

# RMACRAO NEWS

Winter/Spring 2018 Newsletter

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## From the President

Greetings and Happy New Year RMACRAO!

By now you should have received the communication regarding the cancellation of the 2018 Annual Meeting in Las Cruces, New Mexico. If you have not received the letter, it is available later in this newsletter. This was a very difficult decision for the Board of Directors. Without the contributions of the membership especially in the form of offering sessions, we cannot provide a quality conference at an affordable price.

We understand that our membership has work and personal commitments outside of RMACRAO. This makes the time we have available to volunteer and help with outside organizations and groups limited. Without our membership our previous Annual Meetings

would not have been the tremendous successes they have been.

There are many opportunities to get involved with RMACRAO, from serving on the Board of Directors to presenting sessions at the Annual Meeting or for a webinar. Past-President Stacy Mestas has a call out for nominations later in the newsletter, please reach out to her if you are interested. If you are interested in any other RMACRAO opportunities, please reach out to any member of the Board.

At the most recent Board meeting on February 9, 2018, we discussed a wide variety of items. At the 2017 Business Meeting the membership approved the role changes for our Vice Presidents. We are currently researching how best to implement these changes with regards to communication and keeping the membership rosters current. In addition, we are looking into a method for archiving and storing the organization's historical documents. To assist us in this process we are working with AACRAO and other state and regional associations to determine the best way to move forward. We are looking forward to having more information for you regarding these changes at the 2018 Business Meeting. During this time of transition, you can either reach out to the Vice President for your state or for your specific functional area.

We are also in the process of reviewing our Bylaws and Articles of Incorporation to ensure that they are current. In addition, AACRAO has requested all state and regional associations designate a government relations contact person, and there will be a proposal to create a non-voting, appointed position on the board to fulfill this role. The proposed changes that have been identified so far are attached for your review prior to the 2018 Business Meeting. Please watch for more information regarding the Annual Business Meeting that will take place, July 12<sup>th</sup>.

For those of you attending the AACRAO Annual Meeting in Orlando next month, I would like to personally invite you to join us, Tuesday March 27<sup>th</sup> at the Falls Pool Bar in the Orlando World Center Marriott from 6:30-8:30 pm for some light appetizers and networking!

~ *Stacy Sharp, RMACRAO President*

## Nominations & Elections



**NOMINATE!**

RMACRAO has the following positions up for election this year:

**President Elect** - three year commitment, *the main focus in the first year is planning the program for the RMACRAO 2019 Annual Meeting in Colorado.*

**Vice President, At-Large** - two year commitment

**Secretary** - two year commitment

Presidential appointments to the Board for this year: Web Developer and LAC/Exhibitor Liaison

This is our first election with our new VP structure. This means that anyone from any of our membership states is eligible to serve; however, we strongly encourage those from New Mexico to step forward and run for these open positions. This will help to ensure that we maintain representation from each state at the VP level within our organization.

If you are interested in any of these positions or know someone who might be please contact,

Stacy Maestas, RMACRAO Past President  
[pastpresident@rmacrao.org](mailto:pastpresident@rmacrao.org)

# VP At-Large Report

## LCCC Accepted into the AACC Pathways 2.0 Project

Laramie County Community College (LCCC) applied for and was accepted into the American Association of Community Colleges (AACC) Guided Pathways 2.0 project. The AACC Pathways 2.0 project expands upon the initial phase of the Pathways Project, "a national project focused on building capacity for community colleges to design and implement *structured academic and career pathways* for all of their students" which launched in 2015. To learn more about the AACC Pathways 2.0 project please visit their website at <https://www.aacc.nche.edu/programs/aacc-pathways-project/aacc-pathways-2-0/>. LCCC is very excited about this initiative and are starting work on this project now along with our HLC Systems Portfolio update.

~ Debbie Giron, RMACRAO VP At-Large

# VP Records & Registration Report

## CU Boulder Announces a New Class Search

The Office of the Registrar is excited to announce the launch of [CU Boulder Class Search](#), a powerful and convenient new tool students can use to search and register for classes. The new search tool addresses the most common student concerns and accessibility issues with the existing class search as part of the student information system and provides a more robust search and filter experience.

Developed in partnership with [Leapfrog Technologies](#) and their CourseLeaf suite of products, the project team conducted user testing with students and consulted with academic advisors in order to better understand how students register for classes and how to design the tool to support that process. This research has informed the design of the search tool.

After rollout in October, the Office of the Registrar and its development partner will continue to release additional features and improvements over the coming months.

## News from New Mexico

In an effort to comply with the 2017 legislation, several groups across the state are working towards common course numbering. It is expected that a crosswalk will be delivered first. Institutions will make catalog and transcript changes in subsequent years.

### Tentative Schedule

Spring 2018 – Number Assignment

Summer 2018 – Preparation of Crosswalk from current number to common numbers

Fall 2018 – Crosswalk Complete – Institutions begin implementation for 2019-2020 catalogs.

~ Amelia Jackson, RMACRAO VP Records & Registration

# Local Arrangements Committee Report

On Friday, February 9, 2018 the Board of Directors met in Loveland, Colorado. Those Board Members who were unable to attend in person, joined us using the GoToMeeting software. All voting members were present either in person or remotely.

The Board reviewed the results from the [fall 2017 survey](#) that was sent out to the membership. We received 76 total responses to the question "Will you be attending the 2018 RMACRAO Annual Meeting in Las Cruces, Mexico?", with 32 responding "yes" and 44 responding "no."

President Elect, Jim Tisdale has also sent out two communications to the membership asking for session proposals. As of February 9<sup>th</sup>, we only had 11 sessions submitted. Normally at this time of year, all session time slots (between 50 and 60) have been filled.

The Board had to have the difficult conversation about how to move forward with the 2018 Annual Meeting planning. This conversation brought up a variety of questions:

- How do we move forward with extremely low projected attendance?
- How do we provide a quality conference with only 11 sessions?
- How will we keep our registration fee reasonable without taking a significant financial loss?

If we move forward with the Annual Meeting charging approximately 40 attendees a \$250 registration fee, RMACRAO would lose \$20,000. If we decided to cancel the Annual Meeting at this point, per our contract with the hotel, we would be charged 35% for room guarantees. Local Arrangements Chair, Geri Martinez worked with the hotel and negotiated a cancellation cost of \$5,500 (approximate, Geri is still waiting for the final invoice from the hotel). We also took into account the commitment from our vendors with such a low projected attendance. If we do not have the sponsorship from our vendors, which last year contributed to and covered approximately \$13,000 towards the cost of the conference, it will make it very difficult to provide a low cost conferences for our membership.

The conversation resulted in a motion to cancel the 2018 RMACRAO Annual Meeting in Las Cruces, New Mexico, which passed unanimously. We will still be holding a Business Meeting on July 12, 2018. A location in the Denver metropolitan area will be provided for those would like to attend in person. A video/web-based meeting will be provided for those who would like or need to attend virtually.

Attached along with this newsletter are the proposed changes to the Bylaws and Articles of Incorporation as well as two membership applications to be voted on. These items, in addition to the 2018-2019 RMACRAO Budget and any additional membership applications received, will be voted on at the July Business Meeting.

In addition, Jim Tisdale will be working with the 11 people who submitted a session proposal to line up days and times for them to present in a webinar format. If you are interested in doing a webinar or maybe even a topic specific electronic roundtable please reach out to anyone on the Board and we will be happy to facilitate this for the membership.

As a reminder for those who would like to view the updated Articles of Incorporation, Bylaws, and approved meeting minutes can all be viewed at [www.rmacrao.org](http://www.rmacrao.org). The RMACRAO website has been working intermittently lately. We have been in contact with the hosting company and their suggestion is to try a different browser and/or delete history when encountering an error. We will continue working with the company to fix any issues to make the website work in all browsers.

If you have any additional questions please feel free to contact the RMACRAO Board of Directors at [boardofdirectors@rmacrao.org](mailto:boardofdirectors@rmacrao.org)

# Web Developer Update

The RMACRAO website ([www.rmacrao.org](http://www.rmacrao.org)) has been working intermittent lately. We have been in contact with the hosting company and their suggestion is for users to try a different browser and/or delete history when encountering an error.

We will continue working with the company to fix any issues to make the website work in all browsers. We apologize for the inconvenience and appreciate your patience as we continue to work towards a resolution.

If you have any input or questions, please reach out to us at [web@rmacrao.org](mailto:web@rmacrao.org)

~ Sarah Hannes, Web Developer

## Treasurer Report

Fiscal Year 2017-2018		
Revenues	Budget	Actual YTD
Annual Dues	\$7,500.00	\$3,556.37
Transfer from Savings	\$1,000.00	-
Total	<b>\$8,500.00</b>	<b>\$3,556.37</b>
Expenses		
Executive Committee	\$400.00	\$529.15
Presidents Travel	\$150.00	-
Miscellaneous	\$200.00	-
Bank/Filing fees	\$300.00	-
Advertising/recognition	\$100.00	-
AACRAO Reception	\$750.00	-
Peer Evaluation	\$750.00	\$175.19
RMACRAO Travel Grants	\$1,200.00	\$1,400.00
AACRAO Travel Grants	\$1,200.00	\$400.00
Association (Travelers) Insurance	\$1,350.00	\$1,350.00
Professional Development Scholarships	\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00
Web Support	\$1,000.00	\$621.97
Total	<b>\$8,650.00</b>	<b>\$5,976.31</b>

~ Geraldine Martinez, RMACRAO Treasurer  
Jerry Becker, RMACRAO Treasurer Elect

## Travel Grant Award

The Board of Directors is pleased to recognize the following recipient of this year's AACRAO Travel Grant,

### Jenny Primm, CU Boulder



Please make an effort to connect with Jenny at the upcoming AACRAO Annual Meeting in Orlando. We look forward to sharing their feedback from the experience with the membership in a future update.

## Professional Development Update

RMACRAO awarded **Stacy Maestas** with a Professional Development Scholarship to attend the AACRAO Strategic Enrollment Management (SEM) Conference in 2017. The RMACRAO Board of Directors considers applications for Professional Development Scholarships annually. For more information about this scholarship opportunity please visit the RMACRAO website at <http://www.rmacrao.org/scholarship/>. The following is a glimpse into Stacy's experience:

I wanted to thank the organization for the professional development scholarship. The scholarship was applied toward the conference registration which allowed me to attend the annual AACRAO SEM conference last October in Phoenix, Arizona. I am currently enrolled in the AACRAO SEM Endorsement Program. As part of the program, I am required to complete three site visits. Fortunately, as a new SEM learner, the annual SEM conference can be used to satisfy one of the site visits, which was a win/win for me and for my institution. I met and interacted with colleagues well versed in SEM as well as those just beginning their SEM journey.

Some of the highlights from the conference include the no cost pre-conference presented by Tom Green on how to write a SEM plan in an hour; the SEM-EP meet and greet; and Janet Green's session on Building an Enrollment & Revenue Projection Model. This was a two-part session in which Janet provided the attendees with sample models and time on task practicing with how to manipulate the models to reach institutional goals. This conference provided a different perspective and focus to our work in higher education, and I plan to attend again to continue learning.

It is rewarding to be part of an organization that supports its members' professional development. Thank you again for this opportunity.

~ Stacy Maestas, Registrar, Laramie County Community College

# Peer Review Applications

RMACRAO Peer Review offers member institutions the opportunity to supplement costs associated with inviting colleagues from RMACRAO peer institutions to assist with a 2-3 working day professional review of a host member's registrar or admissions institutional operations.

The deadline to apply is June 1, 2018. More information about this opportunity and how to apply is available on our website at <http://www.rmacrao.org/rmacrao-peer-review/>

*Through the RMACRAO Peer Review experience we were able to strengthen our proposals for change and gain momentum on key initiatives. We were thrilled with the opportunity to collaborate with fellow RMACRAO members to improve our operations and strongly encourage others to take advantage of this member service.*

*Katie Pederson, Registrar, College for Financial Planning*

## Membership News

**David Fassnacht** joined the Office of the Registrar as the Business Services Coordinator on January 2, 2018. David comes to us from the healthcare industry having worked for Kaiser Permanente for the past year. Prior to that he worked in property management in Charlotte, North Carolina for five years. Our office is so excited to have David join our team!



Big changes have been happening in the Academic Scheduling area in the Office of the Registrar at CU Boulder. In July we celebrated **Debbie Otterstrom** who retired after 29 years with CU Boulder and more than 20 years working as the Assistant Registrar for the unit. **Trina Hicks**, who has been working with Deb for more than 10 years has been promoted to the Assistant Registrar position. **Hannah Zdanowitz** and **Sarah Yurgealitis** both joined the unit in mid-September as Catalog and Scheduling Coordinators.

**Beth Hesterman** joined the CU Boulder Registrar's office in December 2017 as a Tuition Classification/Customer Relations Support staff. Beth has a BA in Journalism and Mass Communications-Public Relations with a minor in International Studies from Kansas State University.

Beth is most recently the business owner of Mile High Healing Arts in Boulder and the remote Social Media Manager for a lighting design service in New York. Prior to these positions, Beth was the Assistant Registrar and Academic Advisor at the Rocky Mountain College of Art and Design in Lakewood, Colorado.



New Mexico State University welcomes our new Admissions Advisors: **Jake Rardin**, **Corina Huante**, **Maddy Griffin** and **Austin Gentry**.

NMSU also welcomes **Matthew Lara** as the new associate director for Recruitment Communications and Data.

Laramie County Community College (LCCC) is happy to welcome **Kindal Strobele**, who was hired as a Student Services Specialist at the Student Hub, LCCC's One-Stop.



## Alex González

Registrar at The University of New Mexico  
Albuquerque, NM

It is with the deepest sympathy that we announce the passing of Alexander González.

Alex knew early on he wanted to attend the University of New Mexico, first as a student and then continuing the tradition as a beloved staff member. Alex held the position of the UNM Registrar for the past 8 years up to his passing.

His legacy is one of many, including mentor, supporter, twin, Lobo, and an advocate for all students.  
Alex, you will be missed but not forgotten.



# AACRAO Connections

## AACRAO Leadership Meeting December 1-3, 2017 Alexandria, VA

Charlie and Jim attended the annual leadership meeting with AACRAO staff and other regional organization board members. Above and beyond several useful procedural discussions, our main takeaway was AACRAO's efforts to become more actively involved with providing lawmakers (state and national) timely feedback on pending legislation affecting higher education. William Gill, AACRAO Director of Government Relations, unveiled a new advocacy website (<http://www.aacrao.org/advocacy/advocacy-center#/>) containing details on bills of concern, contact letter templates, and links to various resources, including current contact information for all state legislators. Regionals were encouraged to create a government affairs position to liaise with William.

~Charlie Couch, RMACRAO Exhibitor & LAC Liaison  
Jim Tisdale, RMACRAO President Elect

## Upcoming Events



### Transfer Web Forum

Wednesday, March 21st, RMACRAO Vice Presidents will kick off a monthly web forum dedicated to transfer issues/topics/questions. The forum will be held the third Wednesday of each month from 10:00—11:00am MST. An invite with details on how to connect will be sent out to all membership.

Have a transfer topic or question you would like to see discussed?

Please pass it along to the RMACRAO VP's for inclusion in an upcoming forum:  
([vpcolorado@rmacrao.org](mailto:vpcolorado@rmacrao.org), [vpnewmexico@rmacrao.org](mailto:vpnewmexico@rmacrao.org), [vpwyoming@rmacrao.org](mailto:vpwyoming@rmacrao.org))

Future Transfer Web Forum dates:  
10:00 - 11:00 am MST



### RMACRAO Reception

during the 104th AACRAO Annual Meeting

March 27, 2018

Falls Pool Bar & Grill Orlando, FL

6:30pm - 8:30pm



Join us poolside for light appetizers and networking!



### RMACRAO Annual Business Meeting

July 12, 2018

Location & Time TBD

A video/web-based meeting will be provided for those who would like or need to attend virtually. Attached in email with this newsletter are proposed changes to the Bylaws and Articles of Incorporation as well as 2 membership applications. These items, along with any additional membership applications received and the 2018-2019 RMACRAO Budget, will be voted on during the July Business Meeting.

Stay Connected

Follow us!



### Suggestions?

Do you have an article or idea you would like to see incorporated into an upcoming RMACRAO newsletter? We would love to hear it!

Contact us at [communication@rmacrao.org](mailto:communication@rmacrao.org)