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From the President

Hola!

I am filled with sentiment as I write this last message to you, my fellow RMACROans, in my current capacity as President of RMACRAO for 1999-2000. Serving you has been an honor and a privilege. I truly appreciate your endorsement and support over the last few years. RMACRAO offered me the opportunity to serve in a way that I am proud of. I will always be grateful for having had this opportunity.

RMACRAO, in its history of stability and strength, continues to be strong. Over the past year the Executive Committee discussed incorporation of RMACRAO, as well as supported the many new ventures that AACRAO has taken to benefit its membership. Membership in RMACRAO remains strong, and volunteerism is evident throughout our three great states. Volunteerism is the backbone of this organization, and I encourage each and every one of you to get involved and stay involved. RMACRAO offers you the opportunity for professional development, information access, and important networking. Technology continues to play a significant role in our jobs and lives. Utilize the RMACRAO website…it is filled with information on your organization (http://registrar.colorado.edu/rmacrao/).

It was wonderful to see so many of you at the AACRAO Annual Meeting in New Orleans. With record attendance, the annual meeting offered many excellent speakers and sessions. Bill Haid led the business meeting with a no-nonsense but participatory style, and got the incorporation and dues increase approved by the membership. All of us RMACRAOans are proud to have had Bill leading AACRAO this past year! Special thanks to Linda and Tamara for organizing our first off-site regional reception at Bubba Gumps! The food was delicious and the ambiance fun! The folks from New Orleans out did themselves in hospitality, entertainment, and accommodations!

I am looking forward to seeing you in Cheyenne in July for the RMACRAO 2000 Annual Meeting. Dean Bartow and the LAC, Linda King, Tamara Lehner, and the Program Committee have a great program planned. (See pages 7-8 of this newsletter for more information about RMACRAO 2000.) So grab your jeans and cowboy boots and head on up to Cheyenne!

Adios y muchas gracias,

Luz Barreras
President, RMACRAO
The Admissions and Records Office staff at Aims Community College were awarded the Staff Team Award for Professional Excellence during the college’s annual President’s Reception on April 28. This Award for Excellence was sponsored by First Choice Bank. Eligibility for the award requires nomination by a college community member and review of the team’s supporting portfolio by a committee selected by the Aims Staff Association. It is indeed an honor to have the Admissions and Records personnel recognized for delivering excellent service in a professional area where the work is viewed as unpopular by many of those we serve. Bill Green, Registrar, is very proud of his staff and their efforts to maintain college ideals and standards while delivering services associated with admissions, registration, transfer credit evaluation, graduation certification, record keeping, enrollment verification, archiving, and computer system implementation.

Metropolitan State College won the school’s first national championship (NCAA Division II Basketball) by defeating Kentucky Wesleyan, 97-79, on March 25 in Louisville, KY. The MSCD Roadrunners finished an incredible three-year run that included a record of 86-15 and two national championship games. (In last year’s national championship Metro also played Kentucky Wesleyan with Wesleyan coming out on top in that game.) Metro also won three RMAC championships and two North Central Regional titles during that span. The last three years Metro has a 48-2 record on home court. They have a 25-game home winning streak going, the nation’s second longest in Division II. (Florida Southern is first with 28 straight home wins.)

Metro coach, Mike Dunlap, was named National Coach of the Year. Coach Dunlap recently signed a contract to remain at Metro. Watch for them again next year!

John Haines is the new Registrar at Pikes Peak Community College in Colorado Springs. John’s appointment was effective on February 7, 2000. RMACRAO extends a warm welcome to John!

Dena Barrera has recently taken the position of Coordinator of High School Relations at Red Rocks Community College. We hope to see Dena at the annual meeting in Wyoming!

Even though Jack Pommrehn retired from his position as Registrar at the University of Denver in 1999, he is still reaping honors. Jack, who attended his first AACRAO meeting in Phoenix in 1966, was awarded Lifetime Honorary Membership to AACRAO at the national meeting this past April in New Orleans. (See page 4 in this newsletter for more about Jack's award.) The fact that the meeting in which he was so honored was held in New Orleans is of particular significance to Jack. Jack interviewed with Wally Irish for the DU Registrar position at the 1970 AACRAO annual meeting in New Orleans – a position he would hold for 29 years. This is certainly a nice set of bookends to an extraordinary career. Jack also received the Amici Universatus Award from the University of Denver at a ceremony held on May 2, 2000. This award means that, because of his exemplary service, Jack is recognized as “a friend of the University for life” and has, therefore, been bestowed the honorary title of Amici Universatitus.

I hope everyone’s life is back to normal now that the AACRAO Conference in New Orleans is over. In my opinion, this conference had some of the best sessions I have attended in some time. I hope everyone got as much out of the conference as I did.

Maureen Scott, President of NMACRAO, reminds all of the New Mexico members of the annual meeting to be held in Alamogordo, NM on June 15-16. She tells me that plans are under way and they have some great things lined up for the conference so mark your calendars.

New Mexico Tech is registering on Banner for the first time. According to Luz Barreras, “It’s scary, but so far, so good!” As I have mentioned before, Banner seems to be the software many of our New Mexico schools are going to. Some seem happy, others are not.

The search for someone to replace Fred Chreist as Registrar at UNM goes on. The announcement closed on April 30 and they hope to have the screening and interviews done by late July. Kathleen Sena has been doing a great job as Interim Registrar. Kathleen also outlined the evaluation process the university is using to look at the Oracle Student Information System. The university is considering the Oracle Financial package (purchasing, general ledger, etc.) and this prompted the Admissions and Registrar’s Office to spend some time reviewing the student system. The problem, of course, is money and the wait is on to see if the financial resources can be found to move forward.

Santa Fe Community College has implemented a new Early Admission Policy. They have had concurrent
Vice Presidents' Reports (continued)

enrollment for a number of years, but changes in policies and requirements in the local school district bring some new restrictions on what the students can do under the existing policy. The new policy allows students more flexibility and more opportunity to pursue college coursework that is not available to them under the concurrent program. Many of our community colleges have employed both methods of serving high school students for some time now. I’m sure that Santa Fe Community College will find this new program beneficial to them too.

As I write my last article as New Mexico Vice President, I want to thank Jeff Bunker, Luz Barreras, and all the other Board members over the last two years for their support and the opportunity to work with them. This is a small, but very strong organization and I have made many friends and acquaintances. I know that the organization is in good hands and I will remain an active member of the Association in the future. I hope your end-of-semester goes well and I’ll see you in Cheyenne. Don’t forget to bring your boots and cowboy hats!

Wyoming - Tamara Lehner

May found many of us in Wyoming extremely busy finalizing recruiting travel, helping with graduations, planning New Student Orientation, and of course, gearing up for the RMACRAO conference in Cheyenne on July 19-21! Some of us had a lot of catching up to do after our great trip to New Orleans for the RMACRAO conference.

Linda King of Casper College was recently honored with a very prestigious service award for College Administrators. Tami Afdael, with Eastern Wyoming College in Torrington reports that things are busy there as they survive an information system upgrade, and reluctantly look forward to another one soon. Tami and colleague Marilyn Cotant are two that have catching up to do after New Orleans. Tami writes, “What a great conference! We want to thank Linda King, RMACRAO President-Elect, for organizing such a great get together at Bubba Gumps. It was nice to meet fellow RMACRAO members. We look forward to seeing you all in Cheyenne in July.”

Another recruiting season has passed at Powell’s Northwest College, and changes are on the way. Next year Admissions, Financial Aid, and the Registrar’s Office will be combined into the Enrollment Services Office. This change will allow students one-stop shopping, which is a hot topic in Student Services today. The new Associate Degree options include Network Technician, Software Application Specialist, Equine Business Management, Web Casting, and Music Technology/Multimedia.

Folks from Sheridan College were a little bit quiet this time, probably because they are gearing up to host Wyoming’s yearly Student Affairs Conference on May 31-June 1. They are very excited about a new program they are offering, an Associate of Arts degree in Horticulture. This is the only program of its kind in Wyoming, and it will enable students to find employment opportunities such as golf course maintenance as well as nursery, landscape, greenhouse, or grounds maintenance.

Western Wyoming College in Rock Springs welcomes Krisan Crow as the new Admissions Counselor/Community Resource Specialist. Krisan replaced Stacee Hanson, now the Financial Aid Officer at WWCC. Krisan has been with WWCC for four years, but is new to Prospective Student Services. Rene Weston-Eborn joined the college last fall as Assistant to the Registrar/Academic Advising Coordinator. Rene came to Western from Utah State University where she was the Distance Learning Coordinator. She is currently pursuing a master’s degree in Adult Learning and Technology through the University of Wyoming’s distance education program.

The news from the University of Wyoming is full of change! Student Services, and the Admission Office in particular, said a fond farewell to Kathy Fields, as she left to take a position as a Pharmacist in the wilds of Maine! She was honored at a campus-wide reception on March 25, and her last day at UW was March 3. Many tributes were paid to her great service at UW, and the day was full of laughter and tears as we said goodbye.

Sean Moore was hired as a new Admissions Counselor at UW, and searches are going on for Associate Director, and two newly approved Assistant Directors.

Jim Hurst, UW's vice-president of Student Affairs is also retiring, though he is going out with a bang—he was just awarded the highest honor (voted unanimously) given by the national Student Affairs Organization to which he belongs. Stepping into his very big shoes will be Leellen Brigman, who will be coming from Southwest Texas State in San Marcos, Texas.

Registration and Records at UW are busy perfecting our on-line registration system, and the Admissions Office is testing our new on-line application that will load directly into SIS. Other news at UW is exciting, as we send our second Rhodes Scholar in seven years to Oxford on a full-ride! UW is one of only a dozen public universities to boast such a number.

News to Share?

Do you have information to share with your RMACRAO colleagues? If so, please send it to your Vice President (listed on the first page) for the next newsletter.
AACRAO Honors Jack Pommrehn

Jack Pommrehn was presented with an Honorary Membership Award at the AACRAO 2000 Annual Meeting. Cher Downey, Associate Registrar at the University of Denver, has worked with Jack for over 17 years and wrote the following citation which was read at AACRAO during the Opening Session:

“Jack Pommrehn was the Registrar at the University of Denver for 29 years. While serving as Registrar, Jack proved himself to be an outstanding member of and friend to the university community. He demonstrated his love for the university in many ways. Most importantly, his dedication to the students of the university and their welfare was always his number one priority. Jack always achieved the highest ratings in evaluations from students, ratings that often surpassed those of even the most distinguished faculty. His office door was always open to students who needed assistance or who just wanted to talk. He taught in the mentoring program for first-year students for many years and established meaningful bonds with many students through his involvement in the program. Once graduated, students did not forget him; many returned over the years just to visit him. Because of the respect he earned from faculty and staff, the Chancellor appointed Jack to co-chair the faculty/staff division for the Capital Campaign. His efforts resulted in faculty and staff pledges that exceeded goals. On the unit level, Jack’s office probably had the lowest turnover rate of any office on campus. The fact that many of his long-term employees had once been work-study students speaks for itself. Jack earned enduring loyalty and respect from his staff. Jack and his office repeatedly earned the highest possible ratings from faculty evaluations and received institutional awards for excellence.

Jack held a high profile in University of Denver Athletics, serving as the president of the DU Hockey Club and on search committees for athletic coaches and directors. He also published newsletters for both the Hockey and Women’s Gymnastics Teams. Seldom missing any sporting event, Jack continues to show support by making an effort to attend all regional meets for the Women’s Gymnastics team. In addition to numerous other awards he has been honored with the Pioneer Award twice – an unprecedented achievement. One of his most treasured awards is a hockey jersey with his name on it and a lifetime pass to the games. This past March, Jack received the prestigious Alumni Association Award for “Distinguished Service to the Community” at the University of Denver’s Founders Day Gala 2000.

Jack has been active in AACRAO since 1975 when he was appointed to the Registration Technics Committee. Since then, he took AACRAO involvement to a new level, volunteering for professional activities every year for 29 years by chairing or sitting on committees, giving presentations and organizing workshops. Jack chaired the Local Arrangements Committee for the 1984 Annual Meeting held at the Brown Palace Hotel in Denver. Topics for his numerous presentations at Annual Meetings included telephone registration, automated degree audit and commencement. In addition to his AACRAO involvement, Jack has been an invited presenter at Brigham Young University, Pacific AACRAO, and the Association of Registrars of the Universities and Colleges of Canada. On the local level, Jack was extremely active in the Rocky Mountain regional

AACRAO Workshop for State & Regional Leaders

For the first time, AACRAO hosted a workshop for state and regional association leaders on March 3-5 in Washington D.C. Officers from thirteen State and Regional associations (representing 26 different states) met to participate in discussions led by AACRAO leaders and guest speakers regarding ways in which the state associations and AACRAO could collaborate through services and partnership opportunities. I was fortunate enough to be able to attend this workshop and represent RMACRAO.

The workshop was very informational and it was of course, exciting to see the AACRAO home office and our wonderful country’s capitol. Items on the agenda included (a) Incorporation & Liability Issues for Associations; (b) Meeting Management & Meeting Contracts; (c) Financial Management for Non-Profit Associations; (d) AACRAO Federal Relations Activities; as well as updates on the proposed budget and the incorporation proposal that was voted on in New Orleans.

(a) The liability concern of the association and it’s members is what basically drove the need for incorporation of AACRAO.
RMACRAO, also a non-profit association, has the same liability concern and should seriously consider incorporation. The AACRAO website and the February Data Dispenser have the new Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws, as well as the Governance Documents that explain the six governing documents used in the operation of AACRAO. Most of the associations represented at the meeting have not undergone steps to incorporation, but everyone recognizes the risks and plan to take measures very soon to address incorporation. (Presenter: Catherine Livingston, from the law firm that handled AACRAO’s incorporation)

(b) Meeting Management & Meeting Contracts had to do with setting up contracts with hotels/conference centers for annual meetings of state/regional associations. A checklist and other handouts were provided which I’ve shared with the Executive Committee. I think RMACRAO is in good hands with the document that was produced a few years back (Planning for a Successful State/Regional Meeting), but we might want to consider updating that document. (Presenter: James Goldberg, legal perspective; Brad Weaber, Conferon)

(c) Financial Management for Non-profit Associations covered information on budgeting, accounting, and audits. I think RMACRAO has been very fortunate thus far with the Treasurer’s the association have elected and as far as I know we have not had accounting problems. One suggestion that could be considered is forming an audit committee. I think the Executive Committee recognizes our fiduciary responsibility to the membership. (Presenter: Eileen Suffian, consultant)

(d) AACRAO Federal Relations Activities included an update of AACRAO activities on federal issues and discussion on how the state and regional associations can use this AACRAO service on behalf of their members. Currently AACRAO is delivering weekly e-mail updates on congressional and federal agency activity affecting higher education. (Presenter: Barmak Nassirian, AACRAO Associate Executive Director)

Jerry Sullivan, AACRAO Executive Director, facilitated additional discussion during the weekend on how AACRAO can improve services. Ideas that surfaced included Volunteerism: Getting & Keeping (an issue for all associations), Treasurer’s Training (for many, a hands-on learning; maybe should be more in-depth), Repository for Legal Documents (as all associations handle transfer minutes and historical documents), Investment Program (options for associations with money), Listservs (Treasurer’s exchange), and Legislative Advisory Group (an advisory committee with representation from each state and regional association to provide feedback to AACRAO with regard to legislative and regulatory issues).

I am pleased that I had the opportunity to attend this workshop and encourage future RMACRAO leaders to be involved in future leadership workshops provided by AACRAO. More information about this workshop can be found in the March 27 issue of the AACRAO NewNews available via AACRAO’s web site.

––Luz Barreras, President

Historian's Report

In my latest quest for information, I decided to go back to 1977 and learn more about the first RMACRAO Annual Meeting. It was held November 9, 10, and 11, 1977. It was hosted by the College of Santa Fe and held at the Holiday Inn. Room rates $17 and $14. Tony Hillerman was the guest speaker. The workshops and their presenters were:

Techniques & Gimmicks in Recruiting-Jim Dick, Loretto Heights College
Truth in Packaging -Jim Johnson, Colorado College
American Council on Education-Penelope Suritz
Academic Consumerism-Richard Hill, U of Wyoming
High School Communications-Pete Howell, Adams State University
Phony Transcripts-Fred Chreist, University of New Mexico
Marketing Admissions-Larry Fuqua, Eastern New Mexico University
Report of Credit Given-Bill Douglas, Bob Weaver, Arlie Grover
Time Management-George Burnham, Univ. of Colorado-Denver
Motivating the Staff-Charles Selden, U of Northern Colorado
Mini Computers-Rick Lagoza, University of New Mexico

Basically, the meeting is structured the same way it is today. One interesting facet was that on Wednesday, registration ran from 1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.. The opening session and dinner ran from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. At 8:30 p.m. there was a session called “Shop Talks”. These were scheduled in suites. The topics included:

RMACRAO Proposed Constitutional Changes
Forms, Yours, Mine, and Ours
Legislative Concerns, Local, State, National
Automated Application Systems
Junior-Senior College Relations
International Student Concerns

Looking at the program, I came up with a few questions. First, after the Shop Talk sessions, who got the suite? Some of the names are still names we all know and love….how old are some of you?

As I said in the last newsletter, it is unbelievable how many of the issues and concerns are the same issues and concerns we have today. We may have different perspectives and processes but the concerns of Admissions Officers and Registrars do not seem to change much. Of course……many of the people don’t either!

–Darlene Lucero, Historian
Some RMACRAO folks enjoying the RMACRAO reception.

AACRAO Travel Grant Recipients

RMACRAO was well represented in New Orleans this year by our travel grant recipients. All of them being first time attendees to AACRAO certainly was an adventure for them. Not only did they need to get up early on the first day of the conference to attend the first timers breakfast, but they had to be in their prime to attend the RMACRAO reception at Bubba Gump’s and have their picture taken for proof of attendance. AACRAO was filled with plenty of sessions for them to get a good view and have a great experience of what our professional organization is all about.

The AACRAO Travel Grant recipients for this year were:

- **Julie Michalowski**, University of Colorado-Boulder
- **Lisa Vialpando**, University of Colorado-Boulder
- **Kimberly Eiland**, New Mexico Tech
- **Alec Reber**, The University of New Mexico
- **Tami Afdal**, Eastern Wyoming College
- **Tamara Lehner**, University of Wyoming

As you can see we used all of the travel grants that the association provides for AACRAO. Let’s hope we have a chance to award all of the six travel grants for RMACRAO in Wyoming.

MOSIS 2000

ArkACRAO is pleased to host this year’s Management of Student Information Systems (MOSIS). MOSIS is an annual summer conference of the Southern Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admission Officers (SACRAO). MOSIS provides an excellent opportunity for higher education professionals, interested in information systems and technology, to share information and exchange strategies in a casual setting. MOSIS 2000 will be held July 16-19 at the Northwest Arkansas Holiday Inn and Convention Center in Springdale. More information is available at http://www.uark.edu/admin/envinfo/mosis/.
President’s Call to the Annual Meeting

I, Luz Barreras, President of the Rocky Mountain Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers, do hereby issue the call for the twenty-fourth Annual Meeting to be held July 19-21, 2000 in Cheyenne, Wyoming.

The Annual Meeting will supply sessions that provide professional training and new insight into meeting the challenges of our profession. President-Elect Linda King, Tamara Lehner and the program committee have worked hard to create a program that will be stimulating and progressive. Dean Bartow and the Local Arrangements Committee have also worked hard to present the flavor of Cheyenne to us all.

Join us in Cheyenne!

Proposed Changes to Constitution and By-Laws

The following proposed changes to the RMACRAO Constitution and By-Laws were approved by the RMACRAO Executive Committee on April 10, 2000. We invite you to review these proposed changes (highlighted below) as they’ll be voted on by the membership during the business meeting portion of the RMACRAO 2000 Annual Meeting this summer in Cheyenne, Wyoming.

By-Laws

Article I. Meetings

Section 1. The location and date of the Annual Meeting will be determined by the Executive Committee. The site of the meeting would be on a rotation basis as follows: New Mexico, Colorado, Wyoming, Colorado, New Mexico, etc. This rotation may be modified for a one year exception by the Executive Committee. Any institution wishing to host an Annual Meeting should make a request in writing to the Executive Committee no later than 18 months prior to the Annual Meeting date.

Article II. Dues and Fees

Section 1. Dues and fees of the Association shall be as follows:

a. Institutional membership—The annual dues will be assessed each institution on the basis of the preceding year’s Fall unduplicated headcount. Institutions having separate campuses or off-campus centers having autonomous offices for admissions, registration, and records will each be assessed dues independently. The annual institutional membership dues are......etc.

Section 3. All attending the Annual Meeting of the Association shall pay a fee as determined by the Executive Committee. Honorary members of the Association are exempt from paying the established fee. Attending the Annual Meeting of the Association may pay a special events fee as determined by the Executive Committee.

Article IV. Duties of Officers

Proposed changes:

Add “The Secretary also prepares the Directory” to Section 1d (Secretary’s duties). Remove “prepare the Directory” from Section 1e (Treasurer’s duties).

Constitution

Article III. Membership

Section 3. Honorary membership may be presented to persons who have served the Association with distinction. Nominations for Honorary membership will be presented to the Executive Committee for consideration and possible recommendation to the membership. These persons may be elected to honorary nonvoting membership by an affirmative vote of at least two-thirds of the delegate vote cast at an Annual meeting—via the election ballot for Executive Committee members. Honorary members shall enjoy a permanent invitation to attend RMACRAO meetings and shall be excused from RMACRAO membership and registration fees, be permanently retained in the RMACRAO Directory, and will receive all Association Newsletters.

Reminder: Before the annual meeting in July, go to the RMACRAO web site at http://registrar.colorado.edu/rmacrao/organization.htm to view last year’s (July 21) Annual Business Meeting minutes. These will be voted on for approval at this year’s meeting.

On the Ballot

By now your institutions have received the RMACRAO Official Voting Ballot for RMACRAO Officers for 2000-2001. The Nominations and Elections Committee has presented names for three Executive Committee positions as follows:

President-Elect
Steve Ekerholm
Assistant Director of Admissions
University of Colorado, Boulder

Vice President for New Mexico
Matt Gallegos
Assistant Director of Admissions
New Mexico State University

Secretary
Nolan Oltjenbruns
Associate Registrar
Colorado State University
Noah Buckley
Admissions Counselor
University of Wyoming

Be sure your institution returns its ballot by June 6.
Folks in Wyoming will roll out the red carpet for the **RMACRAO 2000 Annual Meeting** this summer and we're hoping you're all saddled up and ready to go! This year's conference will be held on **July 19-21, in Cheyenne, Wyoming** (right before Cheyenne Frontier Days). The host site for the conference is the **Little America Resort** which boasts a gift shop offering a variety of tasteful and unique items, a verdant golf course, and spacious rooms.

The main events for this year’s conference include the **President’s Reception** on Wednesday night. We plan to have a beautiful pool-side reception to honor Luz Barreras. Entertainment will be provided by Maggie Simpson, a Wyoming-born folk singer who's performed all over the U.S. At noon on Thursday, we will conduct our **annual business meeting and luncheon**. And then Thursday evening, an **old-fashioned western style BBQ** will be held.

**Some of the topics in the program** for this year's conference include Enrollment Management, Managing Multiple Project, Safe and Healthy Travel for Admission Counselors, Issues in the Admission of International Students, FERPA for Beginners, Hope Scholarship and Lifetime Learning Credit, High School Students Taking College Credit, and Campus Safety.

We are also very excited that **AACRAO President Bill Haid** will lead the session for newcomers in discovering how involvement in this organization on the regional and national level can enhance their career. **The 2- and 4-year admissions and registrar's forums** are back, but moved to Thursday and combined with a continental breakfast.

Registration information for the annual meeting was mailed to RMACRAO members in mid-May. The program should include plenty of time to renew old friendships, learn what our colleagues in admissions and records are doing, and experience a bit of the Old West.

Accommodations are limited at Little America because of the proximity to Frontier Days, so we urge you to make your reservations as soon as possible and to share a room whenever possible (this is also the best value). **The hotel reservation deadline is June 18.** You can make your reservations by calling 1-800-445-6945. (Ask for RMACRAO registration rates.) The room rate for the conference is:
- $85 + tax for single room per night
- $105 + tax for double per night

**NOTE:** If you wish to stay in the area for Frontier Days, you will need to look at Laramie, WY or Ft. Collins, CO (each about 45 minutes away) for rooms. You will also want to make those arrangements right away as surrounding communities book quickly too.