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TACRA

Texas Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers

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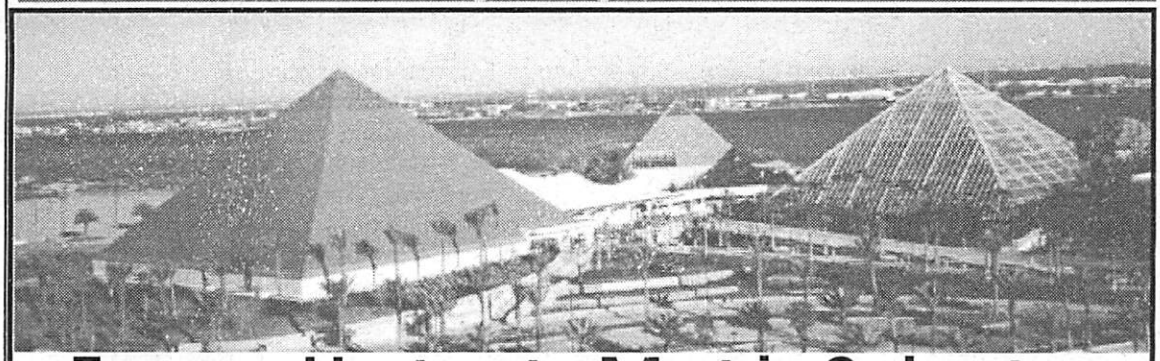
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Treasure Hunters to Meet in Galveston

TACRAO 2000, our 79th gathering, is shaping up to be an exciting week. In preparation for "Migrating to a New Millennium", our Executive Committee, Program Committees, and Local Arrangements Committee are melding their talents to fashion a conference that will be a real treasure chest of ideas and learning opportunities for each person who attends.

Keynoting the conference Sunday, November 5, will be Dr. Bernard A. Harris, Jr., who describes himself as a "Dreamer...Nothing is impossible, if you believe in your dreams." A former astronaut Dr. Harris holds degrees from several of our member institutions.

Monday night of that week will be a treasure in its own right. You are invited to wear your best Indiana Jones attire as we search for hidden treasure among the pyramids of Moody Gardens. Whether you seek the Lost Ark, the Eye of Kalee, or the Holy Grail, your "Night of Discovery" will follow a path of your own choosing as you discover the wonders of the pyramids while searching for hidden treasure.

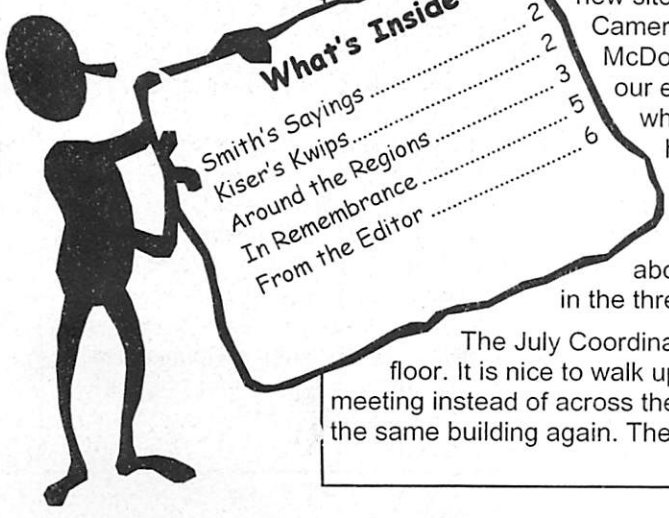
Conference information, including online registration, tentative schedule, hotel accommodations, transportation, and information about included and ancillary activities, may be found on the TACRAO website at *www.tacrao.org*. This year's online registration has been enhanced to make it easier and quicker to complete.

So, make your plans now, and register now, to join us in Galveston...November 4-8, 2000.

Coordinating Board Moves to a "New Home"

The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board has returned the boxes to the moving company so we are getting settled into our new quarters at 1200 East Anderson Lane. Anderson Lane and Hwy 183 are the same road east of IH-35. Our new site is on the North side of Anderson Lane between North IH-35 and Cameron Road. To be a little more specific, it is between Luby's and McDonald's. There is not a cross-over from the east bound 183 lane into our entrance. One must either continue to a cross-over near Luby's where there is not a light and risk your life crossing the 3 lanes of the highway to position yourself to enter our entrance, or go to light at Cameron Road and make a U-turn. The entrance is just before the beginning of the bridge that goes over IH-35. Just before the roadway ramp to our parking lot there is a retainer wall that extends about 10 feet above the roadway that has our name on it. We reside in the three story building that has narrow windows and is beige in color.

The July Coordinating Board meeting was held in the new building on the second floor. It is nice to walk up or down one flight of stairs or down the hall to get to the Board meeting instead of across the creek and street. It is also convenient that all of the agency is in the same building again. The quarters are a little smaller but they are adequate. Come see us.





Smith's Sayings

By Mike Smith, TACRAO President

Here we are in the final days of summer, it seems they go by so fast. I hope every one has had their dream vacation and took a little time to make some memories.

With the ending of summer comes the anticipation of a new school year and all the excitement that it brings. New and transfer student orientations are winding down and our thoughts turn to such things as fall enrollment counts, financial aid disbursements, add/drop, late admissions, how well will our football season be and most importantly the TACRAO conference in Galveston - November 5-8, 2000. Dorothy Kiser, Jean Stuart and Vicki Gomez have been working closely with the program committees in preparing a variety of quality programs for our professional development. Lois Monroe and her Local Arrangements committee have planned a fun conference for us at the beautiful Moody Gardens Resort. I am convinced that everyone will have a very enjoyable adventure, a fun conference and learn something as well.

Thanks to Jerry McGauhey for his hard work on the TACRAO web site. His efforts have made conference registration simple. As a matter of fact, I encourage you to register NOW, as soon as you finish reading this letter. Seriously, it is just that easy and FAST. The web site is www.tacrao.org.

Dr. Bernard Harris, our keynote speaker will set the tone for this year's conference. Dr. Harris is a medical doctor, former member of the Texas Tech University Board of Regents, former astronaut - who was the first African American to walk in space, logging more than 7.2 million miles in space travel. He is currently a Vice President for SPACEHAB. I know that we will be encouraged by his personal theme "Dreamer...Nothing is impossible, if you believe in your dreams". This seems very fitting for us as we migrate to a new millennium. Mark your calendars now, register on-line, and plan on attending the 79th Annual TACRAO Conference.

Have a great summer.

Kiser's Kwips

By Dorothy Kiser, TACRAO President-Elect



If "time flies when you're having fun," then we must be having a lot of fun! By now I'm sure you are planning the fall semester for your students. However, be sure to save a few days for professional development November 4-8 at TACRAO. It's only a few short months until we meet in Galveston at The Moody Gardens Hotel. The Executive Committee met again at the hotel in May to put the program together and view the facilities for the conference. We are in for a real treat with Lois Monroe and her LAC folks working hard to provide a good time for all of us. Thank you, Mike, for choosing Galveston!

Jean Stuart, Vickie Gomez, and their program committees have put together a wide variety of informative sessions for you to attend. We have several presenters outside the organization as well as many of our own professionals presenting over sixty sessions which include "Up and Coming Scholars for the New Millennium," "How to Design and Develop a Web Site," "How to Win Friends and Influence Colleagues," and "Performance Measures and Funding in the New Millennium." The programs and workshops will inspire you to go back to your institution and make improvements in what you do. I challenge you to take at least one good idea home with you that can be used to improve your office or your campus.

The 2001 conference is scheduled October 27-31 (a little earlier than usual) so mark those dates on your calendar now. John Hall and Jean Stuart, Local Arrangements Chair and Co-Chair for the 2001 meeting, and I have met with personnel from the Adam's Mark Hotel in Dallas. TACRAO last met in Dallas in 1984, which happened to be my first TACRAO. It somehow seems fitting to go back to Dallas, since we have not met there in a while. This is a wonderful hotel with plenty of meeting space and many activities to do close by. We are just beginning to get committees together and to make plans. If you are interested in helping with the conference in 2001 in Dallas, please contact John, Jean, or myself.

Thank you, Membership, for allowing me to serve you in the capacity of President-Elect. I have made many friends through this great organization and look forward to making many more as I work with the wonderful volunteers that make up TACRAO. Remember that this is your professional organization. If you have concerns or issues relative to our profession, please feel to contact me or any member of the Executive Committee. Have a great rest of the summer!