From the President

I hope this newsletter finds you well and that your semester is off to a great start. It was wonderful to see many of you at our Annual RMACRAO meeting in July in Casper, Wyoming. The annual meeting was a great success. I’d like to thank the 2016 Local Arrangements Committee Chair, Kyla Foltz, and her team of Casper College Enrollment Services employees who worked behind the scenes to ensure our meeting was a success. They deserve our gratitude and our thanks for a job well done.

I’d like to take this opportunity to welcome the newest members to the Board: Stacy Sharp from University of Northern Colorado, President-Elect; Amber Trujillo McClure from Mesalands Community College, Vice President for New Mexico; Stephanie Protsman from Colorado State University – Global Campus, Secretary; and Sarah Hannes from Laramie County Community College, Web Developer. Additionally, I’d like to recognize Katie Pederson from the College for Financial Planning and Charlie Couch from the University of Northern Colorado for agreeing to serve in dual roles this year. Katie is the current VP for Colorado and the new Marketing and Communications Coordinator. Charlie will continue to serve as the LAC/Exhibitor Liaison while he completes his final term as Past-President. Thank you to our new and returning Board members and your dedication to RMACRAO.

Welcome to RMACRAO two new member institutions: College for Financial Planning and the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor. Both institutions submitted applications for membership, which were approved by the membership at the annual meeting.

Mark your calendars for the AACRAO annual meeting in Minneapolis, Minnesota, April 2-5, 2017. More information is available at www.aacrao.org. This is a great opportunity to engage in professional development with peers from across the county. If you’d like to attend AACRAO and you are a first-time attendee, consider applying for the AACRAO Travel Grant. Please contact your state VP for more information if you are interested.

The Board of Directors will have our first meeting since July at the end of October in Loveland, Colorado. One of the main agenda items for the meeting is to review the comments from the Town Hall Meeting in Casper, and to discuss how RMACRAO moves forward from here. We want the membership to know that we plan to review this information thoroughly, and that the membership will have opportunities to participate as we go through this process. There will be more communication forthcoming to the membership from the Board as well as your state VP, so please watch your email in the coming months.
2016 Annual Meeting Recap

I truly enjoyed hosting the RMACRAO annual meeting in July. With over 124 members, non-members and exhibitors present it was a huge success! Thank you to everyone who attended. I hope you made a connection or took an idea home which has made you a game changer in Higher Ed!

Here is a look back at the Thursday night reception.

New RMACRAO Member Institutions

Two membership applications were reviewed and approved during the 2016 Annual Meeting. RMACRAO is pleased to welcome University of Mary-Hardin Baylor (Belton, TX) and College for Financial Planning (Centennial, CO)
2016 Travel Grant Recipients

The following first-time attendees were awarded Travel Grants during the 2016 RMACRAO Annual Meeting:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Institution</th>
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<tr>
<td>Carla Durante</td>
<td>Colorado State University</td>
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<tr>
<td>Camden Farmer</td>
<td>University of Colorado Denver</td>
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<tr>
<td>Erin Grey</td>
<td>Western Wyoming Community College</td>
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<td>Alli McCown</td>
<td>Laramie County Community College</td>
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<td>Jacqueline Sena</td>
<td>San Juan College</td>
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<td>Samantha Sharrock</td>
<td>Laramie County Community College</td>
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<td>Caroline Soules</td>
<td>Laramie County Community College</td>
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Camden Farmer, University of Colorado Denver

I was encouraged by the collaborative environment at RMACRAO this year in Casper, WY. I had the opportunity to connect with people that held similar positions to mine at other institutions. This experience helped with idea exchange, networking and common problem solving. We often think we are the only ones facing the challenges we do each day, but this conference reminded me that within the region, there are many advocates to help us along the way. I am happy to have connected with some peers in my industry and will use the experience as opportunity to grow my area of student service based on what I gained.

Not many first timers present, but I had the opportunity to present this year. I hope that more attendees volunteer for presenting to help enrich the program with a diverse level of experience and ideas. You don’t have to only be a Director or Registrar to make a presentation. I highly enjoyed this part of my conference experience and would like to have the opportunity again. Thanks to the crew who helped organize this event. It was a good introduction to RMACRAO.

RMACRAO also recognized Dannette Sullivan from National Student Clearinghouse with A Special Recognition Award.

2016 Awards & Recognitions

RMACRAO membership voted to award Honorary Membership to Dr. Jackie Freeze from Western Wyoming Community College.

The Board of Directors received nominations and was pleased to present Distinguished Service Awards to Lara Medley and Corey Wahl from Colorado School of Mines during the 2016 Annual Meeting.

2016-2017 RMACRAO Board of Directors
Front (L–R): Stephanie Protsman, Charlie Couch, Stacy Maestas, Stacy Sharp, Sarah Hannes
Back (L–R): Linda Nichols, Kelley Christman, Katie Pederson, Geraldine Martinez
Not Pictured: Amber Trujillo McClure, Michelle Heiny
Travel Grant Recipients (Cont’d)

Carla Durante – Colorado State University

I would like to thank RMACRAO and my CSU Ft. Collins Registrar’s Office for allowing me the opportunity to co-present on transfer evaluation and attend the full 2016 RMACRAO Annual Meeting activities in Casper, Wyoming. Attending conferences like this, is always a great experience, but having the opportunity to co-present and speak with representatives from other colleges created inspiration for future presentation ideas and gave more meaning to the work that I complete on a regular basis.

Because I have not previously attended a RMACRAO Annual Meeting, I was not sure what to expect. I was pleased to have the opportunity to meet and speak with many of the vendors throughout the event to see what was new and available within the world of the Registrar’s office for technology, even from vendors that are not used at my campus. I also enjoyed meeting so many great people from our neighboring college campuses. I learned valuable information from the presentation put on by the Colorado Department of Higher Education staff. I found this presentation to be very helpful as a transfer evaluator and it provided me with helpful links that I can take back with me, especially regarding GT Pathways and related information that is available on the CDHE site. I also have a new appreciation for Transferology Lab after attending the College Source presentation, and believe I will be using it more often moving forward.

I honestly had “take-aways” from most of the sessions I attended at the RMACRAO annual meeting. Thank you again to the organizers of the event and for allowing me an opportunity to be a part of it. I look forward to the next opportunity I hope to have, to learn from all of you again! Until then, I will see how many everyday moments I can improve with a good “Power Pose”. 😊

Erin Grey, Western Wyoming Community College

Because of my experience in being able to network with people from similar institutions, it would be beneficial to allow more people from our office to attend RMACRAO for this next year. I learned a lot from my experience at this conference and I want to allow others to have this opportunity and share in the benefits that RMACRAO provides. Being able to see other institutions goals and brainstorm with them will provide extra support for our office in planning our next year’s recruitment and marketing strategies and processes.

Caroline Soules, Laramie County Community College

Having the opportunity to meet and talk with so many of our colleagues from other institutions at the RMACRAO conference was truly a pleasure. I enjoyed putting faces with names, as well as getting contacts that can help if there is anything I need from their institution. I also really enjoyed the different sessions, especially hearing some of the different ways schools are approaching the same kinds of situations we have at our institution. I enjoyed hearing about the updates that various vendors are making to their products, especially those by the National Student Clearinghouse. Something that is very exciting to me is learning that the National Student Clearinghouse has worked with the Chinese government to get official transcripts transmitted via the NSC to US schools. This has the possibility to make so many international students’ lives easier, and mine in the process. I look forward to future RMACRAO meetings with this amazing group of people!
Alli McCown, Laramie County Community College

The RMACRAO Annual Meeting 2016 was one of the most enjoyable conference experiences that I have had! The size of the meeting was excellent: there were a variety of people there, but there were not so many attendees that I felt lost or anonymous. I loved getting to network with so many people from so many institutions! The networking was one of my favorite parts of this meeting; it seemed to me that it was easier to network, and that I made more meaningful connections, than at some other conferences that I have attended. I was impressed by the number of vendors that made the trip up to Casper as well.

My favorite sessions were Jim Bouse’s session on using a variety of technologies in enrollment management, and Linda Toohey’s session on leadership. Both of these sessions encouraged me to think outside the box, in very different ways! I have already started to act on some of the things I learned in these sessions. Perhaps the most salient takeaway that I have was the discussion in Linda’s session of the difference between Words of Good Intention, Words of Intentional Learning, and Words of a Life That Matters. That has really stuck with me and has impacted some of the things that I’ve done, said, and acted upon, both at work and in my personal life, in the month since the meeting.

I am so appreciative of receiving the travel grant funds to help finance my trip to the meeting! It was absolutely worth the time, travel, and additional cost, and I look forward to next year’s meeting, and the networking and learning opportunities it will present.

"The networking was one of my favorite parts of this meeting; it seemed to me that it was easier to network, and that I made more meaningful connections, than at some other conferences that I have attended.”
- Alli McCown

Samantha Sharrock, Laramie County Community College

Attending RMACRAO regional conference was a wonderful opportunity! Everyone was very welcoming and I enjoyed learning about other institutions and meeting new people. There were many great presentations that I was able to learn from. One in particular had taught me new ways on how to make our Admissions office stand out in welcoming students for their first time. I would highly encourage others to attend and I look forward to attending again next year.

Jacqueline Sena, San Juan College

RMACRAO 2016 in Casper, Wyoming was a great experience. I really enjoyed being able to meet colleagues from other institutions and share information about best practices. I appreciate the organizers of the event and all the hard work that went into putting on the conference. Overall, the accommodations, food, and events/workshops were good. I really enjoyed what Laramie County Community College had to offer in their workshops that I attended.

I may incorporate some of their current practices regarding recruitment of programs. It was great to hear about LCCC’s New Student Orientation and the history of that program. It was interesting to see that LCCC was able to increase the number of students in the Agriculture programs by 200%. The most significant take away from that was recruiter contact the programs and left it up to the program directors to decide if they wanted help. The programs that have worked with the recruiters collaborate on events they mutually and exclusively are attending. The programs help the recruiters understand how their programs better. Recruiters generate a list of students for each week that have selected the particular program of study and sends lists to the program director. They do phone-a-thons or other activities to get/keep connected to new students.

The general sessions were fun and I enjoyed the motivational things the presenters had to say. The big dinner at the end was really good. Thank you so much for the scholarship and thanks to everyone involved that helped organize the conference.
Thank you to our business partners at the 2016 RMACRAO Annual Meeting!
2017 Travel Grant

The RMACRAO Board of Directors is now accepting applications from membership for travel grants for first time AACRAO Annual Meeting attendees. A limited number of travel grants in the amount of $400 are awarded each year to help offset the costs and hopefully enable new attendees an opportunity to engage in the upcoming AACRAO Annual Meeting.

Travel Grant Applications for the 2017 AACRAO Annual Meeting are due February 1st

Questions? Contact your State Vice President!

vpwyoming@rmacrao.org • vpcolorado@rmacrao.org • vpnewmexico@rmacrao.org

Professional Development Scholarship Recipients

Thank you to all that submitted an application for this year’s professional development scholarships. We are encouraged by the interest and variety of activities RMACRAO members are engaging in. The following three scholarship applicants were approved and will share insights from their endeavors in an upcoming RMACRAO newsletter and presentation.

Rebecca Jones, University of Colorado, Boulder — plans to attend the 2017 AACRAO Technology Conference

Amber Trujillo McClure, Mesalands Community College — will be engaging in the Council for Adult and Experiential Learning (CAEL) 2016 International Conference

Krystal Turner, Colorado State University — is going to the 2017 AACRAO Technology Conference

GoToMeeting

Did you know... member institutions have access to leverage the RMACRAO GoToMeeting account to help facilitate meetings?

GoToMeeting is a web conferencing service that allows you to schedule a meeting, utilize video, audio, and screen sharing to conduct your meeting, record the event, and more.

Contact a member of the Board of Directors for more information!
My time as the RMACRAO Historian has meant that I continue to sift through historical documents for our organization. It truly is amazing the amount of historical items an organization can collect, and I continue to sort and image hard copy documents in order to electronically preserve the history of RMACRAO.

Can you believe that we have never had an Annual Meeting hosted in Loveland, Colorado? From my digging through historical documents I have determined that we have been close before, but this will be the first time that Loveland is our destination. Here is a look back at where we have held our annual meeting in years ending in “7”:

- 2017 – Loveland, Colorado
- 2007 – Estes Park, Colorado
- 1997 – Pingree Park, Colorado
- 1987 – ? (unable to locate at this time, but if you know please contact me so I can add it)
- 1977 – Santa Fe, New Mexico

If there is anything you would like to have a look back at in a future newsletter, please feel free to contact me at historian@rmacrao.org and I would be happy to see what I can locate.
VP Wyoming Update

The fall semester is off to a great start at Laramie County Community College. The ribbon-cutting ceremony for the Flexible Technology Building, the first of two new buildings on campus, was held on August 30, 2016. This state-of-the-art facility houses our Welding, Diesel Technology, and Engineering Technology programs, and has room for growth. Our students are excited about learning in this new environment.

Over the past several years, LCCC has been planning for the transition to a one-stop/integrated services model for Student Services, which we will officially launch this fall. Our Student Hub will provide the front-facing customer service for the Office of Scholarships and Financial Aid and the Office of the Registrar as well as functions that fall within Admissions, Student Accounts, Student Life, and Student Planning and Success. The Student Hub will be located in the Pathfinder Building, our second new building to open this year. A ribbon-cutting ceremony for the Pathfinder Building is planned for January.

VP Colorado Update

CU Boulder is pleased to announce the following new hires who joined our office in mid-August:

Fernando Loa as the Assistant Registrar for Student Records Security & Access. Fernando is coming to us from University of Texas at Tyler. He has a BBA in Management Information Systems as well as an MBA.

Kristin Conway as the Assistant to the Registrar and helps to support many office initiatives, including assessment, special projects and budget. Another University of Texas product, coming to us from UT-Dallas where she served as an assistant registrar/director for the past six years. Kristin has a MA in Humanities and a BS in Business Management.

Other recent hires include: Ginni Mulder – Withdrawal Coordinator & Cindi Lee – Application & Report Developer

And a couple more changes to note: Becky Jones was promoted to Assistant Registrar for Enrollment & Record Services & Nancy Judson was promoted to Tuition Classification Manager
GOOD NEWS at Mesalands Community College

- **Affordability**: Mesalands Community College has been selected among the 50 Most Affordable Community Colleges by AffordableColleges.com. Mesalands was ranked seventh in the nation with an average in-state tuition of $1,152 and a 47 percent institutional financial aid rate.

- **Graduation Rates**: Mesalands Community College recently reported a 32 percent overall graduation rate to the U.S. Department of Education. This is more than 50 percent higher than the national graduation rate of public 2-year institutions of 21.1 percent, for the 2010 cohort.

For the first time in at least 3 years, NNMC is very excited to see an increase in student enrollment of 7% for the Fall 2016 semester (headcount up by 11% and FTE up by 11%)! After several years of double digit enrollment declines, the Enrollment Management team (made up of Admissions and Recruitment, Academic Advisement, Financial Aid, Records and Registration, and Student Accounting) worked all summer long to encourage students to come to school at NNMC. We utilized mailing campaigns, calling campaigns, and tapped our academic units to do outreach to incoming and continuing students to attend this fall. All of the hard work and long hours paid off. Now our goal is to sustain that growth and retain our fall students to the Spring 2017 semester.

On October 17th our new president begins his appointment and the college community is abuzz with excitement for his arrival. Dr. Richard Bailey, Jr. will join us from the U.S. Air Force. He has family ties to Northern New Mexico and wanted to settle here after his military career. We are looking forward to his leadership, commitment to our students and faculty and to the extended outreach he intends to be involved in to help NNMC grow.

NNMC wishes all of RMACRAO member schools and individuals a great fall semester! Go Eagles.

NMACRAO is continuing to work with NM Higher Education Department on a project to create common courses for easier transfer in the state of New Mexico. Courses will have a common subject code, number, title, description and learning outcomes. The state registrar’s will meet with HED September 29-30 and will be assisting with the subject codes and numbers for all common courses. All Registrar’s are also collaborating with the education department on how to make these changes in Banner and other software systems. Requirements for in-state tuition is also a topic of regular discussion.

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Call For Volunteers

Ad Hoc Committee

Stay tuned for an email in the coming weeks from the RMACRAO President with an update from discussions at the Town Hall meeting that was held during the 2016 Annual Meeting and next steps!
Call for Proposals

The 2017 RMACRAO Annual Meeting will take place July 26-28, 2017 at the Embassy Suites Hotel and Conference Center in Loveland Colorado. The Program Committee would like to invite all interested members to submit presentation proposals to Stacy Sharp (presidentelect@rmacrao.org) by November 21, 2016.

A variety of presentation formats are possible: individual, joint, panel discussion, open forum, etc. In addition topics can come from a wide range of subjects including admissions, recruitment, registration, records, federal guidelines, professional development, and many others.

The 2016 session evaluations provided many great ideas and suggestions. If you submitted one of these great suggestions or ideas please think about presenting at the 2017 conference. If you have more specific ideas or suggestions that you would like to share with me please feel free to email or call me anytime.

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

Stacy Sharp
President-Elect

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