From the President

Greetings Colleagues!

Summer is here! And with summer comes thoughts of long days full of sunlight, gardening, golfing, more time with the family, or whatever your warm-weather passion may be. I’m hoping that everyone can find a little time for R & R as the season progresses! I’m also hoping that you’ll all “Cowboy Up” and attend our 2004 annual meeting in Casper, Wyoming on July 21-23. The hotel rates are extremely reasonable, and we’ve even extended the registration deadline just a bit (to July 12) to make it easier for those of you who need to wait until the new fiscal year to register. The theme this year is “All Trails Lead to Casper,” and we’ve got some great surprises and valuable sessions planned for both admissions professionals and registrars. Our AACRAO representative will be Angie Peterson, director of admission and enrollment services at Pittsburg State University in Kansas. Angie will also be presenting a session for us as well as providing us with the AACRAO update. In addition, Shelley Rodgers, AACRAO’s government relations/communication specialist will be in attendance to update us all with important information and AACRAO’s grave concerns regarding the proposed legislation, “College Access and Opportunity Act of 2004,” H.R. 4283, which would reauthorize the Higher Education Act of 1965 and make significant program changes.

Other conference highlights this year include a high-energy/interactive keynote address by Ludie Dickinson, who is presenting on the FISH! Philosophy of Customer Service. RMACRAO President-Elect Schez Downey has had the opportunity to see Ludie present, and is very excited to be bringing her to Casper for us. Also, we have some excellent pre-conference opportunities for those of you who might be arriving Tuesday evening. My brother operates a small golf course in similarly small Glenrock, Wyoming, 25 miles south of Casper. We are offering golfers and non-golfers alike a really fun opportunity to play moonlight golf (the balls glow in the dark!) Tuesday evening, July 20th. Full details appear inside the newsletter. Then, with the Tuesday night silliness out of the way, you can get more serious about the annual golf tournament Wednesday morning.

Wednesday morning from 9-11 also brings an exciting opportunity to participate in a new venture—please consider joining us for the pre-conference workshop “Opening the Trail to All: Discussions on Diversity.” We are pleased and proud to announce that Judy Shepard, mother of Matthew Shepard and founder of the Matthew Shepard Foundation, has graciously agreed to be our keynote speaker for this event.

(continued on page 3)
Colorado - Sherri Waggoner

Congratulations are in order for Bill Haid, executive director of enrollment services at Colorado State University. At the 2004 AACRAO annual conference held recently in Las Vegas, Bill was presented the AACRAO Distinguished Service Award, which recognizes an active or retired AACRAO member for exceptional contributions to the profession in a volunteer capacity at the national level. Bill has worked tirelessly on behalf of both RMACRAO and AACRAO over the years (having served as president for both organizations), and is an exceptionally worthy recipient of this recognition. Congratulations, Bill!

After several years of research and planning, Colorado State University recently acquired the Banner Student and Financial Aid systems and Luminis, a web portal and enterprise integration application product, from Systems Computer Technology Inc. (SCT). These products, along with several other SCT components, will be used to upgrade existing student systems and to meet growing demands for increased functionality and campus web services. The purpose of the student system replacement and web portal project is to provide a web-enabled, integrated student data management system that meets the needs of the entire campus. The new system will provide web access to information close to 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The Luminis portal (called RamPoint) is targeted for phase I production in fall 2004. The Banner student systems (called ARIES) is targeted for production in fall 2006. Questions about the projects can be directed to Bill Haid, Executive Director of Enrollment Services (william.haid@colostate.edu).

The Office of Admissions at Colorado State University is happy to announce the addition of a new admissions counselor, Jen Foster. Jen comes to Colorado State from North Carolina State University where she served as assistant director of admissions. Along with general admissions counseling and recruiting responsibilities, Jen will coordinate the Student Ambassador Program and Visit Days.

At Fort Lewis College, Sharon Rader was recently promoted to the position of assistant registrar-curriculum. The promotion was a result of her dedicated efforts toward implementation of SCT’s CAPP module (degree audit). Sharon will also supervise the implementation of curriculum changes into the catalog and CAPP software as they are approved.

New Mexico - Mary Angell

Dale Reinhart, vice president for enrollment, will be retiring on June 30 after serving at the College of Santa Fe for ten years. The school is currently conducting interviews for his replacement and the new position will be a dean of enrollment management.

The College of the Southwest is building another new dorm, as they try to recruit more traditional students. They opened a new student center and two classroom buildings last year. The goal is to more evenly distribute the ratio of non-traditional students (currently 60%) with traditional students. The admissions department is targeting the New Mexico and Texas areas. This summer and fall the school is also making efforts to get juniors and seniors in local high schools to concurrently enroll in college classes.

The new superintendent at New Mexico Military Institute begins on July 1. Rear Admiral Dave R. Ellison is a graduate of the Naval Academy and most recently was the superintendent at the Naval Post-Graduate School in Monterey, California. NMMI held its graduation ceremony on May 15 and had a total of 265 high school and college graduates. NMMI also signed a 2+2 agreement with New Mexico State in May. Students will be able to get their AA degree at NMMI and then stay there two more years and earn a BBA in leadership from New Mexico State.

Enrollment is up at the University of New Mexico – Los Alamos. Maisie Trujillo, the new branch registrar, reports that 2004 spring numbers jumped from 973 last year to 1,013 this past spring. She believes that improving services and having a quicker admission turn around time accounts for most of this increase. The school is looking forward to further increasing the enrollment numbers for the fall, since the fall schedule is already out (several months a head of last year).

Todd Hynson, supervisor of student records at UNM in Albuquerque, was one of the AACRAO travel grant recipients this year. He sends many thanks to RMACRAO for the first time attendees travel grant to AACRAO in Las Vegas this past April. He found the sessions to be very informative and useful. He also said that it was great to meet with people that had similar questions. “I think the best thing that I take away from the conference is perspective. I have not been in this business all that long and sometimes find myself lacking in background experience. I think now I’ll be able to contribute more to my organization because of my experience at the AACRAO conference. Again, thanks to RMACRAO for the support.”

Another AACRAO travel grant recipient was Patrick Natoni, an admissions counselor at New Mexico State University in Las Cruces. He feels that his first AACRAO meeting was fun and educational, in that a lot of conference attendees know exactly what they wanted to hear form the sessions and how to ask questions at those sessions. The session on student ambassadors
made a big impression on Patrick. “It was interesting to hear how the admissions office rewarded their students and how they kept them motivated to help them with the recruiting efforts. There was a ton of ideas I made up in my mind on what I should present to next fall’s student ambassadors at NMSU. I just simply learned a lot while I was in Vegas and I already miss it.”

Wyoming - Tammy Aagard

We are over the hurdle of spring 2004 term. It was great to see so many of you in Las Vegas at AACRAO. I hope lady luck was good to you. We are counting down to RMACRAO 2004 in Casper. I look forward to seeing all of you again. Here are updates from across the Cowboy State.

As of June 1, Trish Ullery will begin her duties as the new director of enrollment services at Casper College. She is replacing Linda Toohey who had resigned last September.

CC has now completed their introductory year for the Web Advisor registration system. They report that they’re still adjusting to some “bumps” in the system and are happy with the final outcome and the opportunities it has for CC students.

Retiring Casper College President Dr. LeRoy Strausner will be succeeded by Dr. Walter H. Nolte, who has served as president of North Central Missouri College in Trenton for the past seven years. Dr. Nolte will take over his duties in July.

After 30 years at Eastern Wyoming College, including 10 years as dean of student services, Billy Bates will be taking early retirement at the end of June 2004. Billy began at EWC as a counselor, then became the assistant dean of students, and finally climbed the career ladder to dean of students. Far from kicking back and taking it easy in retirement, Billy has been named as the dean of students at Mohave Community College in northwestern Arizona, where Tom Henry is the current president. Marilyn Cotan, currently assistant dean of students, will be replacing Billy at EWC. The student services department at EWC has been undergoing reorganization since Marilyn’s position will not be replaced. Some of Billy’s previous responsibilities will be distributed to other departments at EWC for the new academic year.

Tanya Howery Cook who was the high school and college relations coordinator at Eastern Wyoming College, accepted a part-time position as the athletic secretary. She used to play volleyball for long-time coaching legend, Verl Petsch, so serving in his office is a perfect fit! Jamie Jo Mekelburg, who was previously employed by the University of Nebraska College of Agriculture in Curtis as an admissions counselor, has been hired by EWC as the new recruiting coordinator.

The University of Wyoming admissions office recognizes Scott VanHorn for being awarded the Fraternity Greek Advisor of the Year. Noah Buckley is also serving as the president-elect of RMACAC. Congratulations Scott and Noah!

Western Wyoming Community College welcomes Amy Carter as the new admissions secretary. Amy graduated from WWCC and was a student worker in the enrollment services area. Director of Admissions Laurie Watkins and Admissions Counselor Eric Tradup enjoyed seeing other RMACRAO members at the AACRAO annual meeting in Las Vegas in April. Eric is looking forward to six weeks of vacation and a visit to his home state of Minnesota. Summer projects include remodeling a new space to be used for admissions counseling appointments, Student Ambassadors meetings, and Eric’s office.

From the President (continued from page 1)

The session will conclude with a workshop by Peter Vogel of the Littleton, CO-based CulturePrep, Inc, giving a version of his “Safe to Relate” program. Full details about the pre-conference work-shop are included in this newsletter.

Please note that promotion for the conference again this year will be primarily via e-mail, and annual meeting info and the registration form will be available online, so be sure and visit our web site at registrar.colorado.edu/rmacrao for registration materials, conference schedule, and preliminary program, as well as information on all the pre-conference activities. This is one you won’t want to say you missed, so I’ll hope to see you all on the trail in July!

Respectfully,
Tamara S. Lehner
RMACRAO President

President’s Call to the Annual Meeting

I, Tamara S. Lehner, president of the Rocky Mountain Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers, do hereby issue the call for the 2004 Annual Meeting to be held July 21-23 in Casper, Wyoming.

The annual meeting provides an invaluable opportunity for us all to enrich our professional lives through the exchange of key information and ideas with colleagues and experts in the field, as well as an opportunity to enrich our personal lives through the renewing of old friendships and the creation of new ones. Every care has been taken this year to create for you an experience that will be edifying, entertaining, and enlightening.

We very much look forward to welcoming you to the Cowboy State this July!!!
RMACRAO 2004 Annual Meeting

A Shot in the Dark!
Have you ever played golf in the dark? Well, here’s your chance as RMACRAO kicks off our 2004 meeting with a unique offer for members and guests to experience the Moonlight Golf Tournament at the Glenrock Golf Course on Tuesday evening, July 20. Glenrock is only 25 miles south of Casper on I-25. There will be a $50 fee per person, which includes dinner, a t-shirt with the unique Glenrock Golf logo (a loveable rattlesnake with a golf ball in his mouth), and 9 holes of golf—played with glow-in-the-dark golf balls. We’ll begin with dinner and mingling at 8:00 p.m. in the clubhouse, and tee off as soon as the sun goes down. As you walk the course (the carts don’t have lights!!) you’ll have access to the convenient beer and soft drink gater (like the airlines, there’s a fee, and correct change is appreciated!). The $50 fee is payable on the evening of the outing, but please register online if you intend to play, so that we know we have enough participants to make it a go. We’ll also have information online about hotels in the area if you’d like to stay in Glenrock that night—there’s a great historic B&B in town! If you have any questions about Moonlight Golf, please contact Tamara Lehner at tislehner@uwyo.edu. Give it a shot! What have you got to lose?

Pre-Conference Workshop
Opening the Trail to All: Discussions on Diversity
Wed., July 21, 9:00 a.m.-noon
Please join us for this exciting pre-conference opportunity to discuss ways that each of us, as both individuals and professionals dedicated to the ideals of diversity, can all help to make our campuses and our offices more accepting places for everyone regardless of race, religion, ethnicity, gender, or gender identity and expression. We are so excited to have two incredible presenters as part of this session! We are honored to have Judy Shepard to give the keynote address. Judy and her husband Dennis founded the Matthew Shepard Foundation following the 1998 murder of their 21-year old son, then a student at the University of Wyoming. As she represents the foundation in her numerous appearances every year, speaking from a mother’s perspective, Judy has made the prevention of hate crimes the focus of her efforts and urges her audiences to make their schools and communities safer for everyone. Then, Peter Vogel, with CulturePrep, Inc. will present on his “Safe to Relate” System, which offers schools, businesses, and communities a “practical approach for establishing and sustaining a diversity-friendly environment.” Peter’s program is for all of us who wish to advance cross-cultural relationships in order to better understand our neighbors, coworkers, and the students that we serve and recruit. As both of these outstanding speakers have graciously waived their usual fees, we propose to donate all proceeds beyond expenses for the pre-conference to the Matthew Shepard Foundation and CulturePrep, Inc. The fee for this pre-conference session will be $35 per person, and registration information may be found on the RMACRAO web site.

Closing the Deal!
Have we got a closing session for you this year! In our last session of the conference, “Wild Nature and the Human Spirit,” Lynn Swanson, a long-time member of the Wyoming Speaker’s Bureau, will explore the life of Margaret Murie, affectionately known as the “Grandmother of The Conservation Movement.” Many mourned the recently-passed Murie, winner of the 1998 Medal of Freedom Award, and the 1998 Robert Marshall Award. Tireless advocates for wilderness, Margaret and her husband moved to Wyoming in 1928, dedicating their lives to studying wildlife and helping to establish numerous wildlife refuges. A retired librarian with a deep interest in researching and portraying women who have contributed to the cultural development of the Rocky Mountain West, Lynn will bring this amazing woman to life for us as she acts as a voice for the value of wild nature and its connection to the human spirit. We hope you’ll join us for this enriching experience, and we pledge to get you on your way home by 11:00 a.m. on the 23rd!

Hotel Information
The RMACRAO 2004 Annual Meeting will be held at the Parkway Plaza Hotel & Convention Centre, 123 West E St., Casper, WY.

You can make reservations by phone (307-235-1777 or 1-800-270-7829) or on the Web (www.parkwayplaza.net/).

Remember to ask for the RMACRAO room rate which is $56/night plus tax (regardless of whether you get a single, double, or have 1-4 people in your room).
RMACRAO 2004 Annual Meeting

Town Meeting Scheduled

A town meeting will be held during the RMACRAO 2004 Annual Meeting in Casper. This is a chance for the board to share information with the membership as well as to get feedback from members on different ideas. The agenda for the town meeting will include the following:

- review the proposed 2004-2005 budget (which includes a $20/mo. fee for AACRAO to host our web site)
- ask members if they want to continue to get a hardcopy of the newsletter vs. just posting it to the Web
- a discussion about increasing membership dues in the future and different options
- go over the peer review process that’s available to the membership
- review proposed changes to the Articles of Incorporation and By-Laws

To Be Voted On

Be sure to check the RMACRAO web site (under Annual Meeting Info) BEFORE you attend the July meeting in Casper. You need to be sure to review the items that will be voted on so you’ll be an informed voter at the annual meeting. By mid-June the following information will be available on the Web at registrar.colorado.edu/rmacrao:

- application for membership from Mesalands Community College in New Mexico
- proposed changes to the Articles of Incorporation and By-Laws (for more information, see article at right)
- proposed 2004-2005 budget

Articles of Incorporation and By-Laws

During the upcoming annual meeting in Casper, the association will be considering changes to the Articles of Incorporation and By-Laws that were approved in July 2002. A sub-committee of the RMACRAO Board of Directors reviewed the documents and identified areas that we wanted to bring into concurrence with AACRAO’s Articles of Incorporation and By-Laws.

These proposed changes will be posted on the RMACRAO web site by mid-June for the membership to review before the annual meeting. During the town meeting in Casper we will also talk about them in depth before the association membership votes on them at the business luncheon/meeting.

If you have any questions as you review this document on the Web, please contact me at 505-277-4792 or at ksena@ unm.edu. I’ll be glad to discuss the proposed changes with you.

– Kathleen F. Sena
RMACRAO Past President

Nominations and Elections Update

In accordance with the by-laws of the association, official notification and ballots for honorary membership and elections for the RMACRAO Board of Directors will have been sent to all member schools 60 days prior to the annual meeting through the institutional contact. This is a quick reminder to the membership that the ballots are due back by June 21, 2004.

NOTE: This year the ballot will also include two nominations for lifetime membership. Please review the nominations that are included with the ballot and indicate on the ballot whether or not you approve to award lifetime membership to the indicated individuals. If approved, the lifetime membership awards will be presented at the annual meeting.

Announcement of the newly elected officers of the board of directors will be announced at the annual meeting business luncheon/meeting.

Wanted: Mentors for First Timers Attending RMACRAO 2004

I am actively recruiting folks to serve as mentors for our first timers who will be attending the meeting in Casper. We will be hosting a get together on Wednesday at noontime to get acquainted with the first timers. Mentor responsibilities will include showing our first timers the ropes, answering questions they might have, and encouraging them to participate in all the activities that the Program Committee and Local Arrangements Committee have planned for an outstanding annual meeting. Checking with them throughout the meeting and afterwards will help them enjoy being a part of this fantastic organization. We will have a wrap-up session on Friday morning before the sessions begin for that day.

If you would like to volunteer to help out, please contact me at 505-277-4792 or at ksena@unm.edu. I’m looking forward to working with all the volunteers and meeting all the first timers in Casper.

– Kathleen F. Sena
RMACRAO Past President
Historian's Report: From the Past

As I embark on my adventure of delving into the past of our association, I am reminded that a historian’s glimpse into the past is based upon the records preserved by others. Often such records are in the form of minutes, faded photos, correspondence, meeting agendas, and brochures. Sometimes, discussions with current and former members can reveal more about the issues of the day. To assist me in this role of historian, I ask for your assistance. If you possess any correspondence, pictures, or other information you would like to include in our archives, please share those with me. I am especially interested in recording and preserving memories, engagements and associations that may not always make it into the archives, e.g. humorous stories, clever anecdotes, or tall tales, which would help preserve the other side of RMACRAO. Please share via e-mail, sellis@uccs.edu, via correspondence (snail mail: Admissions and Record, PO Box 7150, Colorado Springs, CO 80933-7150) or via conversation (719-262-3375).

As one example of the type of tales I am looking for, let me tell you a tale of the “Great Taos Tequila Shot Shootout.” It was July 1998, the final night of the annual meeting hosted in Taos (remember the RMACRAO presidential crown?). Legend isn’t very clear, nor are the memories of those involved, as to when the initial challenge was issued. But at some point during the conference a group of feisty New Mexicans, looking for trouble, began boasting about their unmatched tequila shooting prowess. This of course led to a rebuttal from an equally boisterous and proud group of Coloradans. Neither group was willing to endure such punishment? As mentioned, the Coloradans were a clever bunch. The truth and untold fact of the story is that they had switched tequila shots with the help of the barkeep, from tequila to shots of water! Round after round, shot after shot, followed by a cry of “are you ready to admit defeat,” then followed by a resounding “no” placed the saloon’s rapidly diminishing supplies at risk. Given the hour, it took awhile, but someone found the gate keeper to the locked door to the swimming hole. The losers graciously took their dip, all mostly clothed and accepted defeat. Amazingly, the following day, though a bit groggy, the losers graciously conceded to their southern neighbors’ stubborn perseverance. Given the hour, it took awhile, but someone found the gate keeper to the locked door to the swimming hole. The losers graciously took their dip, all mostly clothed and accepted defeat. Amazingly, the following day, though a bit groggy, the defeated were enthusiastically attending meetings. The few New Mexicans to be found had not fared as well. What was it about the Coloradans fortitude and stamina that helped them to endure such punishment? As stated, the Coloradans were a clever bunch. The truth and untold fact of the story is that they had switched tequila shots with the help of the barkeep, from tequila to shots of water! Though prepared to go all night, they acquiesced and accepted defeat upon seeing the blind (quite blind, by night’s end) determination of the New Mexicans, who refused to surrender.

The morals of the story are:
1. Watch out who you let in on your secrets.
2. Don’t forget to bring your swimming suits to RMACRAO.
3. Be careful in your dealings with those double-dealing Coloradans.
4. Never, EVER get in a shot shooting contest with the contingent from NM. They are one tough bunch…until the sun comes up!!!!!!
5. Sometimes the ones who get soaked are NOT the ones in the swimming pool.

May be true, may be legend, but a good story!

– Steve Ellis, Historian

Travel Grant Recipients

The following RMACRAOans attended the AACRAO 2004 Annual Meeting in Las Vegas and were awarded $100 travel grants by RMACRAO (since they were first time attendees at an AACRAO annual meeting). We can’t say too much about their experience at their first AACRAO annual meeting, because “what happens in Vegas, stays in Vegas”, but we hope they enjoyed the sessions. Congratulations to all of you!

Julianne (Judy) Layton
Assistant Registrar
University of Northern Colorado

Vince Calvo
Registration Events Coordinator
University of Colorado at Boulder

Jamie Jo Mekelburg
Coordinator of Enrollment Services
Eastern Wyoming College

Holly Allison
Admissions Representative
Laramie County Community College

Patrick Natoni
Admissions Advisor
New Mexico State University

Todd Hynson
Supervisor-Student Records
University of New Mexico, Albuquerque
Treasurer's Report

Over the past few years, we have budgeted $12-13,500 each year to provide various services to the membership such as travel grants and professional scholarships. We have, however, not spent to that level which has been fortunate for the membership. Over the past few years we have actually spent $4500 - 7700 at a time when income has remained fairly steady, from $4500 - $9000.

Our income comes from two sources - membership dues (averages 70% of total income) and the remainder coming from the annual meeting.

The board is reviewing income and expenses for the immediate 2000-05 budget and future budgets to determine the best course for RMACRAO.

At the same time, we’ve put the past 11 years worth of financial reports into a single format which will allow a greater analysis of both how and where the money comes from and where it gets spent. The raw data has been entered and matched with bank statements and now comes the “fine-tuning” as in matching deposit numbers to specific schools (as in deposit 657089 is Colorado College in 1998). From the raw data, we can now look at trends from 1993 to the present.

The following chart shows where we are today (as of 5/10/2004).

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<th>2003-04 Budget</th>
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Activity Summary for 2003-2004

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— Ed Preble, Treasurer

Professional Development Scholarships are Available

It’s time to start thinking about what professional development opportunities you’d like to pursue for 2004-2005. To assist you, RMACRAO offers two $750 scholarships. The deadline for applications is September 1 for those planning on attending a professional development opportunity between October 1, 2004 and September 30, 2005. So start planning now!

Examples of professional development activities include (but not exclusive to):
- Annual Summer Institute for International Admissions
- EDI in Education Conference
- Strategic Enrollment Management Conference (SEM)
- FERPA Workshop
- AACRAO Technology Conference

(NOTE: This scholarship cannot be applied to either RMACRAO annual meetings or AACRAO annual meetings.)

Individuals who are awarded this scholarship will be expected to either write an article for the RMACRAO newsletter about their professional development opportunity or make a presentation on this topic at the next RMACRAO annual meeting.

For more information and for an application, go to the RMACRAO web site at registrar.colorado.edu/rmacrao/ and click on Prof. Develop. Scholarship.

AACRAO Brings Its Admissions Institute Close to Home

For those interested in professional development for their admissions office, AACRAO will bring their Invest in Success admissions workshop to the campus of the Community College of Denver on July 26-27. See the AACRAO web site at www.aacrao.org/meetings/admininst.htm for more details and to register your school.
Some Scenes from AACRAO 2004 in Las Vegas

AACRAO travel grant recipients Patrick Natoni (New Mexico State University) and Todd Hynson (UNM) pose with New Mexico VP Mary Angell (College of Santa Fe).

Schez Downey (DU) in the flamingo shades, Jeanne Breiner (CSU), Shelly Loomis (CSU), and Tamara Lehner (UW) glam for the cameras at the RMACRAO reception.

Luz Barreras and Kimberly Eiland (New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology) are either conversing over some things they learned at the conference or what they learned about gambling in the casino!