TACRA

Texas Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers

TACRAO Spring 2017 Newsletter



Irene's Ideas

By Irene Robinson, TACRAO President

Hello TACRAO family,

Where have the past 5 months gone? It's hard to believe that it's been that long since we gathered at the Horseshoe Bay Resort for our annual conference and what a conference it was – kudos to Brenda Schumann and Kim Taylor, our LAC Co-chairs and our Immediate Past President, Darla Inglish for doing such an outstanding job!

It is such an honor for me to address you as President of this wonderful organization. It's an organization very dear and near to my heart. As your President, let me catch you up on some of the things that have transpired since our last gathering:

-Vice Presidents Andi Liner and Leticia Bazan and I had the privilege of attending the AACRAO Leadership Meeting in December. This is where state and regional leaders learn about strategic planning, financial budgeting, and legal issues concerning our organizations – all directly from AACRAO national leadership and guest presenters. This is such a worthwhile training event that all of our executive committee members will be attending this year.

-The Timberlake purchase agreement was signed in March and the 'kick-off' call took place in early April. Timberlake is our new membership and web application software. This new mobile and tablet friendly solution will enable us to manage our membership and dues, manage a new website, manage events, manage committees, do mail/text blasts and voice broadcasts, do surveys/ballots/polls, and offer an online directory, in addition so much more. It will be a very comprehensive tool for our membership and organization as a whole. We are very optimistic about this implementation and will keep you posted on our progress.

-We have had a very positive response to the Call for Session Proposals from our general membership. Our Sessions Planning Committees, along with our VPs are busy working on putting together a well-rounded and informative session agenda for conference.

-In response to feedback from our membership, the Nominations & Elections Committee Chair, Melinda Carroll sent out a request for nominations to the N&E Committee. This enabled our membership to directly make nominations to this committee.

-As you know, our Texas congress representatives are busy composing and submitting bill to the State Legislature. Some bills are a bit concerning, so Shelby Stanfield and the Legislative Committee will be issuing a summary to those bills affecting higher education within the next few weeks.

-The 2016 Conference financial audit took place on March 31 at the beautiful SMU campus. Thank you, Joe Papari and John Hall for doing a fabulous job hosting us.

-We continue discussions with the TCCNS about the possibility of bringing that group back under the umbrella of TACRAO. More details to come on that as we make progress.

-The TEC has had our first site visit to South Padre Island on February 19-21. We visited the SPI Convention Center and all three of the hotels offering room accommodations. If our first visit is any indication of what's to come in November, we're going to have a fabulous time as we Chart the Course for Student Success.

(continued on page 3)



Darla's Dialogue

By Darla Inglish, TACRAO Past-President

The academic year 2016-17 is flying by! We are already wrapping up commencement ceremonies on our campuses. That means summer is just around the corner! It is my honor to be serving as past president under the strong leadership of ***Irene Robinson***, president. With Irene at the helm, TEC has taken on and/or continued on with numerous projects begun in the last two years.

As past president, one of my duties is to chair the site selection committee which visits possible sites for TACRAO 2019. Recently, ***Melinda Carroll*** of **NCTC, *Lee Owens*** of **Navarro College**, and I visited Galveston to see what they could provide our organization if chosen as the site. I will keep you posted as that develops.

Another duty is to look at any revisions needed for the constitution, bylaws, and procedures manual. Together, the TEC has already made some revisions to the procedures manual, which serves as the day-to-day guidance for TEC/LAC committees. Any proposed changes to the constitution and bylaws will require a vote of the membership.

As a person who had never had the opportunity to visit South Padre Island until the TEC went for our first onsite preparation meeting, I am so excited about this venue and what it has to offer! The 2017 conference is going to be awesome, with beautiful ocean views, and islanders who are really excited to have our organization visiting. If you have never been to South Padre, this fall is your opportunity to learn and grow in your profession while having your first island experience. For those of you who have been to SPI before, you know what I'm talking about!

Until we meet again friends, keep your watches on island time, and your compass pointed South for TACRAO 2017 in South Padre Island!



Irene's Ideas (Continued from Front Page)
By Irene Robinson, TACRAO President

-The 2017 LAC continue making plans and setting things in motion to welcome everyone to South Padre Island on November 5-8. Thank you Maggie Hinojosa and Griselda Castilla, LAC Co-chairs, for already doing such a fantastic job!! The 2017 Conference website will up in running in a few days, so keep an eye out for an email announcing that.

-The Community College Issues, University Issues and Apply Texas/SPEEDE committee chairs are busy preparing for the summer meetings. The schedule will be a bit different starting this year as our contract with the DoubleTree Hotel in Austin will now accommodate all of our summer meetings during one week. This new contract arrangement was done in order to keep our membership from having to travel to Austin twice in the summer. These are the dates for our summer meetings:

University Issues Meeting	Tuesday, July 18
Apply Texas/SPEEDE Meeting	Wednesday, July 19
Community College Issues Meeting	Thursday & Friday (half day), July 20-21

Your TEC continue carrying out the duties of daily association business and responsibilities. We welcome feedback and questions from our members, so please feel free to email or call us at any time. The TEC contact information is found under the "Organization" tab on the TACRAO homepage. Thank you members for all that you do for TACRAO. Our organization would not have just celebrated our 100 years of existence if it wasn't for the dedication given by so many of you. Enjoy the rest of your spring semester and start think of cool things for the summer!





Papari's Ponderings

By Joe Papari, President-Elect

It is an honor to have been elected as your President-Elect. I look forward to the next few years and to serve our wonderful association.

The TACRAO Executive Committee (TEC) met in late February in South Padre Island to continue planning the annual conference.

Thank you for your responses to the Call for Proposals. They have provided a more diverse group of sessions for us to start developing the program. Your Vice-Presidents, **Leticia Bazan** and **Andi Liner,** have been busy working with the Session Planning Committees in developing the sessions and identifying presenters. We still need identify people to serve as session facilitators for the 2017 conference.

Serving as Session Facilitator is an excellent opportunity to get involved! Thank you to those who have submitted the "I'm Available" form. To those of you who have not submitted a "I'm Available" form yet, we still need your help, so please click on this link http://www.tacrao.org/sites/default/files/files/TACRAO%20I'm%20Available_%202016-2017.pdf

Thank you for your responses to the Call for Nominations. The Nominations & Elections (N&E) Committee Chair, **Melinda Carroll** and I are working on contacting you to serve on the N&E Committee. The N&E Committee will be presenting a slate of nominees to serve as President-Elect, Secretary, and Vice President for Admissions for 2017-2018.

Please let me know if I can assist in getting you involved with TACRAO. We always welcome new ideas and members to volunteer to assist the association.



SouthEast Texas Sound Bites

By Akilah Martin, Alvin College

We are excited to announce that it is time for the 2017 SETACRAO Conference, hosted by **Sam Houston State University.** This year's conference will be at the Walker Education Center in Huntsville, Texas on ***Friday, June 16, 2017.***

The price is **$40** per person until **June 1, 2017.** After June 1st the price will increase to $45 per person.

Please follow the link below to complete your team's registration.

https://secure.touchnet.com/C21329_ustores/web/product_detail.jsp?PRODUCTID=1623

questions, please contact:

Kelsey Miller
East Texas Admissions Counselor
Sam Houston State University
Box 2418, Huntsville, Texas 77341
936-294-3150 (Office)
Kelsey.miller@shsu.edu

News from **Galveston College:**

Pierre Banks has been hired as Assistant Director of Admissions and Records at Galveston College. Pierre comes to Galveston College after several years of service at Bowling Green State University in Ohio.

Galveston College was recently selected by the **TG Charley Wootan Grant Program** to begin a **Male Success Initiative.** The purpose of the initiative is to study reasons for historically lower completion and success rates among males, and to provide financial assistance, intrusive advising, and innovative approaches to promoting student success.



Andi's Affirmations

By Andi Liner, VP for Records & Registration

Happy Spring TACRAO Members: Spring is the pre-cursor to my favorite season, summer. Flowers begin to bloom and the sun warms things up so that I can, once again, spend quality time outside. Spring also means we begin to see the first blooms (students) of the seeds we planted with recruiting in fall. Our blooms begin to flood the offices with their information and need for classes. What an amazing to time it is to be in higher education! Summer brings to us a very busy time but a time for us to harvest the seeds we have planted in hopes they will enroll. Once fall begins we will, once again, start the cycle of higher ed life. Come celebrate the fruits of our labor at South Padre Island.

I want to thank everyone that submitted a session proposal for TACRAO 2017 in South Padre Island. ***Leticia Bazan***, VP of Admissions, and I are working hard to put together a diverse program. Here is a sneak peek of the topics that have been submitted:

Training You to Develop a Training Plan

Effectively Managing Regional and Remote Staff

Hit By a Bus, Not Thrown Under It

Speak Greek – Crossing the IT and the Functional Worlds

Using TSIA Diagnostic Scores

Welcoming Gender and Sexual Minority Students – This Starts with Us!

Building a College Going Culture

The Island has so much to offer and I hope the TACRAO membership will join us in South Padre Island to celebrate what it means to be in higher education.



Linked To Leticia

By Leticia Bazan, TACRAO VP of Admissions

Hello TACRAO Friends! I am very excited to be able to be working on our upcoming TACRAO conference in beautiful South Padre Island. **Andi Liner** and I have been working hard in reviewing the over 90+ proposals submitted this year for possible inclusion at the upcoming conference. Thank you to all who have submitted proposals through the new online form or those who worked with Session Planning Committee Members and Committee Chairs. We are excited to be preparing a great lineup of sessions at both the South Padre Island Convention Center, as well as the Hilton Garden Inn. Our goal over the next few weeks is to make final session selections and assignments. We look forward to being able to announce our sessions soon. Presenters should begin hearing from us after the conclusion of the TACRAO Executive Committee meeting in mid-May. We hope that you were looking forward to coming down to SPI in November for the upcoming conference. After touring convention center facilities, conference hotel sites and tasting the local cuisine, no doubt this year's conference will not only be educational, but allow you to experience the wonderful sun, beach and outstanding South Texas hospitality. Please keep watching the TACRAO listserv for listings of our approved presentations and information about the upcoming conference.

All the Best~ Leticia



Michelle's Measly Musings

By Michelle Walker, TACRAO Secretary

Thank you for the opportunity to serve on the TACRAO Executive Committee (TEC). If you ever have an opportunity to serve, I highly recommend it!! You will be inspired by your colleagues and proud of the work that is done on behalf of our great organization.

Since initial membership invoices were sent in August, I have sent membership payment reminders multiple times to schools hoping to close out the year. At this time, 170 invoices are paid and 6 invoices remain unpaid. Those schools should know who they are as I have also called and left a message for their institutional contact. Be aware that those memberships are expired and recruitment staff will not have access to the College Day/Night Schedule. We will have some panicked peeps if they cannot access the schedule. Please help me help you.

We had our first TEC meeting in South Padre Island in February. Every venue is unique and offers opportunities for learning and networking with your colleagues. And what goes on in SPI stays in SPI, right Maggie?! You will not want to miss this conference!

The High School Relations Committee provided their weekly schedule for the College Day/Night Programs and it was approved by the TEC at the February meeting. The schedule is currently posted on the website.

2017-18 subscription invoices will go out in April for the upcoming recruitment season. In 2016-17, 202 subscribers participated with us in our recruitment efforts. 2017-18 may prove to be even more popular as I have had several inquiries in the last few weeks.

Applications/forms/committees have been updated for the 2017 conference year. Please let me know if you see anything on the website that needs editing. If you have any other questions or concerns, feel free to contact me, 979-458-5123 or mbwalker@tamu.edu.

Wishing you a smooth end of semester and a restful summer!

Michelle



Dorman's Dollars

By: Jeremy Dorman, Treasurer

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as your Treasurer over the next two years. I appreciate ***Diane Brice*** being available to answer my many questions and leaving things so orderly for our transition.

It was great to see you all at the Annual Conference at Horseshoe Bay. We wrapped up the Conference with the LAC audit at the end of March. Be sure to make plans now to attend the Annual Conference in November at South Padre Island – it will be memorable!

TACRAO is financially stable and your TEC is very diligent in ensuring we manage the funds wisely. Please feel free to reach out to me if I can help. I hope the remainder of your Spring semester is a success.



2018 Fort Worth LAC Co-Chairs already hard at work preparing for the 2018 TACRAO Conference in Fort Worth. Pictured (l to r): Joy Fraizer (UTA), LAC Co-Chair, Dustin Gerstenfield (TCU) LAC 2018 Exhibitors' Chair, Joe Papari (SMU) President-Elect; and Araceli Hill (Texas A&M University-Commerce) LAC Co-Chair.

Where Are They Now?



Welcome to a new TACRAO Newsletter feature, highlighting TACRAO former members as we track then down to discover what fun awaits us all in the grand world of retirement! *(Thank you to TACRAO member,* Pam Wright*, Texas A&M University-Commerce for this idea and for the first submission!)*

Randy McDonald, former Director of Admissions, *Texas A&M University-Commerce*, is now a Docent Volunteer at the Bryan Museum in Galveston.

Randy has been volunteering at The Bryan Museum since March 2016 and completed docent training in January. He is a joy to have around the Museum, always greeting everyone with a smile, and as a retired school administrator and adjunct history instructor from Texas A&M with a master's degree focus in the American Southwest, he is an ideal docent! Randy leads a wonderfully informative and entertaining tour that everyone is sure to enjoy. If you are lucky enough to find Randy leading your tour, be sure to thank him for his time and dedication.

We asked Randy a few questions about his time at the Museum:

Can you tell us a little bit about yourself?

I am a granddad to a three-year-old little girl and have a great family scattered around the Houston area.

What enticed you to become a volunteer at The Bryan Museum?

I realized after serving as a guest services volunteer and shadowing several docents that a docent's role is where the fun is. And the history behind the artifacts is right up my alley.

What is your favorite part of being a Bryan Museum volunteer?

My favorite part of being a docent is meeting new and interesting people daily and listening to their stories and fielding their questions.

What is your favorite thing about the Museum?

The professional staff and my fellow docents are my favorite things about The Bryan.



North Texas News

By Dali Hatanville, Texas A&M University-Commerce

A&M-Commerce Vice President for Student Access and Success Retires

Vice President for Student Access and Success, ***Mary Hendrix*** retired at the end of December 2016, then continued to support the university as they hired her replacement in April 2017.

The East Texas native earned her bachelor's, master's and doctoral degrees from A&M-Commerce, and has devoted her professional life to serving generations of students in the region and at the institution she has called home for more than 30 years. Hendrix has spent the last 14 of those years as a senior administrator, serving four university presidents and holding key leadership roles in academic and student affairs and enrollment management.

Hendrix noted that the sense of community and shared purpose at her alma mater is especially strong: "What has made this university so special is that we are a family; we take care of each other and we take care of our students."

Click here for the complete story.

Dr. Lee Young has joined **Texas A&M University-Commerce** in the position of Associate Vice President for Enrollment Management at A&M-Commerce, effective April 1, 2017. In this position, Dr. Young will provide administrative leadership for Enrollment Management and will serve as an active team member in the Academic Affairs Division. Dr. Young has demonstrated successful experience in previous enrollment management positions while employed at Pittsburg State University and Virginia Union University. He holds a doctoral degree from Jackson State University in Urban Higher Education Leadership. He and his family are looking forward to becoming active and engaged members of the Lion Family!

Barbara Lunce, Assistant to the Registrar at **Midwestern State University** was awarded the Dr. Jesse Rogers Spirit Award at the MSU Athletic Banquet on April 19, 2017, for her many years of dedicated service to our athletes in performing athletic checks for eligibility.

Congratulations, Barbara!



Linda Knox, Assistant Registrar at **Midwestern State University** competed in the Memorial Hermann Half Iron Man in Galveston, Texas on April 2, 2017. The competition includes a 1.2 mile swim, 56 mile bike ride, and 13.1 mile run for a total of 70.3 miles. She did it in a personal best time of 7:27:48.





Central Texas Chatter

By Brenda Schumann, The Univeristy of Texas at Austin

Rachelle Hernandez Named Senior Vice Provost for Enrollment Management at the University of Texas at Austin

Rachelle Hernandez has been appointed senior vice provost for enrollment management at The University of Texas at Austin. She is currently the associate vice provost for enrollment management and director of admissions at the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities.

Hernandez's appointment begins in August. Her portfolio at the University of Texas at Austin will include the Office of Admissions, Office of Financial Aid, and the Office of the Registrar.

"Rachelle is widely regarded as a national thought leader and innovator in the enrollment management community, and we are extremely fortunate to bring her expertise to UT Austin," said Executive Vice President and Provost Maurie McInnis. "I am confident that Rachelle's leadership will provide the vision necessary for UT Austin to enroll an increasingly talented and diverse undergraduate student body."

Hernandez holds a Bachelor of Arts in political science and Master of Education in human resource development from the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities. She has more than 20 years of experience in admissions and enrollment management.





East Texas Eavesdroppings

By Lynda Langham, Stephen F. Austin State University

The ETACRAO meeting was held at **Stephen F. Austin State University** on April 6th. We had a great turn out with over 35 members in attendance. The day started with a presentation from Financial Aid regarding students affected by new laws in regards to unknown majors.

We also had a presentation over TSI and advising from the SFA standpoint. Brittany Fish covered issues relating to TSI and any changes that might be coming.

Our hot topic for the day covered several questions on dual credit; in regards to registration, grades, admission requirements and more.

After a yummy lunch we headed over to the Old Stone Fort on campus for a brief history lesson, a scavenger hunt and button making.

All in all it was a great day and we were so excited to host everyone at the home of the Lumberjacks.





Wade Cates,* Kilgore College** Admissions Counselor, welcomed a bouncing baby boy, ***Elijah Alexander Cates, in February weighing at 9 pounds and 10 ounces.

***Alex Knox,* Kilgore College** Admissions Counselor, received his Master of Arts in Counseling from **Wayland Baptist University** and is preparing to test for his LPC.


Wayland Baptist University

Master of Arts in Counseling



East Texas Eavesdroppings (Continued)

By Lynda Langham, Stephen F. Austin State University

A&M-Texarkana volunteers turn out in full force for The Big Event

More than 250 Texas A&M University-Texarkana students, faculty, staff and alumni joined together Saturday morning for The Big Event, tackling community service projects at more than a dozen locations on both sides of the state line.

The Big Event: Eagle Pride City Wide is a student-led day of volunteering aimed at giving back to the Texarkana communities. Participants helped area nonprofit organizations, parks, neighborhoods and animal shelters with tasks such as yard work, painting fences, sorting donations, cleaning and planting shrubs, flowers and vegetables. One group of students even removed an old fence at the Texarkana Regional Airport.

The Big Event was sponsored by the A&M-Texarkana Campus Activities Board, Student Government Association, Office of Student Life and Alumni Association. Both Mayor Bob Bruggeman of Texarkana, Texas, and Mayor Ruth Penney Bell of Texarkana, Arkansas, attended a kick-off pep rally Saturday morning, proclaiming April 8, 2017, as A&M-Texarkana The Big Event Day on both sides of the state line.

Work sites included the Arkansas/Texas state line area, Beech Street, Beverly Community Garden, Bobby Ferguson Park, Harvest Regional Food Bank, Kidtopia Park, Randy Sams' Outreach Shelter, Inc., Runnin' WJ Ranch, Sandflat-Glendale neighborhood, Animal Care and Adoption Center, Texarkana Animal League and Texarkana Regional Airport.

"At every single project site I visited, I was blown away by the passion and dedication of our Eagle family," said event organizer Michael Stephenson, coordinator of Student Life at A&M-Texarkana. "While I may have been responsible for the event, every single participant was responsible for making it reflect the love we have for our university and our cities. I know our community is thankful and so am I to be associated with such amazing people."

At Harvest Regional Food Bank, The Big Event volunteers worked to label approximately 700 cans of food and to set up a mobile pantry with food and boxes for about 240 families.

"The Big Event volunteers were awesome this year. They came in ready to work. We were impressed with the amount of committed volunteers," said Ashley Lockett, development director and volunteer coordinator at the food bank. "Harvest Regional Food Bank can only achieve its goals with the assistance of generous volunteers and donations from our community. Without these volunteers and donations, serving our community would not be possible. Donations and fundraising help sustain our organization and benefit the communities we serve. Last year, we were able to provide over 3.3 million pounds of food, about 3 million meals, to over 60,000 individuals in our region because of supporters like A&M-Texarkana. Thank you for making an impact in our community!"

"Eagle Pride City Wide made a definite impact in our community," said Felps. "We had representatives from all departments, colleges and clubs come out in full force to help with various community improvement projects across Texarkana. The Big Event really encompassed our university's mission of community leadership."

"The Big Event gave our Eagle Family an opportunity to express our appreciation to the Texarkana community that has been so supportive of our university," Dr. Emily Cutrer said. "It also provided a venue for us to put one of our guiding principles – *community leadership* – into action and to work alongside our colleagues outside of the workplace – strengthening our team spirit while giving back. Our first Big Event was definitely a success and we look forward to building upon this foundation as we continue this new A&M-Texarkana tradition in the years to come."

Dr. Del Doughty, dean of the College of Education and Liberal Arts, volunteered in the Sandflat community. "Not to get too philosophical about it, but lately I've been musing on the Second Law of Thermodynamics, which basically says that things are always falling apart, decaying and breaking down. It's the natural way of things. When you apply that kind of thinking to a concept like community, you begin to understand how vital it is for people to always be coming together and working with the intention doing something good," Dr. Doughty said. "I spent most of the morning pruning shrubs and weed-whacking, and in-between moments I met some new people and bonded with some already familiar ones. I came away from the morning in high spirits, feeling blessed to be part of the effort."

2016-2017 TACRAO Executive Committee

President
Irene Robinson, Alvin College

Past-President
Darla Inglish, Midwestern State University

President-Elect
Joe Papari, Southern Methodist University

Vice President for Admissions
Leticia Bazan, Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi

Vice President for Records & Registration
Andi Liner, Blinn College

Secretary
Michelle Walker, Texas A&M University

Treasurer
Jeremy Dorman, Panola College

Local Arrangements Committee Co-Chairs (Ex-Officio)
Maggie Hinojosa and Griselda Castilla, The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley

