TACRA

Texas Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers

TACRAO Summer 2014 Newsletter



Any day now, TACRAO may come looking for you.

That's because this is the time of year when TACRAO starts recruiting for the committees that will guide our association during the coming 1-3 years. Like all sound associations, TACRAO is made up of many committees; individuals on these teams work to execute bits and pieces of our mission. Together, we reach the goal of supporting the higher education enrollment management professionals of our state.

If you get one of these phone calls or emails, asking you for a commitment in joining a standing or session planning committee, I'd like to give you some things to think about. First, ask questions. Don't be afraid to ask what is really involved in performing the role. You could ask for the name of someone who has done well in that role previously, and get their thoughts.

Second, think carefully about your institution and the types of challenges you are likely to face in the period for which you are being asked to commit to a committee. Is it a SACS reaffirmation period for your school? If you are a key player in that effort, you know your time for other activities might be limited. Is there a software implementation planned? Or maybe you have a new title or new supervisor? Likewise.

Finally, it's also important to consider your personal goals and obligations. Maybe you are in graduate school, and need every spare minute for your studies. Maybe you just need to "throttle back," and have fewer commitments beyond your regular job for a time.

If an offer to join a committee or serve as a leader seems like more than you can do, don't hesitate to ask if there are other opportunities for you within TACRAO that would require less of a commitment.

TACRAO wants and needs its members to be great team players. Joining a committee benefits your institution: it helps you network, solving other problems for your institution by giving you new contacts and knowledge. You will benefit personally by expanding your skill set, learning things such as the finer points of event planning. There is much to gain… if you have the time and dedication to put in your "A" game.

So if you get that call or email asking you to help, I hope you say "YES!" and then serve with distinction. You won't regret it. And if you haven't expressed an interest in serving TACRAO previously, you can do so now by completing an "I'm Available" form, online at tacrao.org, or at the Waco conference in October.



CHUCK'S CHANNEL

BY CHUCK KETTLEWELL, TACRAO PRESIDENT-ELECT

The days are getting longer and hotter, storms are kicking up, caps and gowns abound, and bunches of younger-than-average students are arriving on the various campuses. Summer must be starting! Unlike most collegiate campuses, the world of academic medical/health science centers does not have such clear delineations between our terms or academic years. Most of our students have 12-month academic years from start to finish (kind of like an extended merry-go-round).

TACRAO's 93rd Annual Meeting in Waco (October 27-30) is "Taking Charge of Change."

Since our last meeting in El Paso, Vice-Presidents **Sofia Montes** and **Trevor Thorn**, along with the various program committees, have been diligently at work with two goals in mind: to provide information exchange of the highest caliber and to maximize the vast knowledge and experience within our profession. With the 1 day shift from the typical TACRAO meeting schedule, the Executive Committee has been challenged by the concept that Sunday is Monday, Monday is Tuesday, etc. Your biggest challenges at the Annual Meeting may be deciding which sessions must be skipped, **since you can't get to them all**!

As the summer progresses, we will be searching diligently for new TACRAO committee members, session moderators, and future leadership. Our first source for those members indicating an interest to serve the organization more fully is the *I'm Available* Form. To date, we have already received more than 70 forms – which is outstanding, but only represents about 6% of the current TACRAO membership! If you did not previously submit an *I'm Available* since the El Paso Annual Meeting, the opportunity still exists. This fillable PDF document can be submitted directly to me from the TACRAO website at http://www.tacrao.org/sites/default/files/files/Fillable%20TACRAO%20I'm%20Available_front_and_back-submit-ext(2).pdf.

It is never too early or too late to get involved with this wonderful organization. Further, the *I'm Available* Form is the first source we use to identify prospective participants.

On a more personal note, 2014 has been a real highlight year for me. I have spent June on vacation and my son's destination wedding in Colorado, my youngest daughter will graduate (a semester early!) from SMU in December, and the TACRAO membership honored me as President-Elect. I deeply appreciate your confidence in me to serve this fine organization which has played such a major role in my professional development. **We'll see you all in Waco – the Heart of Texas!**



Darla Inglish and Chuck Kettlewell, TACRAO President-Elect, at AACRAO in Denver this Spring.



OSCAR'S ORATORY

BY OSCAR REYNA, TACRAO IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

It's hard to believe the academic year is coming to an end and we are now getting ready for the new class of freshmen students to arrive on our campuses!

The spring semester was a busy one as your Executive Committee met in Waco to plan and fine-tune conference details. Your Vice-Presidents have been busy working with the Session Planning Committee to offer you a wonderful slate of sessions. You will be very happy with what Waco has to offer.

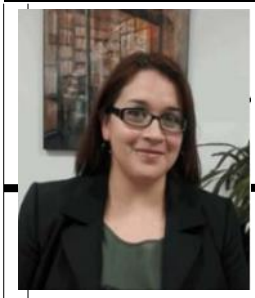
The Convention Center is conveniently located adjacent to two of the conference hotels with plenty of space. Our Standing Committees have also been very busy planning our Summer University and College Meetings and the ApplyTexas and SPEEDE Workshops. I look forward to seeing you there!

Newcomers who attended TACRAO this year, THANK YOU! Welcome to the TACRAO family. We hope to see you again this year in Waco. We hope you will be helping us welcome this year's new members. Mark your calendars and plan to join us October 27th to 30th in Waco, Texas!

Lastly, I'd like to thank you all for allowing me to serve as your 2013 President. I appreciate the faith you have put in me to serve this great organization. I will hold the memories of the past three years very close to my heart. This has truly been one of the greatest honors of my professional career. I am very proud to be part of this organization and to work with so many amazing professionals. I look forward to continue working with TACRAO in many years to come.

Oscar Reyna, *TAMU-CC,* TACRAO Past-President, enjoys Ziker Botanical Gardens with his family in Austin.





Sofi Says

By Sofia Montes, TACRAO Vice President of Records and Registration

Your TACRAO Executive Committee is getting more and more excited about convening for our 93rd annual meeting in the heart of Texas – WACO! While the passionate and hard-working LAC is planning for some great networking and social activities, we're working to confirm a slate of sessions that promises to add both breadth and depth to your knowledge of the business in higher education. Between the networking and the sessions and all the fun throughout, you won't want to miss this year's conference! Come enjoy some fantastic sessions covering topics from the use of Google Glass and related implications, navigating the SACS accreditation process, diploma mills, and a new hot topics session devoted to Texas residency issues, amongst so many others! If any urgent needs have surfaced recently and you have recommendations for a possible addition to the program, please contact me at montess@uthscsa.edu.

And finally, don't forget to show your LOVE for TACRAO by getting involved! There are so many wonderful opportunities available for you to share your talents and passion! Did you know, for example, that the Vice President for Records and Registration has the privilege of working with five session planning chairs and many session planning committee members to propose, select and plan for a variety of conference sessions each year? The chance to address the organization's professional interests and needs through special topics is one I appreciate, and one that has led me to enjoy some truly special new friends and mentors in the business. It all starts with the I'm Available! Form. Please feel free to fill it out and forward on as indicated at the bottom of the first page.

We'll see you in October! Meanwhile, best wishes for an enjoyable and successful summer!

Sofia Montes and **Trevor Thorn**, TACRAO Vice Presidents, work in Waco at a TEC Board Meeting in April, to schedule the sessions for the TACRAO Conference in Waco this October!





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

WOW! Being TACRAO Secretary keeps me super busy. The first TEC meeting was held in Waco in April. (**Stan DeMerritt**…did you forget to tell me how much work this is… just kidding?)

The Subscription invoices to those colleges that purchase the College Day/Night Fair schedule were posted beginning May 19. Currently we have sent out 204 invoices. I also posted subscribers instructions on the TACRAO website.

Reminder: There are still 32 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 invoices for the 2014-15 year will be going out in July.

As was posted by **Becki Griffith**, TACRAO President, on the listserv, TACRAO now has a general mailing address.

The TACRAO address is:
TACRAO
555 Republic Drive, Suite 200
Plano, TX 75074-5469

The W-9 has been updated and uploaded on the website, if you need to access it.

TACRAO member institutions should access their roster and update the information prior to invoices going out mid-July.

I continue to ask for your patience as I continue to immerse myself into the duties of Secretary.



Joe's Jabber
By Joe Papari, TACRAO Treasurer

Hello TACRAO Friends,

I hope your summer is going well and you will have a chance to take a break before the students come back.

The TACRAO Auditing Committee conducted the financial audit of the 2013 Local Arrangements Committee in April. **Joe DeCristoforo** graciously hosted us at his institution in San Antonio. We were able to save TACRAO some money by not flying to El Paso for the audit.

The Audit Committee, chaired by **Joe DeCristoforo,** applauds the use of Dropbox for all Local Arrangements Comittee documents; and **Georgina Antillon,** LAC Chair, and **Daryle Hendry,** LAC Vice Chair, for their efforts in making the conference a huge success.

"The conference savings can be contributed to the leadership of Georgina and Daryle and will help future conferences be successful."

Our new mail forwarding service is working great. I am receiving all checks for the membership dues, the Day/Night subscriptions, and the summer meeting registrations. Checks are deposited and the appropriate accounts are credited.

I am also managing the PayPal accounts for the summer meetings. Streamlining the payment process makes it a lot easier for committees holding the summer meetings.

TACRAO is financially strong and the TEC is diligent in ensuring that we remain cost conscious.

Please do not hesitate to contact me concerning the finances of the organization or any questions that you may have.

I wish all of you a great summer.



North Texas News

By Dali Hatanville, Texas A&M University-Commerce



Audra Yarborough, *Assistant Director of Admissions, UNT*, was married on May 31st to Troy Taylor. We are happy for Audra and Troy and wish them well as they begin their new adventure together.

UNT is proud to welcome Whitney Bunch and Leah Black, Transfer Counselors, to our team. Both have a strong UNT history (alumni), and we are excited about them joining our team.

Dina M. Sosa Named Dean of Enrollment Management and Retention



Texas A&M University-Commerce recently appointed **Dina M. Sosa** to the position of Interim Dean of Enrollment Management and Retention. Texas A&M System Chancellor John Sharp approved the request, and A&M-Commerce's recommendation of Sosa for Dean will be submitted for approval at the July Board of Regents meeting.

"We are so pleased to welcome Dina Sosa to our university family," said Vice President of Student Access and Success Dr. Mary Hendrix. "Dean Sosa brings the care and compassion for students for which our university is known, coupled with an extensive background in the field of enrollment, management and retention."

Sosa brings with her a wealth of experience in higher education administration. Most recently, she served as Dean of Student Success, Outreach and Student Development at *Eastfield College.* Before that, she held positions at the University of South Florida, Barat College, *the University of Texas at Brownsville and Texas Southmost College*, among others.

Linda Carr, Registrar Assistant II at *Midwestern State*, had an awesome mother's day weekend as she and husband Larry attended the banquet where their daughter Melanie Weir was named Elementary Teacher of the Year for Rockwall ISD. Melanie teaches first grade at Virginia Reinhardt Elementary School in Rockwall, and her award includes the 6 month use of a 2014 Toyota Prius, plus a vacation package and a Visa gift card.



Shalanda Sims, Registrar Assistant I at *Midwestern State,* also had an awesome mother's day weekend as she and her husband Adolphus attended their son Emmanuel's graduation from Southern University at Shreveport where he received the Associate degree in General Studies with a concentration in Science. While at Southern University at Shreveport, Emmanuel was the Student Government Association President and served as the Student Body President for the state of Louisiana.

The Office of the Registrar is welcoming **Dana Davis** on June 9 as Registrar Assistant I, where she will provide front counter customer service.

MSU Registrar, **Darla Inglish** and her husband Ben gained a son-in-law this spring, as their daughter Amber Shawnee married Julian Quiñones on April 5. The couple resides in Killeen.



SouthEast Texas Summaries
By Laura Divine, College of the Mainland

Are you all ready for the hot, muggy weather of summertime? I know this time of year is very busy for the Admissions and Registrar's office. We are all juggling multiple terms for enrollment, graduation and recruiting students to our campuses. Hopefully we will see you at the summer TACRAO meetings this summer.

SETACRAO held their conference this past February at University ***of St. Thomas.*** The sessions we attended were very informative and the food was awesome! ***University of St. Thomas*** did a great job of hosting the conference this year. The recipients of the Support Staff Excellence Award were presented to **Ansonia Jones** and **Zulaika Martinez.** *(pictured below and to the right)* We had a great turn out of people as well as a room full of stick ponies. If you did not catch the picture on our Facebook page, you have to check out the creativity.

The Office of the Registrar at the ***University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston*** operating as UTHealth is excited to "re-introduce" TACRAO to **Stephanie Snedden.** Steph joined the office as an Associate Registrar and made an immediate impact. Many of you are already familiar with her as she comes to us from the Student Affairs/ Registrar's office at ***Baylor College of Medicine*** and was in the Admissions Office at ***TAMU–College Station*** before she joined Baylor. She has been an active TACRAO member over the years.

Also new to the UTHealth Registrar's Office is **Winston Matranga.** **Winston** came to us from the ***University of Houston - Downtown*** where he worked with VA students. He becomes our first Coordinator of Veterans Affairs and will assist our students receiving VA and Hazlewood benefits. Before working with veterans, Winston served his country as a sailor in the Navy at Whidbey Island.

When TACRAO meets in Waco in November, you will want to take the opportunity to say farewell to **Jerry McGauhey.** Jerry "plans" to **retire** in January 2015 making this his last TACRAO as an active member. ***Jerry has served TACRAO and the students of Texas with enthusiasm and integrity over the last 20 years.*** During this time we have lived on the bleeding edge of technology,





implementing two document imaging systems, migrating SIS from mainframe to server platform and then 3 short years later a full blown SIS replacement and implementation of PeopleSoft's Campus Solutions student system. ***He is one of those individuals that make TACRAO the special organization on which we like to brag.***

After ten years with College of the Mainland, **Martin Perez, *Director of Admissions/International Affairs*** has accepted a position with Houston Community College as their Associate Dean, Student Development. The staff at ***COM*** wish him well and hope to see him at future TACRAO events.

We are also proud to announce the new Director of Admissions/ International Affairs vacated by Martin is **Tamara Hoodye.** She is excited to begin her new journey with the Admissions Office and looks forward to meeting all of you at our TACRAO meetings in the future.



East Texas Eavesdroppings

By Jeremy Thomas, Angelina College

The annual ETACRAO meeting was held at ***Panola College*** on March 19. We heard a presentation from **Jane Silvey, Region 7 Education Service Center,** regarding updates on House Bill 5 and how this relates to Higher Education. After lunch, everyone toured the Texas Country Music Hall of Fame in Carthage. Panola did a wonderful job hosting! ***(Picture of the regional meeting is on page 14.)***

Angelina College:

Angelina College is proud of our Lady Roadrunners softball team for becoming the NJCAA Division I National Champions. The team was made up of fifteen freshmen and two sophomores. They brought home ***AC's*** first national title and became the first Texas school to ever win the tournament.

Kilgore College:

Kilgore College welcomes Alex Knox as the new college recruiter on the New Student Relations team. During his last semester at Silver Lake College in Manitowoc, Wisconsin, Alex completed a semester-long internship focusing on recruitment and admissions processing. His background in psychology should prove helpful considering the ***KC*** characters with whom he now associates.

Northeast Texas Community College:

Troy White, Admissions Coordinator, graduated with Distinction in December from Capella University. Troy completed a Master of Science in Education with an Enrollment Management emphasis. In his role as Admissions Coordinator, Troy exemplifies the new Northeast brand, 'Focused.' Troy is student-focused, staying in constant communication with prospects, applicants and returning students to ensure that questions are answered in a timely and efficient manner.

In addition to his responsibilities with the Admissions Office, **Troy** teaches Disc Golf as an adjunct faculty member. His passion for this sport is boundless, and he has worked tirelessly to promote this new program, including the organization of Northeast's first Disc Golf Tournament. Ken Herrod, professional disc golfer, participated in the tournament and offered master class instruction to those interested in learning more about the sport. We are very proud of Troy's accomplishments and grateful that he is part of the Northeast team!

Stephen F Austin State University:

The Office of Admissions at SFA is sad to say goodbye to ***Maxwell Holmes***, as he is on to new adventures in the College of Forestry as an advisor. We also welcomed ***Amy Salsibury*** as our new Admissions Counseling Coordinator. The rest of campus is quiet, now but will be very busy next week as our first Freshman Orientation begins Thursday, June 12.

Sabrina Delaney, Associate Registrar, and husband Michael welcomed a new family member, **Alice Mabel,** born January 29, 2014.



Our massive transcript scanning project has been completed, and we are now beginning our transcript shredding project to open up more space for customer service! We have just added a PDF transcript option, which we feel will be very beneficial to our students and alum. Our census rosters, grade changes and major/minor changes are now online. Viva paperless!!

University of Texas at Tyler:

Fernando Loa has been named Director of Admissions. Fernando was previously employed as an Academic Advisor III in the College of Business.

Chris Gore, *Kilgore College,* finds a comfortable spot at the ETACRAO Meeting at the Texas Country Music Hall of Fame.

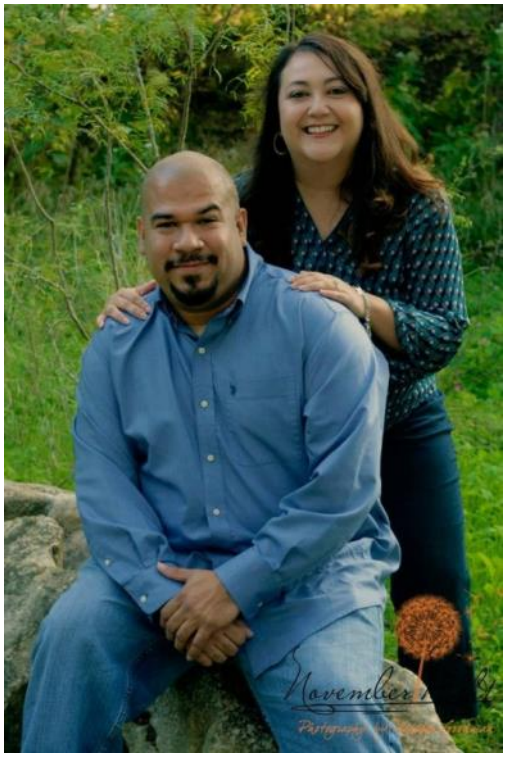


South Texas Sagas

By Brandy Garcia, University of The Incarnate Word

The UT Health Science Center welcomes two new associate registrars to the Office of the Registrar. *Brandy Piner* is responsible for admissions processing and student records over the Schools of Nursing and Health Professions. She joins us from York Technical College in South Carolina. Lori Zerr from *UTMB-Galveston* joined UTHSCSA in December and oversees admissions processing and student records for the Dental and Medical Schools and Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences. Welcome to both!

The registrar team at *UTHSCSA* also wants to congratulate assistant registrar Anne Delgado on her upcoming marriage to her fiancé Roy. Several little birds tell us their courtship enjoyed a little jump start during karaoke at the *annual conference in San Antonio* in 2011! Congratulations, Anne and Roy!



Central Texas Citations

by Dustie Hamilton, McLennan Community College

Austin Community College:

Maggie Maher, Office of Articulation & Transfer Resources at *Austin Community College (ACC),* recently completed a Master of Arts in International Education from the University Of Bath, England.

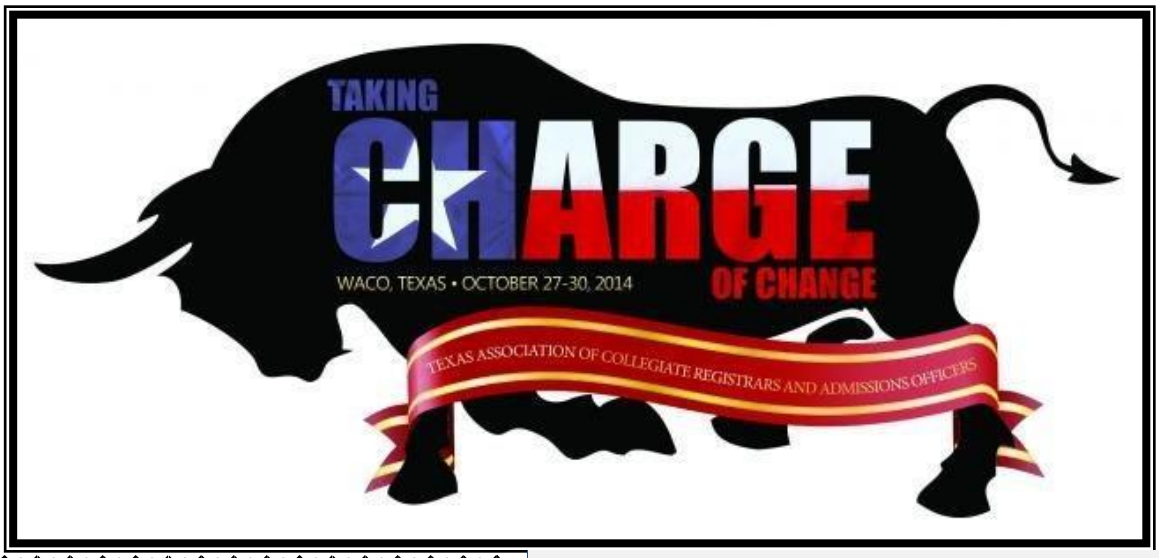
In Fall 2014 *ACC* will implement a new Associate of Applied Science in Veterinary Technology at the Elgin Campus. Students will take certification exams reflecting state and national standards as part of this degree program.

Also in Fall 2014 *ACC* will open the new Highland Campus on the site of Highland Mall in North-Central Austin. The College is embarking on a multi-year and multi-phase renovation of the mall to create a state of the art learning center. Highland Campus will be one of *ACC*'s largest locations, with the capacity to serve 6,000 students and offering services seven days a week.

McLennan Community College:

Beginning Fall of 2014, *McLennan Community College* will offer a new business degree and certificate in hospitality management. The program is designed to prepare individuals for entry-level management positions in the hospitality industry, including positions in front desk, housekeeping, security and engineering. Graduates of the two-year program will earn an Associate of Applied Science degree and be prepared for management positions. A three-semester certificate program will also be available for individuals interested in entry-level positions in the hospitality field.

In February of 2014, *MCC* was selected as an Achieving the Dream school. The Achieving the Dream model frames the overall work of helping more students, particularly low-income and minority students, stay in school and earn a college certificate or degree. As part of its three-year participation, McLennan is working to identify and implement evidence-based strategies for closing achievement gaps and increasing student retention, persistence and completion rates.



TACRAO

93rd Annual Conference

October 27th - 30th

Waco Convention Center

WACO AWAITS YOU!

Conference Hotels:

Hilton Hotel

Courtyard by Marriot

Hotel Indigo

The Reservation Links will be Coming Soon, so Stay Tuned to tacrao.org and to the TACRAO Listserv for Conference News!





Big Event
Tuesday, October 28th
Texas Sports Hall of Fame

TACRAO will take over the Texas Sports Hall of Fame for the evening for some of the best barbecue in the state from Vitek's Barbecue, family-owned and operated since 1915.

See some of the newest exhibits in the Sports Hall of Fame....
listen to your school's alma mater,
enjoy the TCU Horn Frog mascot and the Texas Tech Masked Rider displays, walk through the Southwest Conference Gallery, take a picture in the Cotton Bowl exhibit, enjoy jerseys and game memorabilia from
Texas MLB and NFL legends.

And if you're a little into Friday Night Lights, the TSHOF has an incredible Texas High School Football exhibit, filled with items from the past and present. Don't forget Tennis - the Texas Tennis Hall of Fame is included in the Museum. Many of our member institutions are represented in the Cotton Bowl Exhibit—so University of Houston, Texas A&M University, Texas Tech University and University of Texas fans....be prepared to gather your colleagues to take your selfies. Kilgore College Rangerettes are the most renowned high-kickers around, and East Texas is showcased in their exhibit!

So....what are you waiting for? You can't miss this Big Event!

Live Texas Country Music, Legendary Texas Barbecue, Texas Sports Legends....this will be a night to remember!



Bobby Lothringer, TWU, supported Texas Tech by attending the College World Series to see the Raiders in action in Omaha!

TACRAO Members Enjoying Summertime



Trey Hattaway, Kilgore College, TACRAO Past-President, cheering on son, Thomas, during All-Star District summer baseball.

TACRAO Members in Summertime



Guess which TACRAO member made his or her own pickles for the first time this summer? The first person to post the correct answer on the TACRAO Facebook page gets a Starbucks card in the mail!



Araceli Cadena, *Universities Center at Dallas,* zip lining in Costa Rica in June.

Jeff Fuller, *University of Houston*, enjoyed time with his family in Italy earlier this summer.



TACRAO President,
Becki Griffith,
in Sintra, Portugal.



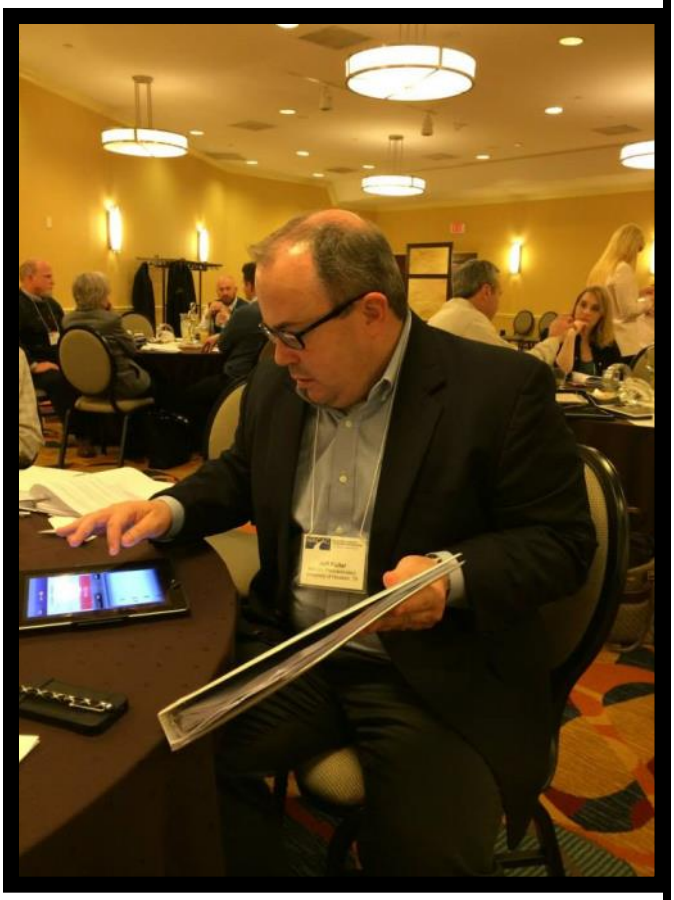
Darla Inglish, *Midwestern State University,* with her daughter, Amber Inglish Quinones, who was married on April 5th in Wichita Falls.



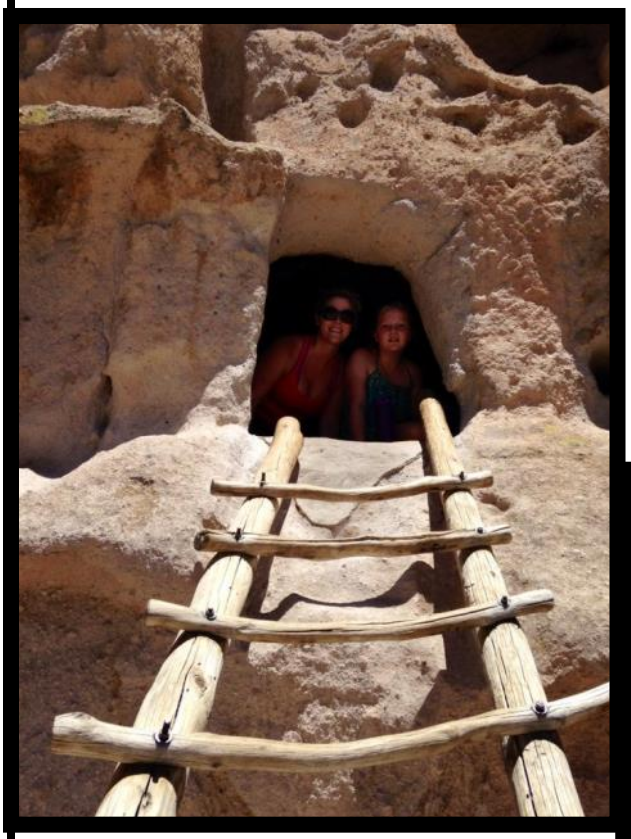
ETACRAO Spring Meeting - hosted by Panola College, at the Texas Country Music Hall of Fame.



Jeff Fuller, *University of Houston*, and NACAC President, spends time at the NACAC Conference this spring, hard at work. Congratulations to Jeff on his election to this position!



Allison Dragon, *Texas Tech, Houston Regional Manager,* enjoyed time at Bandalier Mountain in New Mexico.



Becki Griffith, ***Lee College,*** TACRAO President, spent time in Portugal recently.



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

