From the President

Watching the snow fall on this first weekend in May is a true reminder of the winter that just does not seem to want to pass. The perseverance and tenacity of this winter’s snow is one to be remembered for many years to come. As I sit here writing my last newsletter message, I wonder if those two qualities can’t be used to describe the outstanding individuals I have had the opportunity to work with over the last two years as president of RMACRAO. Our members are continually faced with the challenges and changing roles presented in higher education, but with steady persistence in a course of action and the unyielding holding on in following that course of action, our membership seems to overcome the obstacles and achieve success in the new initiatives that are presented to them.

It truly has been a great privilege to serve you, the RMACRAO membership. During my first year as president, the board had numerous position changes due to those changing roles I refer to above. This past year we have been able to once again find a steady course and the board is continuing to manage, strengthen, and develop your association so that it will not only serve you but provide opportunities to you for professional and personal growth. The members of the board have accomplished much and are constantly working on new ways that can improve your association. We thank you for giving us the opportunity to grow and learn with you.

All of the officers certainly have been busy with specific responsibilities related to their respective offices. Tammy Aagard and her Program Committee have been working very hard to plan an informative and educational annual meeting – you need be sure to mark your calendar to attend (July 18-20). Tammy was also busy earlier this year putting together the arrangements for our members to see an improv-comedy club show in Boston while attending the AACRAO 2007 Annual Meeting. It was great fun and an excellent opportunity for visiting old friends and meeting new ones. On top of all her RMACRAO responsibilities, Tammy has also been pursuing her doctoral degree and has recently been announced as the new registrar at the University of Wyoming (you go girl)! Congratulations on this new appointment!

Shelly Loomis and her Local Arrangements Committee are working along side Tammy to take care of all the logistics to host the annual meeting at The Stanley Hotel in Estes Park, Colorado. They have been very busy preparing an atmosphere that will give us ample time, space, and opportunity to meet and learn from one another.

(continued on page 6)
Vice Presidents' Reports

Colorado - Lara Medley

Tillie Trujillo, director of operations at Colorado State University’s admissions office recently retired after 30 years of service to the university. During her tenure at CSU she has led admissions through many transitional phases including the development and implementation of the online application, electronic confirmation process, and many other services for students applying to Colorado State.

Cynthia Zimmerman joined the admissions office at CSU in February as an assistant director working with the transfer student population. Zimmerman, originally from Denver, earned her bachelor’s degree in English with an emphasis in secondary education. She has held previous positions within admissions at Metropolitan State College of Denver, Front Range Community College and most recently worked as a College Outreach Coordinator for College in Colorado.

Colorado State University will be implementing an enrollment deposit for students beginning fall 2008 and beyond. The $300 deposit will be applied towards a student’s tuition bill and will be required by the May 1 confirmation date.

Nolan Oltjenbruns reports that CSU recently achieved a major milestone in its Banner implementation, with the opening of fall 2007 registration on April 2. Only minimal problems have cropped up along the way, and they’ve been able (much to their relief) to resolve each of those issues. The response from new and continuing students has been overwhelmingly positive. Even the advisers and faculty have adapted pretty well to the new ways of doing things. Much Banner-related and DARS-related work remains to be done, however. These systems will continue to be a major focus of their efforts for the foreseeable future. They're especially grateful to all those old-hand Banner users out there (you know who you are) who have been so generous with their time and suggestions when called upon. CSU thanks you!

University of Northern Colorado has been live on Banner for a little over a year now and operations seem to be running exceptionally well. They are still working on implementing the ODS, imaging and workflow functionality. Becky Barnes is retiring from her position as registrar effective June 30. A search for her successor is under way. Raul Cardenas is the new assistant vice president for enrollment management and student access. Raul comes to UNC from Arizona State University. Chris Downen was named the new director of admissions and Kelley Christman was promoted to assistant registrar. Remodeling plans are underway in the enrollment management division to help make all areas more student friendly and customer service oriented.

New Mexico - Rosie Corrie

Barbara Tucci, registrar at Santa Fe Community College, reports that they are currently implementing Luminis Portal to improve communication on campus. Their go-live is planned for November 2007 in time for spring registration. The next phase is to implement a WebCT, Banner, and Luminis interface for online courses.

At New Mexico Military Institute, Ed Preble reports that Brigadier General Douglas J. Murray, USAF (ret) is the new dean/vice president for academics. He was recently the chairman of the social sciences division and professor and head of the department of political science at the US Air Force Academy. He holds a doctor of philosophy in international relations, comparative politics and defense policy from the Graduate School of Government, University of Texas at Austin. He became the academic dean on April 1 replacing Dr. Larry Skogen, LTC USAF (ret).

Wyoming - Laurie Watkins

Kyla Foltz, admissions coordinator, and Alison McNulty, director of admissions and student records/registrar from Casper College, reports Shari Greiner joined admissions as the new admissions representative. Shari is a graduate of Midland Lutheran College in Fremont, Nebraska with a degree in marketing and management. She is originally from Iowa and new to the admissions profession. The admissions office at Casper College welcomes Shari and looks forward to her fresh outlook and experience in marketing.

Winter Hansen has also been hired as an admissions generalist. James Ochiltree, vice president of student services, is retiring after 22 years as of June 29, and selection of a new VP is in process.

Central Wyoming College will be hiring several new personnel to begin positions in July. Dr. Chestine Brohm, assistant dean of enrollment services, is retiring and a new registrar will be appointed soon. Recruiter Kami Patik is returning to school to complete a graduate degree at the University of Wyoming, and a new recruiter will be needed. A new position, director of marketing, is expected to be filled soon. A new web site “look and feel” was rolled out in early April – see www.cwc.edu – some features are still being improved. CWC went live with Datatel’s Release 18 in March. Brenda Cadwallader, office assistant for enrollment services, received her AS degree in general studies from Central Wyoming College, her BS degree in general studies from Northern Wyoming College, and her MS degree in business administration from the University of Wyoming on May 5. Congratulations to both!

Dean of Students Marilyn Cotant reports that Eastern Wyoming College is excited about the addition of a new recruiter. Jamie Christensen joins Mell Cooper, recruiting coordinator, and comes to EWC from Wheatland. She was a Red Bull marketer prior to being hired by EWC. Jamie began her new position on May 1.

Marcia Nash, who worked as an administrative assistant in the EWC financial aid office for over 21
years, will be taking early retirement. Marcia specialized in FAFSA and Pell Grants, so her expertise will be greatly missed. The financial aid office is being reorganized by Director Pam Palermo. Terri Hau, another long-time employee in that department, will become a financial aid specialist, and Wendy Pontarolo has been hired as the other financial aid specialist. An additional position of financial aid clerk will be hired to begin on July 1 to help deal with the increasing responsibilities related to the Hathaway Scholarship, Academic Competitive Grants, and other financial aid requirements. Housing Director Darci Davis has decided to return to college on a full-time basis to gain her teaching certificate on top of her bachelor’s in business. Darci has done a great job at EWC and will be missed by the students and staff. The new director of residence life will be assuming the responsibility of the nearly completed new residence hall. This 58-bed residence hall is a very attractive addition to the EWC campus. Completion is scheduled for July 1, allowing time for all the new furnishings to be put into place prior to the start of the semester. There are also many new faces and some new programs on the EWC campus, which is invigorating for everyone! Andrea Bryant, EWC’s learning resource director, will coordinate the second annual Bridge program to be held the week prior to the beginning of the semester for high risk students. Basic academic skills, social activities, fitness/exercise, time management, coping with stress, study skills, utilizing tutoring, and overcoming test anxiety are some of topics covered during the five-day program.

Jenny Hargett, director of enrollment management/admissions at Laramie County Community College, reports Stephanie and Rodell Davis are moving to Iowa this summer. Rodell, LCCC head men’s basketball coach and athletic director, accepted a coaching position at Drake University. Stephanie will continue in the records office until June 29.

Zane Garstad, director of enrollment services at Sheridan College in the Northern Wyoming Community College District, reports that it is a busy time on campus. They’re in the process of hiring a rodeo coach/recruiter and a student advisor.

Longtime Northwest Community College Registrar Sandra Tollman passed away on November 19, 2006. The 1959 valedictorian at Powell High School and a 1961 graduate of Northwest, she became the registrar the same year and retired in 1996 after 35 years of service. She will be remembered as truly dedicating herself to the college for over three decades. The Northwest College Foundation, in the mid-point of its five-year fundraising campaign, voted in February to increase the goal from $6 million to $8 million. A new legislative appropriation provides a total of $6.5 million to help double the value of endowment contributions. Brad Hammond, registrar/director of admissions, reports that a 10-month admissions representative position is now open. Savannah Berumen was an interim employee for the past year in this position. Also, Northwest College is offering three new programs: Allied Health (AAS), Occupational Safety and Health (AS), and Robotics Technology (Certificate).

RMACRAO President Elect Tammy Aagard was named the registrar at the University of Wyoming. Tammy replaces Robert Hensley who accepted the position of director of admissions at the University of New Orleans last year. Tammy has been with the University of Wyoming registrar’s office for eleven years and has served as associate registrar and interim registrar. A national search for a new associate registrar will begin shortly. The UW admissions office is pleased to announce that the international students and scholars office is becoming part of their operation. This includes Jill Johnson, manager, SanDee Hutton, immigration coordinator, and Maria Almendares, office associate. The change will facilitate both recruiting and retaining international students, and allow a “one-stop” shop approach to their admission and orientation to UW. Other new hires in the admissions office include Admissions Representative Melanie Friesen, a 2007 marketing graduate from Colorado. Interviews were conducted recently for the position of associate director for recruiting, and Robert Dennis has been hired to start in June. Robert, with a BS in marketing and a MEd in counseling/college student personnel, will be joining the UW team after more than 10 years with Boise State University where he is currently the associate director for new student orientation. He and his wife and three children will be relocating to Laramie as soon as his oldest daughter finishes school this year.

Western Wyoming Community College went live with Datatel’s Release 18 in April. This summer, they’ll be rolling out Datatel’s UI 2.1 for improved user interface, Windows Vista will be installed in all student computer labs, and Safari will be upgraded from 8.3 to 8.4 for improved web reporting. A search for a new position, associate vice president for student success services, is in process. The job duties include developing and strengthening student affairs programs and overseeing the retention and alumni programs, international student support services, and grant funding opportunities for the institution. Registration & Records welcomes former student and work-study employee Valerie Toomey as a new assistant. Groundbreaking for the 48-bed new residence hall is scheduled for June.

Many higher education employees in Wyoming are appreciative of the recent salary increase from the Wyoming legislature (10% for administrators and non-teaching professionals, 18% for classified staff, and 20.3% for faculty to begin July 1). Maybe a Wyoming colleague will buy you lunch in Estes if you ask nicely!
RMACRAO 2007 Annual Meeting

Join Us for Mystery in the Mountains

Join us for RMACRAO 2007 Annual Meeting, July 18-20, at the majestic Stanley Hotel in Estes Park Colorado, known for its old world charm and spectacular views. Elk abound in Estes Park, Rocky Mountain National Park is close by, fishing is unbelievable, and the charm of the town will win you over. Be sure to bring your camera. Many exciting and interesting events will take place during the conference, including a fun-filled mysterious event Thursday evening.

- Registration for the conference is online. Go to the RMACRAO web site at www.rmacrao.org/annualmeeting_2007.html and select the Registration Form to register online, and then send in a copy of your registration with payment.

- This year before the conference starts, we’re offering something different for Wednesday morning. Take a historical, haunting tour of The Stanley Hotel. Or join fellow colleagues on an off-road trip with The American Wilderness Tours, who provide a unique rugged mountain tour into the Roosevelt National Forest. All-wheel drive vehicles or hummers will take you where your car can’t go. If this is too rough, join us for a drive through Rocky Mountain National Park via the comfort of a van. And yes, we haven’t forgotten the golfers in our membership. Tee off on a fantastic, breathtaking, 18-hole golf course and possibly share the course with an elk or two, or three...

- The first-time attendees are invited to lunch before the opening session on Wednesday. Breakfast will also be served for this group on Friday morning. Both of these events are scheduled outside on covered verandahs so that the wonderful views can be enjoyed. These events will allow for first-time attendees to meet the other first timers as well as members of the RMACRAO Board of Directors.

- The Opening Session will feature one of the recipients of the Best Teachers Award from Colorado State University, Dr. Mark Benn. Dr. Benn is a licensed psychologist and assistant professor at Colorado State University who received his doctorate from the University of Northern Colorado in counseling psychology in 1986.

- On Wednesday evening, the President’s Reception is scheduled outside on a spacious uncovered courtyard. Hors d’oeuvres will be served and a cash bar will be available. The setting will be spectacular.

- Sara Axelson, vice president for student affairs at the University of Wyoming, will present the Plenary Session on Thursday.

- Thursday night will feature an elegant dinner that will consist of a three course meal and cash bar. A great night of fun for all as one of our colleagues will be playfully “murdered” and everyone will try and guess who done it. Was it Colonel Mustard in the Library or was it one of our registrars in the Manor House? Or was it an admissions officer in the Music Room? For meal choices and descriptions, go to the "Menu" link on the Registration Form or the "Thursday Night Menu Options" link (both at www.rmacrao.org/annualmeeting_2007.html You will be asked to specify your meal choice on the registration form.

- Friday’s Closing Session will be presented by a nationally known speaker and Estes Park resident Jim McCormick. Jim has a degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Southern California and an MBA from the University of California, Irvine. Jim has extensive business experience and also holds four skydiving world records. He skydived to the North Pole as a member of an international expedition and is one of 400 professional exhibition skydivers in the United States. Jim will teach us how to “take risks” in our professional and personal lives.

- The conference will wrap-up with the Banner Users of the Mountain States (BUMS) meeting Friday afternoon.

Some additional information to note:
- If you arrive on Tuesday, we will gather in The Library in the evening for a haunting experience of viewing the movie “The Shining”. This movie was not filmed at The Stanley, but it was inspired by the hotel. The mini series released later was filmed on the property. The property is said to be haunted, but don’t worry, the staff assures us that the ghosts are friendly!

- The dress code is to wear what’s comfortable for you. Days in Estes can be warm and sunny, so bring sunscreen. Nights can get chilly, so be sure to bring a light jacket. The Stanley Hotel property does consist of three buildings nestled closely together and we will utilize all three of them, so some walking will be required.

- We ask that each institution provide one generous item to be given away as a door prize. Bring it with you and present it to the staff at the registration desk.

- If you have any questions, contact Shelly Loomis at (970) 491-4341 or e-mail Shelly.Loomis@colostate.edu.

Call to Annual Meeting

I, Mary E. Angell, President of the Rocky Mountain Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admission Officers, do hereby issue the call for the 2007 Annual Meeting to be held July 18-20 in Estes Park, Colorado.

The annual meeting is the premier event of our association. This is an excellent opportunity to share our professional experience with each other, renew longstanding friendships, and support those individuals who are new to the organization and new to the profession.

I look forward to meeting new colleagues, seeing old friends, and sharing experiences of a profession that has been good to me over the years — as we gather together in Estes Park.
Record Number of Exhibitors

This year’s RMACRAO annual meeting will host a record number of exhibitors who will demonstrate and discuss their products with us. Last year the membership approved the addition of the Exhibitor Liaison position to the board. The responsibilities of this position are to work with the business industry related to higher education to have them participate in our annual meeting. This year 17 of them are coming to Estes Park to work with us to better our services to the constituencies we work with.

In addition to our long-standing supporters who have been attending our annual meeting since at least 1994 in Grand Junction, Colorado, we have a number of new exhibitors who will be with us for the first time.

Among the exhibitors attending are:
- ACT – Ben Hix, Consultant
- Ad Astra – John Caswell
- Avow Systems – Karen King, Account Manager, and Chris Kaschmitter, Director Technical Services
- CollegeNET, Inc. – Bruce Sylva, Series Sales Manager
- Credentials Inc. – Tom McKechney, Chairman and CEO
- Digital Architecture – Paula Fredericksen, Business Development and Account Manager
- Event Management Systems (EMS)
- Hershey Systems – Mike Floback, Vice-President
- Jolesch Photography – Mark Hommerding and Ray Wilson
- Jonesville Paper Tube Corporation
- Johnnie Hall, Manufactures Rep and Brad Shultis, Manufactures Rep
- Miami University DARS
- National Student Clearinghouse – Don Gwinn, Regional Director
- SCRIP-SAFE International – Mary Lou Griffin, Regional Sales Director
- Servicemembers Opportunity Colleges – March Shapiro, Program Manager
- Smart Catalog – Anne Valentine, President
- SunGard HE – Nick D’Addezio

We are very fortunate to have several exhibitors sponsoring various events of our annual meeting. Credentials Inc. will be hosting the golf tournament on Wednesday morning. Also, Digital Architecture is sponsoring the conference shirts, National Student Clearinghouse is helping to sponsor one of the refreshment breaks, and SunGard HE is helping to sponsor the Thursday evening event.

I’d like to encourage everyone attending the meeting to take time to visit with our exhibitors as they bring to us many outstanding products and services that help us do our jobs better. Tammy Aagard and the Program Committee has scheduled in quality time during the annual meeting for us to be with our exhibitors.

See you in July!

Respectfully,

Kathleen Sena

RMACRAO Exhibitor Liaison

To Be Voted On

The following items will be voted on by the membership during the business meeting at the RMACRAO 2007 Annual Meeting. Please review these items so you’re prepared to vote on them at the meeting.

Business Meeting Minutes – Be sure to check the RMACRAO web site before you attend the annual meeting in Estes Park to review the minutes from last year’s business meeting in Mescalero, New Mexico. During the business meeting at the RMACRAO 2007 Annual Meeting, the membership will be asked to approve these minutes from last year’s business meeting. You can view these minutes at www.rmacrao.org/annualmeeting_2007.html (under To Be Voted On).

Bylaw Changes – The board would like to add the Web Developer position as an appointed, non-voting member of the board under Article IV. Offices and Agents, Section 4.07 Other Offices and Committees, to read as follows:

(e) Web Developer. An institutional member shall be appointed by the President as Web Developer to train the appropriate incoming board members on how to make updates/changes to the RMACRAO web site, provide assistance in making changes to the web site that are not routine, work with the Historian on developing an archiving web site, and other web related projects for the Association and Board. This individual is not required to attend all Board of Director meetings during the year but should plan to attend the RMACRAO annual meeting plus two other board meetings during the year. Attending the board meeting held during the AACRAO Annual Meeting is optional. The Web Developer shall be an ex-officio member of the Board of Directors. The appointment shall be a two-year term with reappointment possible.

Proposed Budget – The proposed 2007-2008 RMACRAO budget is posted on our web site (see www.rmacrao.org/annualmeeting_2007.html under To Be Voted On). Please review the proposed budget and come prepared to vote on it at the business meeting.

Application for Membership – Central New Mexico Community College has applied for membership to RMACRAO. Please review their application at www.rmacrao.org/annualmeeting _2007.html (under To Be Voted On) and come prepared to vote on this membership request at the business meeting.
**From the President (continued from page 1)**

Kathleen Sena has been very ambitious in pursuing potential exhibitors to attend our annual meeting – having sent out 150 letters to new exhibitors who have never attended a RMACRAO meeting. Her ambitious marketing drive will benefit all members by having the company’s representatives at our meeting, where the exhibitors can share their products and technology with us.

I am very appreciative of the vice presidents from each of the states (Lara Medley, Rosie Corrie, and Laurie Watkins) for keeping us up-to-date on the various and sundry happenings at a number of the institutions in the Rocky Mountain region and the continual changes in state mandates from our tri-state area. My special thanks to each of them this year for taking on the extra duty of overseeing the nominations and elections committee, while we are without an immediate past president.

The newest member of the board, Corey Wahl, has been tirelessly working on creating and improving our association’s new web site. At the February board meeting, we went through every page of the new site and provided Corey with additional areas to change and enhance. His efforts and expertise have been a major addition to the board of directors.

Dawn Carver has been working diligently to keep track of the board’s activities, actions, and association business and Stuart Thomas has attentively been taking care of the finances. Steve Ellis has been continuing his work on organizing our historical records and Sally Page, as always, has been keeping us all informed via the newsletters. So as you can see, everyone has been very busy this year and I am happy to say that RMACRAO is doing just great. I want to take this time to thank each of the board members for a rewarding year and for their perseverance. Last year at this time, I ended my newsletter article as follows:

“While my term of office continues for a few more months, this is my last newsletter message. Serving as president of RMACRAO has been a great honor and privilege. On a professional level, the experience is invaluable but most importantly, on a personal level the opportunity has been one of those “life changing events”. I truly recommend to everyone to get involved in this wonderful organization – you will definitely have fun, face some challenges, and help to steer the way though change.”

Well I want you all to know that after a second year of persevering and tenaciously holding the office of president my sentiments continue to be the same.

My hope to get more people involved in this great association has come true and I will continue in the future to work with members to find ways for more people to become actively involved – since we all know that one more part of the definition of tenacious is to be highly retentive and persistent!

As always, I look forward to the opportunities that we may have throughout the rest of the year to converse and share ideas – especially at the upcoming annual meeting in Estes Park.

Respectfully,

_Mary E. Angell, RMACRAO President_

**Reception Monies to Fund Speakers**

This year the monies that had been budgeted for the RMACRAO reception at the AACRAO annual meeting in Boston will be used to help fund speakers and the evening event at the RMACRAO annual meeting. The RMACRAO board determined that due to a change in the dates for the AACRAO annual meeting and the scheduling of the state and regional receptions on Friday night during the conference, the monies budgeted for the reception would be better used at the RMACRAO annual meeting thus benefiting more of the RMACRAO membership.
Treasurer's Report

RMACRAO 2006-07 Budget as of May 22, 2007

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Summary:

Revenue from annual dues is currently short of the goal due to unpaid balances from eight institutions. On the positive side, while the fiscal goal of the annual meeting is to break even, the organization realized a net gain in the amount of $626.26 from the 2006 Annual Meeting in New Mexico.

Because there was no RMACRAO-sponsored reception at this year’s AACRAO annual meeting in Boston, the decision was made to move $1500 of funds allocated for the reception to the Local Arrangements budget for the upcoming RMACRAO annual meeting in Estes Park.

All six AACRAO $100 Travel Grants for First-Time Attendees were awarded and paid. Both Professional Development Scholarships have been awarded, but not yet requested or paid.

Association insurance has not yet been billed but is not expected to increase this year from the amount budgeted.

There have been no unexpected expenses to date.

Respectfully,

Stuart Thomas
RMACRAO Treasurer

Mark Your Ballots

Ballots for the 2007-2009 RMACRAO Board of Directors have been sent out. Don't forget to vote!

Ballots and bios of the nominees were sent to those listed as the RMACRAO contact person in the member directory (and if no specific contact was indicated, ballots were sent to the most logical person). The bios are also posted on the RMACRAO web site under "Annual Meeting". Please remember to return only one ballot per institution as per the Bylaws, and ballots must be returned or postmarked by June 15.

NOTE: If you don't know the RMACRAO contact person at your institution and you have not heard from anyone regarding casting your vote for the board of directors by May 30, please contact your RMACRAO vice president to find out who the ballot was sent to.

This year the membership will be electing a President-Elect, who will sit on the board for three years as well as the following two-year positions: Vice President for Wyoming, Vice President for Colorado, and Treasurer. Remember, only institutions from the state of the vice president candidates may vote for their specific VP. Write-in candidates are also welcome.

The ballot is as follows:
- **President-Elect**
  - Lara Medley, Registrar, Colorado School of Mines
- **Vice President for Wyoming**
  - Lane Buchanan, Associate Registrar, University of Wyoming
  - Laurie Watkins, Director of Admissions, Western Wyoming Community College
- **Vice President for Colorado**
  - Kelley Christman, Assistant Registrar, University of Northern Colorado
- **Treasurer**
  - Carolyn Gutierres, Scheduling Coordinator, University of New Mexico

Those elected to the board will be announced at the annual meeting in Estes Park.
AACRAO Travel Grant Recipients

The following individuals applied for and were each awarded a $100 travel grant by RMACRAO as first-time attendees at an AACRAO annual meeting. Some commented regarding their experience at AACRAO. Congratulations to all!

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“In Boston, at the 2007 AACRAO Annual Meeting, I had a wonderful experience. It was extremely informative on issues that pertain to me and my role at the college. Not only was it educational, but it also provided me with the opportunity to meet peers at other colleges and universities who may be able to assist me with issues down the road. I also participated in the GLBT Caucus, which introduced me to a great group of people who were very knowledgeable on issues pertaining to the GLBT population. I am very thankful to have received the $100 grant from RMACRAO. I hope to continue attending the AACRAO conferences in the future.”

– Lori Kester, Student Systems Retention Manager, Community College of Denver

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“I very much enjoyed attending the AACRAO annual meeting in Boston. For one thing I had never been to Boston before and it was awesome to be able to visit such a historic city and take in the sights there. But, of course, that was not really why I went to the conference. I went to learn more about my profession. This is my first year working in higher education. At some points during the conference I felt very overwhelmed because of information overload, but it was great to have the opportunity to learn so much in a short period of time. Meeting other people with similar job responsibilities was also a good opportunity because it allowed me to make contacts with people that I am certain will be able to help me in the future. The most interesting thing I learned was that I am not as young as I think I am. Many of the sessions I attended were about the new technologies that today’s students are utilizing and it made me realize that even though I am still pretty young I need to work a little harder to stay in touch with our students and prospective students.”

– Brant Brown, Admissions Coordinator, Western Wyoming Community College

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“My AACRAO experience was terrific. I was able to learn, network, and gain useful information that we have already begun to implement on our campus. The conference was beneficial and user friendly to the first-time attendees. The sessions, exhibitors, and convention accommodations made the experience very useful to a new admissions employee. I am pleased to recommend this conference to my colleagues.”

– Kirstie Auzqui, Senior Admissions Representative, Casper College

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“The Ninety-Third Annual Meeting, Leading the Higher Education Revolution, was an enlightening experience. I was able to increase my knowledge base on one-stop shops, leveraging customer relations, dealing with change, customer service, succession planning, future trends, equality and diversity, and a lot of collaboration and cooperation efforts. The conference was well organized and encompassed a variety of sessions for myself and my staff, which enabled us to share the information obtained with our enrollment services staff. This assisted the staff to understand the need for one-stop shops, how to understand our customer needs, and dealing with change. Plus, Mark Russell was awesome and Bill Moyers was outstanding; I loved both the opening and closing general sessions along with the conference in general.”

– Paula Martinez, Associate Director of Enrollment Services, Community College of Denver

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Other AACRAO travel grant recipients were Tammie Ellis, Student Records Supervisor, University of New Mexico, and Kelley Christman, Assistant Registrar, University of Northern Colorado.

Reminder: Scholarships Available

Just a reminder that RMACRAO offers two $750 scholarships for members’ professional development activities. The deadline for applications is October 1 for those planning on attending a professional development opportunity between October 1, 2007 and September 30, 2008. So it’s time to start thinking about what professional development opportunities you’d like to pursue for 2007-2008 in order to take advantage of the RMACRAO Professional Development Scholarships.

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

(NOTE: This scholarship cannot be applied to either RMACRAO 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 www.rmacrao.org/scholarship.html.