



## ROCKY MOUNTAIN ASSOCIATION OF COLLEGIATE REGISTRARS AND ADMISSIONS OFFICERS

### WYOMING • COLORADO • NEW MEXICO • FALL 2007 NEWSLETTER

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## From the President

### Boldly Facing Challenges and Conquering Our Fears!

Hello. I hope everyone is enjoying this new academic year. I imagine things are settling down for some and ramping up for others. Many institutions are still in the midst of the challenges of new software, budget and enrollment issues, and new leadership. Boldly facing these challenges was a message that rang out from our annual meeting in Estes Park. The annual meeting was wonderful! I want to take the opportunity to thank all involved – the local arrangements committee, the program committee, the attendees, the exhibitors, and the board of directors. The setting was beautiful, the sessions were informative and uplifting, and the interactions were stimulating, as always. What a great



opportunity to get together to renew old friendships and make new ones. At the annual meeting our closing speaker Jim McCormick, a professional sky-diver, challenged us to overcome our fears in order to face new challenges. When faced with these challenges, there is no better place to turn than to your colleagues and friends in RMACRAO. The support we can give to one another through RMACRAO often provides the glue that keeps us together and the answers to difficult dilemmas.

This year will bring new opportunities. These opportunities are due in large part to the hard work of Past President Mary Angell and the rest of the RMACRAO board. Under Angell's leadership as president for the past two years, RMACRAO has seen significant advancements in the area of communicating with the membership through the re-designed web site. The addition of the web developer position currently held by Corey Wahl from CU-Boulder has already produced wonderful benefits for the membership. Web services for RMACRAO members continue to improve. We are currently exploring a partnership with Credentials, Inc. to offer payment of membership dues and conference registration fees online. This service will allow our members to pay using their procurement cards. Thank you to Tom McKechney for offering this option.

I am thrilled for the opportunity to work with the incoming board of directors. We have some new faces and some returning experts. Kelley Christman (University of Northern Colorado) joins the board as the vice president for Colorado, Carolyn Gutierrez (University of New Mexico) is the new treasurer, and Gay Gralheer (University of Wyoming) enters as the Local Arrangements Committee chair for the 2008 annual meeting. Laurie Watkins returns to the board as the vice president for Wyoming and Lara Medley is the president-elect. The remaining members of the board are Mary Angell, Rosie Corrie, Sally Page, Kathleen Sena, Corey Wahl, and Steve Ellis. We truly appreciate all the work of Stuart Thomas (Aims Community

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## Vice Presidents' Reports

### Colorado - Kelley Christman

**Lara Medley** reports that **Colorado School of Mines** is in the middle of their second complete year on Banner, and things are beginning to settle. There are always more processes and policies to review and improve. They never seem to be at a loss for something to do! **Bill Young**, associate vice president for enrollment management, will be retiring from Mines in June of 2008. Bill has served the Colorado School of Mines for more than 33 years! We wish him all the best in the next chapter of his life.

The **University of Northern Colorado** has also been live on Banner for over 2 years and all systems seem to be running well. They are now using Web Xtender for document imaging and recently introduced Insight, a reporting portal for the university. **Nolan Oltjenbruns** is the new registrar and is off to a running start! Nolan comes to Northern Colorado from Colorado State University.

The Office of Admissions at **Colorado State University** is happy to announce the addition of five new admissions counselors and one assistant director.

- **Andrew Angely**, admissions counselor, is a recent graduate of Colorado State. As a student he worked in the Campus Box Office/Campus Information Center where he held a number of positions, the Colorado State Upward Bound Program as a tutor/counselor, and served in the Associated Students of Colorado State University (ASCSU) as assistant director for Diversity and Outreach.

- **Matthew Hitt**, admissions counselor, is a recent graduate of Colorado State. Matthew was very much involved on campus serving as an admissions office Student Ambassador, associate justice for the ASCSU Supreme Court, research intern/staff member of the Colorado State University Legal Services, and a member of the Dining Services Advisory Council. Matt interned as a reporter for the Summit Daily News and worked in the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Denver in their Guest Services.

- **Karlen Suga**, admissions counselor, is a graduate from the University of Hawaii (Hilo) and in May she received her master's degree in student affairs in higher education from Colorado State. While on campus, Karlen was a graduate coordinator for service and leadership programs in the Office of Student Leadership, Involvement, and Community Engagement. Prior to coming to Colorado State, she was a summer intern with the University of Puget Sound's multicultural student services and worked as a peer adviser for the University of Hilo advising center.

- **Jessica Dyrdaahl**, admissions counselor, is a recent graduate of Colorado State. Jessica was involved on campus serving in the Presidential Ambassador Program where she represented the president's office and the university at various events and chaired the Lory Student Center Governing Board. She was also assistant director of leadership development, an Honors Program peer mentor, a campus information specialist and campus orientation leader. Jessica also worked as a team leader and camp counselor at an academic and motivational camp for middle and high school at-risk students.

- **Reyna Anaya**, admissions counselor, is a recent graduate of Colorado State. Reyna served as the director of diversity and outreach for ASCSU as well as director of diversity outreach in El Centro Student Services where she conducted cultural presentations for the Poudre School District and was a presenter at the Cherry Creek Diversity Conference. She also assisted in coordinating El Centro's Math, Science and Technology Day program. Reyna interned in the president's office and with the Community Organizing to Reach Empowerment (CORE) Center in Fort Collins. During her summer months Reyna worked as a teacher's aide for the South Central Board of Cooperative Educational Services summer migrant program in Pueblo.

- **Katherine Mitchell** comes to Colorado State from the admissions office at North Dakota State University where she worked

as an admissions counselor for two years and an admissions representative intern for one year. She traveled extensively in the Midwest and coordinated a number of recruitment programs and developed training manuals for the admissions office. Katie, a graduate of North Dakota State University, will serve as assistant director for scholar outreach. In addition to her recruitment and counseling responsibilities, Katie will oversee the university's high ability/scholars recruitment efforts.

### New Mexico - Rosie Corrie

**Cheryl Drangmeister**, associate vice president for student services at **San Juan College**, is pleased to announce that they are now fully staffed in the admissions and records office and are hard at work! The new director of admissions and records is **Jon Betz**. Jon is a New Mexico native and has been working at SJC for about five years. **Kim Coufal** is the new assistant director of admissions and records and was also working at SJC in another department. **Bailey Livingston** is the admissions specialist since January and is a recent graduate of Texas Tech University. Welcome to all!

San Juan College went live with new administrative software, Datatel, for the summer 2007 semester. The staff has been hard at work to make the conversion and implementation as painless as possible, and has resolved most of the glitches. The new software has many enhancements over the old software, one of which is degree audit.

SJC is also very pleased to report that, as of the fall 2007 semester, degree audit has been implemented and is now available for students to quickly and easily check the status of their degree program. It is also easy to do "what if" scenarios and check the remaining requirements for other degree programs. Faculty are also able to use this feature to better assist and advise students.

## Vice Presidents' Reports (continued)

**Kathleen Sena**, registrar at the **University of New Mexico**, reports that **Dr. Terry Babbitt** has been named interim vice president for enrollment management while a nation-wide search is conducted for the position. The division he oversees includes the offices of recruitment services, admissions, financial aide, scholarship, and registrar. Prior to his appointment he served as an associate vice president for enrollment management with the full-time responsibilities of the offices of recruitment and admissions. He brings more than 15 years of experience in enrollment management from the University of Oklahoma and the University of New Mexico.

The registrar's office at UNM has been experiencing quite a number of personnel changes since the first of May. **Darlene Lucero** retired and started a new career with SunGard HE. **Rose Bennett** decided to take the plunge and has also gone to work for SunGard HE. **Todd Hynson** completed his degree in May and moved onto another opportunity to become the registrar at the UNM School of Medicine. **Kim Lemons**, who was the university catalog editor and certainly our curriculum processing right-hand person, has moved onto Arizona where her husband accepted a position at a community college. **Reyes Sais**, our fiscal agent (the man who took care of the checkbook) completed his degree and has moved into the private sector. **Robben Baca**, one of our valuable degree audit encoders, completed her master's degree and has gone to work for the Office of Graduate Studies on our UNM Albuquerque campus. **Marge Klimt**, degree audit and graduation coordinator, has retired again (lucky woman having two retirements) and moved back to be closer to her family in Missouri. **Cindy Mortenson**, formerly from Sheridan College in Wyoming by way of Northern Arizona University, has joined our team as associate registrar for degree audit, graduation, and training. We are fortunate to have her as she brings a solid background of higher education

experience that will allow our office to continue providing excellent services for our students. **Schuyler Smith** has joined our stats team as a programmer to help us handle the numerous statistical analysis requests we get on a daily basis.

The university itself is experiencing numerous changes as the new president **Dr. David Schmidly** took over in June. He comes to UNM with years of experience from Oklahoma State at Stillwater and Texas Tech University. He will continue to work with the university community and the state of New Mexico to help students who come to UNM be successful.

The fall semester started without much fanfare as our new student information system is working like the implementation team developed, tested, and tested it again for our students and the faculty. So it's back to the everyday responsibilities of providing good service, recruiting students, admitting students, preparing spring schedules, and registering students for the next go round.

### Wyoming - Laurie Watkins

**Casper College's Kyla Foltz**, admissions coordinator, and **Alison McNulty**, director of admissions and student records/registrar, report the admissions office hired **Rebecca Anderson** as a new admissions representative and **Tanya Sell** to replace **Brittany Kennedy**. Brittany returned to Oregon with her husband Matt (they were in Oregon prior to coming to Casper a year ago). Tanya recently completed her degree at MSU and moved to Casper with her husband and two boys. **Joanna Anderson** joins Casper College as the new vice president of student services. CC announces new programs in electric power technology - AAS and certificate, AAS in digital technology, AS in health science, and AAS in robotics technology. The paramedic program is not yet available.

**Central Wyoming College** hired **Sandy Eisenman** as the registrar. New recruiters **Bridget Taylor** (a recent UW graduate) and **Bryce Roberts** (a CWC graduate who returned home after attending Southern Nazarene University in Oklahoma) are covering fall travel for CWC with assistance from **Steve Traylor**, fine arts recruiter. CWC was listed 2<sup>nd</sup> in a group of colleges with less than 3,000 students in the top-10 tech savvy, cutting edge community colleges by the Center for Digital Education and the American Association of Community Colleges. CWC was recognized for its progressive use of information technology that has resulted in greater student access to computers and wireless technology and more faculty employing advanced instructional delivery. The ranking was established based on the third national Digital Community Colleges Survey, which examined how colleges are deploying technology to streamline operations and better serve students, faculty, and staff.

**Mell Cooper**, recruiting coordinator, reports that **Eastern Wyoming College** dedicated the new 58-bed Lancer Hall and renamed the existing residence building Eastern Hall. Work has started on a new \$900,000 vet tech addition that will include surgery and x-ray facilities. EWC welcomes new Vice President/Dean of Instruction **Richard Holcomb** and also EWC President **Shari Olsen** from Thief River Falls, Minnesota, who will replace the retiring **Jack L. Bottenfield** on December 15.

**Josh Nighswonger**, admissions representative at **Laramie County Community College**, reports the birth of a son, Ilias, in September. **Chris Maestas**, an admissions representative, left LCCC for a job in banking, and a new admissions representative, **Bradley Barker II**, was recently hired. LCCC has broken ground on a new health sciences facility. **Holly Allison**, coordinator of admissions, reports that admissions is working to implement Data-tel Active Admissions for fall 2008.

## Vice Presidents' Reports (*continued*)

**Zane Garstad**, director of enrollment services at **Sheridan College** in the Northern Wyoming Community College District, reports three new staff members. **Kirstie Auzqui** (formerly with the admissions office at Casper College) is the new student academic advisor, **CW Tollefson** was hired as the new rodeo coach and recruiter, and **Ewana Wiley** was selected as the new international student coordinator. **Gillette College** is planning for construction of a tech center and additional housing, and they started a rodeo team with Pronghorns as the mascot.

**Brad Hammond**, registrar/director of admissions at **Northwest College**, reports **Brittney Berge**, a recent UW graduate, was hired as a new 10-month admissions representative. Also, a search is open for a new president.

At the **University of Wyoming**, registrar **Tammy Aagard** reports the associate registrar search has reopened. **Scott Van Horn** left UW for a job in banking, and **Erin Olsen** is now an assistant director. A search will begin soon for a new admissions counselor. Associate Director **Rob Dennis** reports that admissions will be adding blogs and a new Hobsons e-viewbook to their web site.

**Western Wyoming Community College** selected **Laurie Watkins**, former director of admissions, for the new position associate vice president for student success services and **Tammy Walker**, former admissions assistant, as the new student support assistant. New admissions hires include **Joe Mueller** as director of admissions (Joe was formerly the director of admissions for the South Dakota School of Mines and Technology in Rapid City, SD), **Janet Johnson** as admissions assistant, and **Rosie Hughes** as admissions office assistant. **Brant Brown** has completed one year as the admissions coordinator. A search opened for a new president as **Tex Boggs** retires after 20 years at WWCC in June.

## Annual Meeting Highlights

### The Mystery in the Mountains is Solved!

It's hard to believe that this year's conference has come and gone. Preparations are well under way for next year's conference to be held in Laramie, Wyoming. I know the Local Arrangements Committee will prepare a fantastic conference for 2008. Mark your calendar now for July 16-18 to be ready for more great sessions, many informative speakers, lots of networking opportunities, and an all-around good time.

This year we were thankful to have 18 exhibitors join us in Estes Park, Colorado. Many companies had more than one person in attendance for a total of 28 representatives. Thanks to all and special thanks to those that gave extra to sponsor some of the activities and our t-shirts.

Overall participation was 141 members. 45 were first timers and 3 were honorary members. 111 attended from Colorado, 17 from New Mexico, 13 from Wyoming, and our AACRAO representative, Dan Garcia, from Texas.

What a spectacular place to have a conference, Estes Park and The Stanley Hotel. It started off sizzling for the first timers under the hot sun for the luncheon, but ended up grand for the breakfast with a few unexpected visitors. Several elk graced the lawn of the hotel that morning and made for some great pictures.

The golf tournament was again a success. The opening session speaker, Dr. Mark Benn, gave some great insights for working with generations. Sara Axelson's plenary session focused on knowing your institution and matching your enrollment goals to the mission of your institution. Jim McCormick showed us some high flying stunts in the closing session. The breakout sessions were well received and very well attended.

Thursday night was the highlight of fun and entertainment. The Mardi Gras Ball and Murder Mystery Dinner was great fun. Who ever knew a conga line would

form and weave its way throughout the room? And did anyone know that we had an award winning actress in our midst? Barbara Todd was very convincing as our victim, and Carolyn Gutierrez, Brant Brown, and Randy Kouba were wickedly deceiving as the suspects. I never knew that Carolyn had it in her, but many tuned in to the clues.

Thanks to a very hard working LAC, everything went off smoothly. And the Program Committee put on another fantastic program. Jolesch Photographer extraordinaire Mark Hommerding gave us a wonderful memento of the group picture taken Thursday evening on the steps of The Stanley.

I appreciate the opportunity of serving this year as the Local Arrangements Committee chair.

– *Shelly Loomis, 2007 LAC Chair*

## Congratulations to RMACRAO Retirees

The following retirees were announced at the RMACRAO 2007 Annual Meeting. We were fortunate to have one of the retirees, **Schez Downey**, in attendance. Congratulations to all!

**Debbie Lechuga**, Arapahoe Community College  
**Phyllis Arrington**, University of Colorado Health Sciences Center  
**Vicki Fenner-Snyder**, University of Colorado Health Sciences Center  
**Patsy Young**, Regis University  
**Phyllis Bay**, University of Denver  
**Schez Downey**, University of Denver  
**Becky Barnes**, University of Northern Colorado  
**Dr. Chestine Brohm**, Central Wyoming College  
**Joe Von Seegren**, Laramie County Community College  
**Tillie Trujillo**, Colorado State University  
**James Ochilree**, Casper College  
**Darlene Lucero**, University of New Mexico  
**Jim Morfield**, Metropolitan State College of Denver

## Annual Meeting Highlights (continued)

### Welcome to First Time Attendees

There were a large number of first timers at the 2007 RMACRAO annual meeting and we hope you all enjoyed your experience. And congratulations to the first-time attendees who were recipients of the **\$100 RMACRAO travel grant** (noted in bold below).

**Angela Anderson**, Registrar, North-eastern Junior College  
Lindsey M. Apodaca, Degree Audit Specialist, University of Colorado Health Sciences Center  
Becky Bedford, Administrative Assistant, Front Range Community College - Larimer  
Darcy Briggs-Jackson, Registrar/ Director of Admissions & Records, Arapahoe Community College  
Brant Brown, Admissions Coordinator, Western Wyoming Community College  
Michelle Brown, Associate Director of Admissions, Metro State College of Denver  
Robin C. Brown, Vice President for Enrollment and Access, Colorado State University  
Sandy Calhoun, Registrar & Director of Student Financial Services, Colorado State University  
**Jami Christensen**, Recruiter, Eastern Wyoming College  
Kimberly Clark, Assistant Registrar, Metropolitan State College  
Kim Coufal, Assistant Director of Admissions & Records, San Juan College  
Brooke Culver, Admissions Representative, University of Wyoming  
David Dollins, Assistant Director of Admissions, Colorado State University  
Liz Duran, Degree Audit Specialist, Colorado State University- Pueblo  
Ingrid Eschholz, Registrar, University of Colorado Health Sciences Center  
Stephanie Eyster, Recruitment Specialist, Front Range Community College

Katherine S. Goldberg, Assistant Director of Admissions/Transfer Services, Metropolitan State College  
**Amanda Graham**, Enrollment Representative, University of New Mexico  
**Gay Gralheer**, Office Associate, Sr., University of Wyoming  
Pam Haban, Assistant Program Manager, Colorado State University - Pueblo  
Lea Hanson, Associate Director of Admissions, Colorado State University  
Ginny Hayes, Registration Advisor, Western State College  
Angela Healy, Program Manager, Colorado State University - Pueblo  
Bailey Livingston, Admissions Specialist, San Juan College  
Kelly Lloyd, Athletic Specialist, University of New Mexico  
**Beth Maline**, Course Inventory/ Management Coordinator, University of Colorado Health Sciences Center  
Jose A. Martinez, Degree Audit Coordinator, University of Colorado at Boulder  
Nena Martinez-Anaya, Registrar, Institute of American Indian Arts  
Laurie McCall, Registration Advisor, Western State College  
Paul McCarty, Manager of Support Services, University of Denver  
Dee Menzies, Director of Eligibility Certification, University of Colorado at Boulder  
Jessica Monge, Admissions Representative, University of New Mexico - Valencia Campus  
Geri Nappa, Graduation Evaluator, Front Range Community College - Larimer  
Laura Olszewski, Manager, Applns Programming, University of New Mexico  
Deb Otterstrom, Assistant Registrar, University of Colorado at Boulder  
Amy Robertshaw, Graduation Evaluator, Colorado State University - Pueblo  
Kathy Rohn, Transcript Evaluator, Front Range Community College - Larimer

Karla Roth, Associate Registrar, Colorado College  
Joe Rymski, Systems Analyst and Web Developer, Colorado State University  
Julie Schroyer, Systems Specialist, University of Wyoming  
Erin Smith, Director of Student Life, Front Range Community College  
Matt Smith, ARIES (Banner) Administrator, Colorado State University  
Susan Stoker, Registrar, Pikes Peak Community College  
Eleni Stoycos, Registrar, Rocky Mountain College of Art + Design  
Joe Terry, Admissions Counselor, Colorado State University - Pueblo  
Vaughn Toland, Associate Director of Admission, Metropolitan State College of Denver  
**Becky Troyer**, Administrative Assistant, Admissions & Records, Front Range Community College - Larimer  
Jonathon Valdez, Office Manager, Colorado State University - Pueblo  
Sadie Vigil, General Professional III, Metropolitan State College of Denver

### Free Registration

Congratulations to **David Beckham**, University of Colorado at Boulder, winner of free registration for the RMACRAO 2008 Annual Meeting. Dave's name was drawn out of the returned nametags during the closing session and awarded with free registration for next year's annual meeting. Hope he can attend! And thanks to all who returned their nametag holders so that we can use them again next year!

## Thank You to Our Exhibitors

At this year's annual meeting in Estes Park, we had a record number of exhibitors demonstrate their products and many participated in all of our sessions, functions, and activities. While we had many who have been with us for years, like ScriptSafe, National Student Clearinghouse, and Credentials, several newcomers like Jolesch Photography and Data Solutions also joined us. Our exhibitors are a valuable partner for our organization.

Credentials, Inc., sponsored the annual Wednesday morning golf tournament. Credentials has sponsored this event for us for the past nine years at least. Tom McKechny and Credentials will be sponsoring the traveling golf trophy beginning in 2008 at our annual meeting in Laramie, Wyoming.

National Student Clearinghouse again this year provided financial resources to help sponsor one of the refreshment breaks the Estes Park Local Arrangements Committee put together.

Digital Architecture provided the conference memento for this year and we all look "fabulous" in our Mystery in the Mountains Henley shirts.

SunGard HE helped sponsor the Murder Mystery Dinner we all enjoyed on Thursday evening.

Thus it goes without saying much more . . . we appreciate our exhibitors and look forward to seeing them all in Laramie at our 2008 annual meeting.

– *Kathleen F. Sena, Exhibitor Liaison*

## From the President (continued from page 1)

College) who exited the board as treasurer and Shelly Loomis (Colorado State University) as Local Arrangements Committee chair for the 2007 meeting.

As we boldly face the challenges of this year, I hope that you will share with me any concerns or suggestions that you might have for the betterment of the organization and its members. As I said in my remarks at the Business Meeting in Estes Park, I truly believe that we can accomplish a great deal by working together and learning from one another. I encourage all of you to use the wonderful resource of your RMACRAO membership and the associations with the quality professionals in our region.

Respectfully,  
*Tammy Aagard, RMACRAO President*

## Scholarship Recipients

Congratulations to the following recipients of the 2007-2008 RMACRAO Professional Development Scholarship. Each individual will receive \$750 and in return will either present a session at next year's annual meeting or do a write-up for a future newsletter.

**Kyla Foltz**, Admissions Coordinator, Casper College – Kyla plans to attend the RMACAC meeting in Tucson, AZ to learn about practices and trends in recruitment strategies. She is especially interested in a session on service to low-income, underserved 6<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> grade students.

**Dell Ann Claypool**, Admissions Coordinator, Northeastern Junior College – Dell Ann plans to attend the Ken Davis Dynamic Communicators Workshop. As an admissions coordinator she is looking to this workshop to help improve her public speaking skills as well as learning how to speak efficiently and effectively.

## Travel Grants Available

If you're planning to attend the 2008 AACRAO Annual Meeting in Orlando, FL, March 24-27, and if this will be your first AACRAO meeting, then we encourage you to apply for a RMACRAO travel grant. The RMACRAO board awards six \$100 travel grants to first-time attendees of an AACRAO annual meeting. To apply, e-mail the following information to your state vice president (see <http://www.rmacrao.org/directors.html>):

- Name
- Title
- Institution
- State
- Phone Number
- Fax Number
- Mailing Address
- Number of years in RMACRAO
- Brief statement regarding why you're applying for the travel grant, what you hope to get out of attending AACRAO, how the grant will help pay expenses, etc.

**Deadline to apply for an AACRAO travel grant is February 1, 2008.**

## Dues Reminder

Invoices for RMACRAO annual dues have been sent out. If you could take a moment and double check your institutions membership list at <http://www.rmacrao.org/membership.html> and please forward updates to Carolyn Gutierrez, RMACRAO Treasurer, at [cosme@unm.edu](mailto:cosme@unm.edu).

## From the Past - Historian's Report

### Happy 30<sup>th</sup> Birthday — Rocky Mountain ACRAO!

Our 2007 annual meeting provided another incredible gathering in a spectacular venue so new members could meet returning members. It was a great time to learn new ideas, meet new colleagues, renew old acquaintances, relax and enjoy the Rocky Mountain vistas under the charming (though possibly haunted) ambiance of the Stanley Hotel. A special thanks to Shelly Loomis and the LAC team from Colorado State University, Mary Angell for her leadership, Tammy Aagard and the program committee, our exhibitors, presenters and others who contributed to a spectacular occasion. We all took a shining to the home of 'The Shining' and enjoyed a special celebration by having a group picture commemorating thirty years, followed by a "Mystery in the Mountains" dining experience.

In the beginning...

The date was April 8, 1976. The place was the Roswell Inn, in Roswell, New Mexico. Attendees included President Richard Hill, President Elect Virginia Williamson, Past President Wayne Farley, and Philip Flanigan. No, they were not looking for alien space ships, but members of CWACRAO were meeting with members of NMACRAO to answer questions regarding merging of the two associations as one. A steering committee was established, chaired by Charles Seldon, registrar at University of Northern Colorado. A questionnaire was developed and sent to CWACRAO members. The results were 74 in favor and 7 against merging. New Mexico ACRAO voted favorably for the merger and by June 1976 the framework for RMACRAO was agreed upon.

The executive committee for Rocky Mountain ACRAO first met as an official group on November 11, 1976, at the Hitching Post in Cheyenne, Wyoming. This initial meeting marked the end of an era and the beginning of a new era. Following years of planning and organizing, this new association was

created to serve the needs of members across the Rocky Mountain region. The first year was a very busy and productive year as representatives from "Colorful Colorado, Big Wyoming, and Enchanting New Mexico" worked towards a smooth transition. Leadership for this first year was provided by President Virginia "Jinny" Williamson (CMC-Gunnison), President Elect Phil Flanigan (CSU), Secretary Elnora Wiley (UNM), President Elect for NMACRAO Robert Weaver (UNM), Past President for CWACRAO Richard Hill (UW), and Past President for NMACRAO Bro. Joseph Miller (CSF). The AACRAO regional representative was Gerald Bowker, and several volunteer members were appointed to serve as regional consultants for AACRAO. That year, AACRAO celebrated its 63<sup>rd</sup> annual meeting on April 17-22 in Houston, Texas. RMACRAO organized a group travel expedition for the meeting. The president of AACRAO was Naomi McCracken of Colorado Women's College.

The board met several times during the year on various issues of importance, including a major rewrite of the constitution, following an analysis of other regional association constitutions. Changes included separating the duties for secretary and treasurer, establishing vice-president positions for each member state, and establishing the rotation system for annual meetings. Other accomplishment that year included ongoing work of standing committees providing service and addressing issues of importance. An inventory of resource people from across the region was compiled to provide expertise to help assist and serve others, a gavel was purchased for \$26.95 (plus engraving), and another summer workshop under the auspices of the High School/College Relations Committees was held in Gunnison, Colorado on July 26-28. Nominations criteria were developed and candidates nominated, including new vice presidents for each member state. Finances were audited, a new dues structure adopted, and there was consideration of adopting

a code of ethics. There were ongoing concerns with privacy act of 1974 regarding use of SSNs as student identifiers, reviews of transfer credit practices, and work in identifying fraudulent records.

The first annual meeting of RMACRAO was held November 9-11, 1977 at the College of Santa Fe in New Mexico. Sessions reflect issues of the time including: Phony Transcripts; Marketing Admissions; Transfer Credit Practices; Techniques and Gimmicks in Recruiting; High School Communications; and Motivating Staff. The banquet, following an "Attitude Adjustment Hour", featured a keynote by Tony Hillerman, author, professor of journalism, and assistant to the president of UNM, entitled "The Great Taos Bank Robbery and Other Tales from Indian Territory." At the business meeting members elected new officers, voted unanimously to propose hosting AACRAO in 1982, and approved the new constitution.

There was time for fun and enjoyment. The first annual meeting included tours of the Santa Fe area — Espanola, Santa Cruz and stops to see Ortega weavers at work and a luncheon to El Rancho de Chimayo restaurant. There was guitar music and Spanish dancers. Ten exhibitors participated "exhibiting their wares." President Williamson was bestowed with a "G.E.D. PhD" including engraved diploma for her dissertation on "How to B.S. a B.A." In her closing remarks at the business meeting, she noted:

"This year the Rocky Mountain ACRAO Executive Committee has worked very diligently to make the merger of New Mexico, Colorado, and Wyoming ACRAO as smooth as possible... Many miles have been traveled by all members of the Executive Committee, but they were all worthwhile. The fellowship between the three states has become so strong that RMACRAO can do nothing but go forward."

Such fellowship and cooperation continues and the legacy established 30

## From the Past (continued)

years ago serves to guide and remind us all today. It is through the dedication of the members of RMACRAO, both those who serve in elected capacities and those who volunteer that make this a special association—not to mention the fact that we know how to have fun and celebrate. As in 1977, RMACRAO continues to provide rich leadership both at the local, regional and national levels.

In many ways, 2007 seems more modern, advanced and quite different from 1977, but perhaps not as modernistic and progressive as 1977 must have seemed in contrast to 1947. The archives of RMACRAO reflect the times when they were created. The documents themselves reflect the technologies of the time. Through our archives we can capture a sense of the issues, vision and challenges members faced, and find glimpses of the people, the fun, excitement and common purpose they shared. The events of thirty years seem distant, yet close at hand. For our members, and especially our first-timers of 2007 we encourage you to ask questions, learn, share and most importantly become involved. Your talents, abilities and contributions will set the foundation today for a future we can barely imagine thirty years from now.

– *Steve Ellis, Historian*

## 2008 Annual Meeting

### RMACRAO 2008

Attitude @ Altitude -

Welcome to 7220 Feet!

July 16-18, 2008

UW Conference Center

Laramie, WY

[www.uwconferencecenter.com](http://www.uwconferencecenter.com)

### Call for Proposals

Our next annual meeting in Laramie, WY will take place July 16-18, 2008 at the beautiful new Hilton Garden Inn and University of Wyoming Conference Center. After touring the conference facilities in progress, the board of directors can say that it is going to be a wonderful venue that seems to be made just for us! There will be 135 sleeping rooms, large ballrooms for our large sessions, meeting rooms just the right size for our break out sessions, and great spaces for our first-timers get-togethers. We will have the entire facility just for RMACRAO attendees for these days.

The program theme for this year is “Attitude @ Altitude – Welcome to 7220 Feet! The Program Committee would like to invite all interested members to submit presentation proposals to Lara Medley ([lmedley@mines.edu](mailto:lmedley@mines.edu)) by February 1, 2008.

Our member meetings are successful because our members step up to make them that way. YOU are the success behind our organization, and we look forward to hearing your great ideas!

– *Lara Medley, President Elect*

### Call for Exhibitors

As exhibitor liaison for RMACRAO, I have the responsibility to contact potential exhibitors and see if they would be interested in participating in our annual meeting. I start with a listing of exhibitors who have participated with us in the past. Then I draw on the exhibitors who have participated at the AACRAO annual meeting. I send out several mailings during the year with general information and updates as the annual meeting Program Committee and Local Arrangements Committee make decisions regarding the upcoming annual meeting.

A very valuable resource in soliciting potential exhibitors comes from you, the membership. There are many companies that we all do business with in the realm of providing services to our campus communities. At this time I would like to request that if there are any potential exhibitors you would like to have RMACRAO contact to see if they would like to exhibit at our annual meeting, please send me a contact person name and phone number or e-mail address. I might have sent an invitation to their corporate office, but a regional contact is certainly beneficial because we will have someone in RMACRAO who is using their product and can share their experiences with the membership.

– *Kathleen F. Sena, Exhibitor Liaison*

## Bios from the Board

The RMACRAO 2007-2008 Board of Directors would like to introduce themselves to you. Here's a little ditty about a few of the board members (and look for more in the winter/spring issue of the newsletter).

### **Kathleen F. Sena, Exhibitor Liaison**

Greetings from the Land of Enchantment. I'm Kathleen F. Sena and I currently serve on the RMACRAO board as the exhibitor liaison. I have served on the board in one capacity or another since the early 90's. And no I'm not that old, just a seasoned member of a professional organization that I have enjoyed being a member of since I started in our profession in the late 80's.

RMACRAO has provided me with opportunities to expand my leadership skills that I have developed over time. It has provided me with opportunities to make friends that I will have long after my days with RMACRAO are over. RMACRAO continues to provide me with opportunities to have the camaraderie with fellow professionals to discuss topics with and understand how initiatives at local, state, and national levels can impact the services we provide at The University of New Mexico for our students, faculty, and staff.

As the organization moves forward I would like to see us bring in more members into the leadership possibilities we offer. I would like to encourage any member who would like the experience of helping to guide our organization forward to volunteer for this year's Program Committee or our Local Arrangements Committee; to develop a workshop/information session to offer at our annual meeting; or to volunteer to serve on the Nominations and Elections Committee. And plan to attend our annual meeting in Laramie, Wyoming in July.

### **Carolyn Guitierrez, Treasurer**

As senior scheduling coordinator for the University of New Mexico, I oversee the development and creation of each semester's schedule of classes, provide systems training and support to faculty and staff at the main campus, UNM

branches, Extended University and Continuing Education. I have often referred to my job as the "Rubik's Cube" - turning and twisting to get the best result and I enjoy it!

My first RMACRAO meeting was in Casper, Wyoming. The trip from Albuquerque took place late at night, during heavy rains and my luggage was lost in flight. Arriving in an anxious state, I was offered a chair, a pair of pajamas, and a change of clothes for the next day and as my anxiety wore off I received the most favorable response from many.

Take advantage of the introductions you make through RMACRAO. It has been my experience if you're willing to fully participate and put yourself out there for others, you can draw on a wealth of knowledge and experience. The conferences are very rewarding and the membership is invaluable.

### **Gay Gralheer, 2008 LAC Chair**

I am in my fifth year at the University of Wyoming where I'm an office associate, sr. Moving to Laramie from Denver and from the corporate world to higher education has, at times, been a challenge. I love working with students and enjoy everything that Laramie has to offer.

I am currently the chair of the Local Arrangements Committee for the 2008 annual meeting in Laramie, Wyoming. I love planning events, parties, etc., so this is right up my alley.

I attended my first RMACRAO conference this past July in Estes Park and found it to be a fun group to work with and get to know. I look forward to working with many of you as we get closer to the upcoming conference here in Laramie at the new UW Conference Center.

### **Dawn Carver, Secretary**

As a degree analyst at the University of Wyoming, I evaluate transfer work for students coming to UW, determine successful completion of degree requirements for students in the college of arts & sciences, and process transcripts for students who participated in our study

abroad program. One of my favorite parts of my position is working directly with the students and advisors. I like the individual contact and get to meet a wide variety of people.

Being a member of RMACRAO has been a great experience for me. I get to network with colleagues in the region and have made many lasting friendships. It is a great place for professional and personal growth.

### **Kelley Christman, Colorado VP**

As the assistant registrar at the University of Northern Colorado I have a variety of responsibilities. The majority of my time is spent working with NCAA compliance, legislation impacting the registrar's office (COF, HB 1023), budget management, banner implementation, and what ever else seems to pop up unexpectedly. As a UNC alumna, I would have never imagined that I would have a career at my alma mater, but it has turned out to be a wonderful opportunity. The best part of my job is knowing that I work with employees across the university that are here to help people get an education, and are willing to look at our daily processes to find ways to make them better for our students. As a relatively new RMACRAO member I really appreciate the open and friendly atmosphere that our organization promotes. It is great to know that the professionals in our region are willing to share their expertise with their RMACRAO colleagues.

### **Laurie Watkins, Wyoming VP**

I've been a RMACRAO member since 1996, and I'm serving my third term as Wyoming - Vice President. I am the associate vice president for student success services at Western Wyoming Community College. I help with the WWCC GEAR UP program, admissions, orientation, advising, outreach/distance student support, international student support, parent communication, alumni, and the Mustang Booster Club. In my free time - wait, there is no free time. But I do like seeing old friends and meeting new ones through my RMACRAO membership.