already agreed to do the extremely popular session, ***Utilizing Your Personality***, which will be a **two part session** this year. Additional sessions are currently being planned that focus and all areas that touch the Admissions field. Don't forget that you will have a chance to demonstrate your talent at the Recruiter Olympics too!

This year the general sessions will take place on Tuesday, October 28 and Wednesday, October 29. We'll keep you updated on scheduled sessions via the seasonal Newsletter and the TACRAO listserv.

Again, keep those session ideas coming!





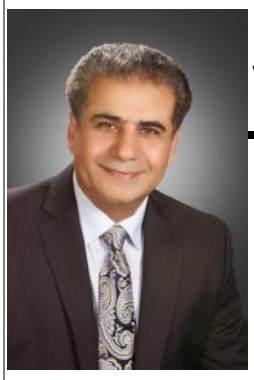
Maria's Mayhem
By Maria Aguirre-Acuna, TACRAO Secretary

It is my pleasure to serve TACRAO and its members as Secretary. We had a great first TEC meeting in Waco, and we are having a productive spring, working on the annual conference. I hope each of you had a great time at the El Paso conference.

Reminder: There are still 47 colleges/universities with outstanding dues for 2013-14. Please be sure take care of the dues as quickly as possible. Remember that your paid status is what gives you access to the College Day/Night Program schedule. Membership payments should be mailed to: Maria Aguirre-Acuna, TACRAO, 300 Homer K. Taylor Dr., Sweetwater TX 79556 or pay online using PayPal.

Membership points have been updated based on final committee rosters and presentations from the annual meeting. If you would like to have a detailed listing of your points, please email me at maria.aguirre@tstc.edu .

If you have any questions, feel free to call or email me. Please bear with me as I learn to work my way around the website and the directory.



Joe's Jabber
By Joe Papari, TACRAO Treasurer

Hello – I hope everyone had a fantastic start of Spring semester!

We had a great conference in El Paso, and I have been working with the El Paso LAC tying up loose ends.

I have completed the Audit Committee's recommendations and now we are maintaining the Treasurer's Financial Records as PDF documents on Dropbox. Effective now, the Audit Committee has ongoing access and will review the Treasurer's Financial Records quarterly.

TACRAO is financially very stable and the TEC is very diligent in ensuring that we remain cost conscience. Please don't hesitate to contact me concerning the finances of the organization or any questions that you might have.





North Texas News

By Dali Hatanville, Texas A&M University-Commerce

Tarrant County College would like to welcome **Ms. Nichole Mancone** as Director of Admissions and Records for the Tarrant County College District. Nichole worked previously at Wentworth Institute of Technology in Boston, MA.

The University of North Texas Health Science Center would like to congratulate **Janice Villarreal**, Records Management Coordinator, and her spouse Rudy Villarreal on the birth of their son, Joseph Daniel Villarreal. The couple welcomed their baby boy on October 21, 2013.



Texas A&M University-Commerce would like to welcome **Brittany Bettes** and **Andrew Forest** to the A&M-Commerce Admissions Team! They will be joining the Office of Undergraduate Admissions as Admissions Recruiters. Congratulations to **Pam Wright**, who has been named Assistant Director of Undergraduate Admissions at Texas A&M University-Commerce. Pam has worked at A&M-Commerce in the Admissions Office for over 20 years.

Texas Woman's University is pleased to announce that effective February 1st, **Gary Ray**, currently Associate Vice President for Enrollment Services, will become Vice President for Enrollment Services and the offices of Admissions, Admissions Processing, Financial, and Registrar, previously under the Division of Student Life, will form the new division of Enrollment Services.



West Texas Whistlings

by Andrea Rangel, South Plains College

TEXAS STATE TECHNICAL COLLEGE

TSTC West Texas welcomes Yasmeen and Jeannette to the Enrollment team.



Yasmeen Chavez has joined TSTC West Texas as a Recruiter/Admission Advisor. Yasmeen will be responsible for the Panhandle area of the state. As a recent graduate of Midwestern State, she is ready to help students reach their career goals. She can be reached at Yasmeen.chavez@tstc.edu .



Jeannette Gist has joined TSTC West Texas as a Recruiter/Admission Advisor. Jeannette will be responsible for the Abilene/Lubbock and adjoining areas. Jeannette recently moved to Abilene from the Lubbock area. She is poised to help both high school and adult students begin their career path. She can be reached at Jeannette.gist@tstc.edu

SOUTH PLAINS COLLEGE

SPC expanded its Cosmetology Department, and opened the doors to its newly renovated 20,000 square feet facility, last month. The next time you're in west Texas we hope you stop by and visit this state of the art facility!

TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY

An exciting opportunity is available in the Office of the Registrar at Texas Tech University. They are seeking a qualified applicant for Assistant Registrar for Athletic Certification. Interested applicants may view the full posting at: http://jobs.texastech.edu/postings/59177

AMARILLO COLLEGE

Congratulations to **John Salazar**, director of customer services, who was selected as one of Amarillo's "Top 20 Under 40." John manages the AskAC counters, a one-stop shop for student registration and admissions.



Amber Brookshire will be moving out of the recruitment ranks and into the ever-changing world of testing services as the new Director of Testing Services at Amarillo College.



SouthEast Texas Summaries

by Laura Divine, College of the Mainland

I hope that everyone started their year off with high enrollments and little stress!!!! If you have any news you would like to report in the Southeast region, please send me an email and I will collect them all and report them in the next newsletter. I am thrilled to be able to serve our region in this endeavor!

New Hires:

Clishe Larke is now serving as the Interim Assistant Registrar at Houston Community College. Clishe has been working in our online advising center and started just in time to help with state reports, end of term grades and now registration.



Ann Burdette and **Nikki Bleimeyer** joined the College of the Mainland Admissions Office as



Student Record Specialist helping our students get admitted and registered for their courses.

Major Milestones:

Afrah Hassan from the Southwest College completed her Master's Degree. **John Smith** from the Coleman College of Health Sciences is getting married in St. Lucia. **Kelly Musick** became a grandmother to her fourth granddaughter-Rylie Musick.



East Texas Eavesdroppings

By Jeremy Thomas, Angelina College

Angelina College:
The 2013-14 school year saw the opening of the Angelina College Polk County Center in Livingston, TX. The new center will increase the educational opportunities in the Polk, San Jacinto, and Tyler county areas.

Panola College:
The Admissions/Records Office welcomes Misty Coleman as an Admissions/Records Specialist. **Kelli Vicars** was promoted to the Admissions/Records Office Coordinator due to **Barbara Wilson** retiring December 31, after 20 years of service to Panola College.
The East Texas TACRAO meeting was held at Panola College on Wednesday, March 19th.

Stephen F Austin State University:
SFA Office of Admissions is saying goodbye to a great recruiter and friend, **Sharon Swindell.** She is retiring from the university on Jan 31st, 2014. Sharon has been a Houston regional for 12 years. She was active in TACRAO and a member of the High School Relations Committee for several years and a huge part of helping the development and growth of HARN.
Associate Registrar, **Sabrina Delaney,** added a brand new family member, Alice, born January 29th. The Registrar's Office has a new Sr. Degree Audit Specialist, **Amanda Gongwer**, who will be keeping CAPP shipshape for us. The online major/minor change is operational, and they are working to move their ORD roster process online by the summer. SFA has begun the enormous process of scanning paper transcripts using a third-party vendor. They are looking forward to less paper and more office space! In sports news, Stephen F. Austin has been named the NCAA Statistical Champion for passing offense in 2013, and a new head coach is in place for the 2014 season.

University of Texas at Tyler
1) UT Tyler has seen a 9% increase in enrollment from spring 2013 to spring 2014, with the total headcount reaching 7193. This is the first time they have reached over 7,000 in a spring semester.

2) The Enrollment Management Division was reorganized by adding the following Assistant Directors: **Kelsey French** and **Amanda Beard,** Assistant Directors of Enrollment Services, **Angie Copeland,** Assistant Director of Admissions, **Melanie Jones,** Assistant Director of Financial Aid, and **Brenda Burton**, Assistant Director of the Registrar's Office. UT Tyler is currently seeking to hire a Director of Admissions.

3) UT Tyler is adding a College of Pharmacy, construction of the new building will begin in March, and the first class will enroll in fall of 2015.

4) The Enrollment Services Center (One Stop Shop) implemented a new computerized system for managing the flow of customers, advertising, and information. Students no longer have to wait in lines, which has been a nice change!

TSTC Marshall
Patricia Robbins, TSTC, reports that TSTC Marshall has an extension called TSTC North Texas Extension, Red Oak, Texas.

Central Texas Citations

by Dustie Hamilton, McLennan Community College

McLennan Community College

LaTishia Watson, in Admissions welcomed a new baby boy, Troy on October 27, 2013.



Kathy Pettigrew retired, effective January 31, 2014, and **Tina Ellette** will be replacing her as Assistant Registrar.

Baylor University
Dawn Khoury began her position at Assistant Registrar at Baylor January 6th, 2014. The Baylor team is glad to have her on board!

Central Texas College
Lillian Kroeger, Associate Dean of Registration & Records will be retiring as of January 15, 2014 and Stephen O'Donovan will be taking her place.

Congratulations to **Cheryl Rich,** who retired from Texas A&M University as Senior Associate Director of Admissions on January 31st. Cheryl has been a long-time member of TACRAO and has served as an officer of SACRAO.

Congratulations to Cheryl, for receiving SACRAO Honorary Membership, at the SACRAO Conference in February!

We will miss you, Cheryl! Thank you for your years of contributions to TACRAO!

TAKING CHARGE OF CHANGE

WACO, TEXAS • OCTOBER 27-30, 2014

TEXAS ASSOCIATION OF COLLEGIATE REGISTRARS AND ADMISSIONS OFFICERS

ARE YOU READY FOR WACO???

The Waco LAC is hard at work making preparations for your arrival in our city.
We are "putting out the welcome mat" and believe that you will discover what we all know too well...

Waco is an awesome place!

Make plans now to be a part of this historic meeting on the banks of the lovely Brazos River. The accommodations are excellent, the program will be top-notch, and the entertainment....
well, you are just going to have to experience it for yourself.

WACO AWAITS YOU!





TACRAO
93rd Annual Conference
October 27th - 30th
Waco Convention Center









South Texas Sagas

by Brandy Garcia, The University of the Incarnate Word

Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi- Texas has been named a test site for unmanned aircraft systems (UAS) by the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), based on a statewide proposal led by Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi. "We are proud to be a part of this historic moment in aviation history," said Dr. **Flavius Killebrew**, President and CEO of Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi. "Together with our partners, we will lead the way for the research and development of this new age in aviation technology."

The test sites will facilitate testing and research of unmanned aerial systems (UAS) technologies to provide scientific data on the future integration of these aircraft safely with other air traffic. Congress mandated that the UAS be integrated into the national airspace by 2015. One of the main research goals is finding the safest methods for unmanned planes to sense other aircraft and take measures to avoid collisions.



"Texas has a long and distinguished history in the aerospace industry, and this test site is an important opportunity to create jobs and grow the industry in our state," Gov. Perry said. "This technology will not only protect our country, but has the potential to advance other industries as well, and this test site will play a role in ensuring it is used in a way that benefits our citizens while protecting their privacy and safety."

This historic decision will have huge financial implications for the entire state of Texas, especially South Texas. The Association of Unmanned Vehicles International published an economic impact study in March projecting, once airspace is opened to UAS, the economic impact would be about $8 billion statewide, and $260 million in South Texas over the next 10 years; creating about 1,200 jobs.

The College Board Southwest Regional Office welcomes **Heather Rodriguez** as our newest Higher Education Manager, working out of the Southwest Regional office in Austin. She comes to us from the University of Incarnate Word where she served as Director of Undergraduate Admissions. Heather is a San Antonio native and a two time graduate from The University of the Incarnate Word in 2006 with a B.A. in Communication Arts, and her Master of Arts in Administration in 2011. She will be working with colleges and universities in the areas of Houston, San Antonio, East TX, Oklahoma, and Louisiana.



We also bid farewell to our outstanding colleague, **Chadd Bridwell,** who was with College Board for almost 2 years. Chadd left to become the Dean of Enrollment Services at Centenary College. Texas State University is proud to announce our new counselor for the Rio Grande Valley Region. Ms. **Estefania Abrego** began training with us in January. Estefania is a Texas State alumnae from Mission, Texas and worked in our Welcome Center while she was a student. She'll be ready to hit the road in early February.

TACRAO Communications Committee

A special thank you to the TACRAO Communications Committee, who works diligently to publish newsletters, update social media and maintain the communication of the organization!



TACRAO 92ND ANNUAL CONFERENCE ~ EL PASO
LEADING TEXANS TO SUCCESS

November 10 - 13, 2013















Sunday Night President's Dinner ~

Keynote Speaker **John Quinones**

President's Award ~ **Jeff Fuller**

Honorary Membership ~ **Dave Stones**

















Sunday ~ Committee Chair Reports, TEC Meeting

SEM Workshop

TACRAO 101 for Newcomers/Mixer with Mentors

Mix and Mingle with Exhibitors







2013-2014 TACRAO Executive Committee

President: Becki Griffith
Lee College

Past-President: Oscar Reyna
Texas A&M University-
Corpus Christi

President-Elect: Chuck Kettlewell
The University of Texas Southwestern
Medical Center at Dallas

Vice President for Admissions: Trevor Thorn
Sam Houston State University

Vice President Records & Registration: Sofia Montes
University of Texas Health Science
Center at San Antonio

Secretary: Maria Aguirre-Acuna
Texas State Technical College-
West Texas

Treasurer: Joe Papari
Southern Methodist University

Co-Chairs, Local Arrangements Committee (Ex-Officio): David Edwards & Lee Owens
Navarro College






Style
Delineator









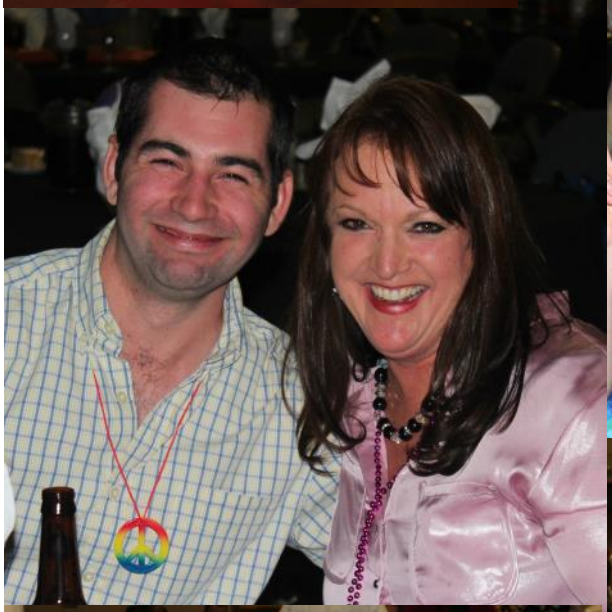




Monday Night Big Event
El Paso Convention Center


Amigos












NEWCOMER
NEWCOMER




PRESENTER
MEMBER
LOCAL COMMITTEE


YAMAHA










TACRA
CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION


TACRA
CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION
SHERRY RESOTT


TACRAO


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Honorary Member~
Marlene Hernandez

Honorary Member~
Barb Merkle



North Texas Region - Winner, Battle of the Regions







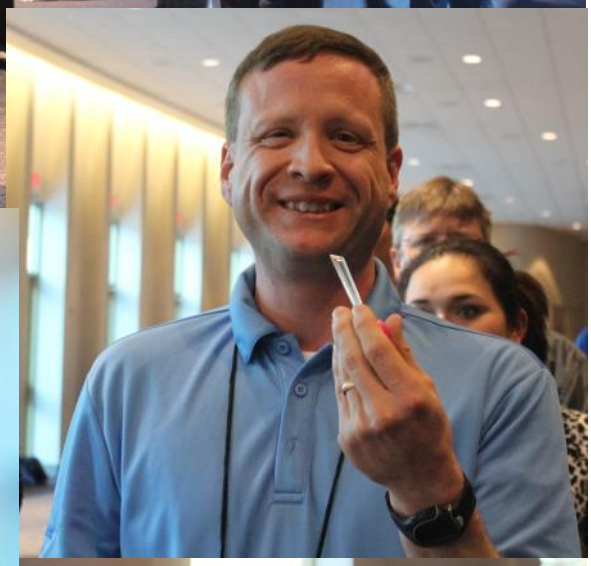





RED
DONKEY
PINTO BEAN

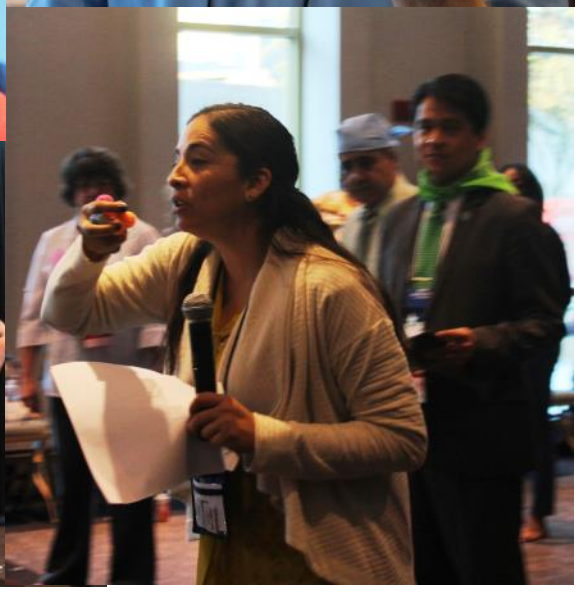


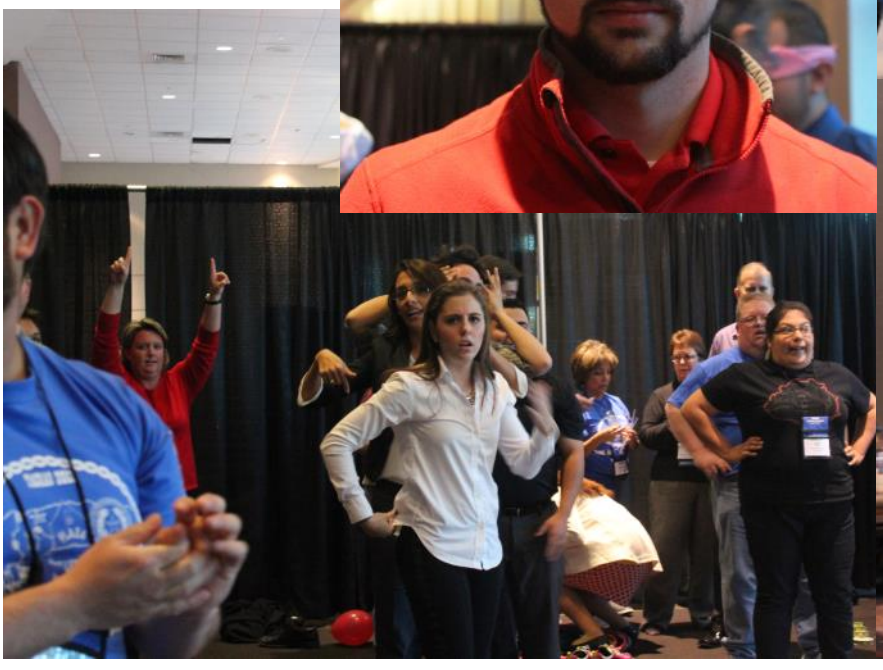




Battle
of the
Regions








1935


NORTH TEXAS







