From the President

I, Stacy Maestas, President of the Rocky Mountain Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers, do hereby issue the call for the 2017 Annual Meeting to be held July 26-28 in Loveland, Colorado. The annual meeting is the premier event of our association and provides the opportunity to share our professional experience with each other. Stacy Sharp, President-Elect, and Michelle Heiny, Local Arrangements Chair, and their associated committees have worked hard to create a program that will provide topics of interest to admissions and registrar personnel, as well as opportunities for professional development for all. Don't forget to submit an application for the RMACRAO Travel Grant if this is your first annual meeting.

In addition to the wide variety of sessions planned for the meeting, we will have a Town Hall meeting prior to the President’s Reception on Wednesday evening to review the proposed changes to the RMACRAO Bylaws. One of the goals I set for the Board of Directors this year was to review and update the Bylaws. My thanks for the Board for their work in reviewing and providing suggested updates. In addition to the Board’s proposed updates and changes, the Task Force also submitted three proposed Bylaw changes as a result of the survey the membership completed earlier this spring. Thanks to Kyla Foltz, Task Force Chair, and the rest of the Task Force for the many hours spent reviewing and discussing ideas to hopefully make RMACRAO more sustainable for the future. The proposed changes and updates the RMACRAO Bylaws are available on the RMACRAO website under the program tab at http://www.rmacrao.org/rmacrao-annual-meeting-2017/

I am looking forward to the meeting in Loveland and I hope to see you there!

Stacy Maestas, RMACRAO President

Book Your Hotel Room by July 1st!

A block of rooms have been reserved for July 25th - July 29th at the Embassy Suites in Loveland, Colorado for the 2017 annual conference. We ask that everyone book their rooms by July 1st. In order for us to receive this great price, we have a room minimum to meet and we have until July 1st to change the number of rooms that have been reserved.

For more information on how to book your room today, please visit the special reservation website page for RMACRAO.
Goodbye to President Jordan: From commitment to equity and inclusion investing in faculty as the foundation of transformative education, President Stephen Jordan has built a legacy of leadership that will extend far beyond his 12 year at the helm of MSU Denver. Some of Dr. Jordan’s efforts in building the MSU Denver brand led to:

- The transformation from a college to a university
- More offerings, including master’s degrees
- Improved public-private partnerships, which brought the Hotel and Hospitality Learning Center and the Aerospace and Engineering Sciences Building
- Special tuition rates for undocumented students

Janine Davidson Ph.D. named next president of MSU Denver. Davidson will succeed president Dr. Stephen M. Jordan July 2017. Davidson has nearly 30 years of experience in military operations, national security policy and academic research. She recently served as the 32nd undersecretary of the United States Navy, where she managed all Department of the Navy affairs. She is also well-versed in the academic arena. She was a senior fellow for defense policy at the Council on Foreign Relations, where she is a lifetime member. She has taught national security policy and political science at Davidson College, Georgetown University and George Mason University. “This is a place where the American Dream still lives,” said Davidson. “College is so expensive and the dream is slipping away for so many people. But not here. MSU Denver is holding the line. And that’s one of the reason I’m so incredibly honored to be here.”

University of Colorado Boulder

Organizational Changes

New Staff

Jennifer (Jenny) Primm will join our team on June 7 as Associate Registrar for Academic Services. Since 2012, Jenny has served as a consultant for DegreeWorks/Ellucian. Prior to joining DegreeWorks, Jenny served in a number of capacities at Appalachian State University. Jenny has a master of arts degree in higher education administration.

Additional Staff Updates

- Rachel Howell, Front Desk Manager
- Jori Ryan, Enrollment Processing Specialist

University Catalog

After almost a year of work and preparation, the 2017–18 University of Colorado Boulder Catalog is now live! The 2017–18 catalog marks the first catalog produced by the Office of the Registrar since taking over publication from the university’s Strategic Relations team.

We’ve made significant changes to the catalog’s appearance, organization and functionality. Catalog highlights include:

- separate catalog sections for undergraduate students, graduate students and law students;
- a new Programs A–Z filter that lets users search programs by career (undergraduate vs. graduate and professional), program plan, college or school, or academic/career focus (e.g., arts & humanities, life & natural sciences, music & performing arts);
- updated faculty lists for each individual program that link directly to the faculty member’s CU Experts page (where available); and
- course integration that lets users click on a course number to view the course’s description, requisites and departmental categories.

The catalog was produced using Leepfrog Technologies’ CourseLeaf Catalog (CAT) product. CourseLeaf integrates with the student information system to provide accurate course information and supporting plans of study, and includes online workflows for easy collaboration between catalog editors in the Office of the Registrar and our campus partners and contributors.

Fractional Credits & Non-Standard Special Sessions

To accommodate innovative teaching and learning models, the Office of the Registrar has made the following two course catalog and scheduling features available to academic departments effective Fall 2017:

- fractional credits (guidelines)
- non-standard special sessions within fall and spring semesters (guidelines and calendar)

VP New Mexico Report

It is with great sadness that I resign my position as Vice President for New Mexico. My personal and academic life have become very hectic lately, and I do not feel as though I can properly represent our community given the little time I have available. I am simply stretched too thin. As I step into the dissertation portion of my doctoral work, it is clear that there are only so many hours in the day. There is also a very good change my husband and I will be moving out of state this summer, so I will likely not attend RMACRAO this summer or be able to present.

Please accept my humble apologies,

Amber Trujillo McClure, M.Ed., Director of Enrollment Management, Mesalands Community College
Northern Wyoming Community College District

Over the past year, Northern Wyoming Community College District has experienced some changes with regards to retirement and new hires. We welcomed Dr. Leah Barrett in June as our Vice President of Students Affairs. Dr. Barrett has provided great leadership to the district as we continue to grow. In March, NWCCD hired a new Financial Aid Director, Heidi Balster. Heidi has great experience since she was a Financial Aid Counselor at Sheridan College. In April, Micah Olsen was named the Director for Enrollment Services at Gillette College. Micah has served in various roles during his employment with Northern Wyoming Community College District.

It is with great sadness that Sharon Elwood will be leaving NWCCD with nearly 32 years of service. Sharon has provided great leadership with her roles in Institutional Research, Registrar and most recently as the Dean of Enrollment Services. We wish her the best on her future endeavors!

Laramie County Community College

Laramie County Community College recently applied for and was accepted into the American Association of Community Colleges (AACC) Pathways 2.0 program. Over the next three years, LCCC will work to design and implement guided academic and career pathways for our students as well as create an overarching academic master plan for the College. Interest in joining the Pathways 2.0 project follows extensive work LCCC has done over the past several years to implement elements of the Pathways based on Redesigning America’s Community Colleges (Bailey, Jaggers, and Jenkins, 2015). This project will help the College bring to maturation many of the initiatives they have begun.

Laramie County Community College was approved by the Wyoming Community College Commission to offer seven new programs of study beginning in fall 2017. The new programs are an Associate of Arts, Theatre; Associate of Applied Science, Technical Agriculture Operations; Associate of Applied Science, Building Technology; Associate of Applied Science, Speech/Language Pathology Assistant; and Credit Diplomas (Certificates) in Coaching, Engine Management/Drivability, and Under Car/HVAC.

LCCC welcomes Dr. Clark Harris as the new Vice President of Academic Affairs. Dr. Harris comes to LCCC from Mott Community College where he served as the Dean of Technology. Dr. Harris officially joins LCCC on May 30. Samantha Sharrock, Admissions Representative, is leaving LCCC to relocate to Iowa later this month. We’re grateful for Sam’s contributions to the Admissions team and to LCCC over the past two years. She will be greatly missed by her colleagues and our students.

RMACRAO Peer Review

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 of professional review of a host members registrar or admissions institutional operations. The yearly allotted RMACRAO budget to contribute to peer review processes is $750, and is intended to offset the costs of travel for the peer visiting institution to the host institution. If there are any additional costs for travel or other expenses, it will generally be the responsibility of the host institution to contribute to any additional associated costs. Interested institutions should contact the RMACRAO President at president@rmacrao.org

RMACRAO Webinar

Title IX, VAWA, Clery Act: What do all these regulations mean and how is it affecting Higher Education?

Tuesday, June 6, 2017 at 10:00 a.m. MT

Many institutions are struggling with the interpretations and practical implications in meeting the spirit of the regulations.

This session will focus on the impact of the regulatory demands placed on institutions, particularly in areas of institutional training, programing and prevention needs. How institutions are responding to the regulations will be presented.

Presenter: Paul Kyle, AACRAO Past President

Join the webinar from your computer, tablet or smartphone!
https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/598120805

You can also dial in using your phone.
United States: +1 (872) 240-3212

Access Code: 598-120-805

Questions? Contact presidentelect@rmacrao.org
RMACRAO awarded three travel grants to members for this year’s AACRAO Annual Meeting in Minneapolis, MN. Here is a glimpse into the experience for these first time attendees,

I recently attended the 2017 AACRAO conference; this was my first experience with this conference and I highly recommend it to anyone in the Registrar arena.

In reviewing the session schedule each day I found a plethora of sessions with value and, at times, multiple sessions running at the same time which forced me to choose. Also, be prepared with a ‘Plan B’ as many sessions filled quickly and standing room only was limited and not recommended.

Brings comfortable shoes! I did a ton of walking, whether through networking, visiting with vendor’s, or simply getting from the hotel to the conference center.

Take notes! Most sessions included power point presentations but frequently questions from the audience allowed for topics to be further elaborated on.

The Annual AACRAO 2017 conference was, well, just wow! Although this was my first AACRAO experience, I’ve been to many higher education conferences, but never have I been so challenged, emotionally invoked, and exposed to such high-caliber education professionals in my life! In comparison, most of my prior conference experiences have been strictly business, but what AACRAO did so well is that I’ve never seen before is marry the “business” with our innate human instincts to care for and nurture our friends and neighbors both nationally and globally. To be touched on so many different levels while listening to Nicole Maines’ testimony of her college experiences as a transgendered youth, and how very different it was from my own - or anyone else’s I know for that matter – was truly eye-opening to how impactful our jobs are on college and university campuses. I learned many new things, but above all I learned that as Registrar and Admissions Officers, we have a duty to serve not only our students, faculty, and staff, but to serve our Country. The Plenary Presentation: “The New Reality for Higher Education” made me realize how active AACRAO is in our Country’s legislation – standing for what’s right and just for student financial and international regulation (to name a few) – and how AACRAO plays such an integral part in shaping the future of higher education in our Country. Simply to be a part of something as great as this is more than rewarding, it’s honorable.

I work in the Registrar’s Office so most of the sessions I attended were student records related, but I was amazed at the breadth of topics that were available throughout the conference. I got some particularly excellent take-aways from a session on Optical Character Recognition (OCR) best practices, and a session on a new innovative process for capturing and storing audio files for the purpose of name pronunciations, which was super cool!

I left AACRAO energized and ready to continue the important work that has been entrusted to me. We all have a part to play, no matter how small we may think it is, to better the future of higher education for students now, and those to come. I walked away from AACRAO’s annual 2017 meeting with a sense of pride for what we do as Registrar and Admissions officers are tasked with in our day-to-day operations. I cannot thank RMACRAO enough for providing me with the financial assistance to attend this Conference and for giving me the opportunity to embrace all of the rewarding aspects of being an AACRAO member. What an amazing experience! Thank you.

J. Fernando Loa, Assistant Registrar, University of Colorado Boulder
Nominations & Elections

The 2017-2018 RMACRAO Ballots have been distributed to the designated contact for each member institution. As a reminder, only one official ballot is to be returned for each institution by fax or email. It is the responsibility of the Institution’s designated contact person to call a meeting of that school’s members and decide how to vote.

One ballot per institution must be returned by fax or email to arrive by June 9, 2017 to (970) 351-1870 or pastpresident@rmacrao.org

President-Elect:

James Tisdale (Registrar, Metropolitan State University of Denver)

Jim has thirty years of experience as a higher education administrator, educator and consultant. He has served a combined seventeen years as Registrar at Metropolitan State University of Denver, the University of South Carolina, and Pikes Peak Community College. He worked for SunGard Higher Education/Ellucian as a project manager, account manager, and business process analyst for fifteen years, doing both domestic and international consulting (United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia, the United Kingdom, France, Chile, Columbia, Dominican Republic, Brazil, and Mexico). Jim earned his B.A. in Modern Languages, M.A. in Spanish Literature, and Ph.D. in Higher Education Administration from Colorado State University. He enjoys teaching beginning Spanish as an adjunct instructor as his schedule permits.

Treasurer-Elect:

Jerry Becker (Associate Registrar, Colorado State University)

Jerry received a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration from Colorado State University (CSU) in 1990. After working in the corporate world for a few years, Jerry returned to CSU to earn a Master of Business Administration degree in 1996. In 2000, Jerry became an internal auditor for the Colorado National Guard and later moved into the accounting supervisor position. After returning from Afghanistan in 2003, Jerry took a job closer to home as an Accountant III in the Accounts Receivable department at CSU. While there, he led the department in its conversion from a legacy system to Banner. In 2008 he moved to his current position as an Associate Registrar where he oversees the Banner Student Information System and manages a team of 12 staff members who perform functions including data entry, reporting, system maintenance and security, and web development. In 2014 he completed a Master of Computer Information Systems degree and subsequently became a Project Management Professional. Recent projects he has worked on include the implementation of CourseLeaf CAT and CIM, the integration of Semester at Sea with CSU, building interfaces with Student Success Collaborative – Campus, updates to the CSU student portal, and the implementation of the never-ending procession of Banner upgrades and patches. Jerry’s job duties place him behind the black curtain where the magic happens and he is interested in learning more from the RMACRAO community about the other side of the curtain.

Vice President—Wyoming (Only Wyoming Schools Vote):

Alli McCowen (Student Hub Coordinator, Laramie County Community College)

Alli is the Student Hub Coordinator at Laramie County Community College. The Student Hub is LCCC’s one-stop, comprising of Student Records, Financial Aid, some Admissions, and some Student Accounts. Alli has been at LCCC since 2011, previously working as an academic advisor. Her role as the Student Hub Coordinator in the Admissions office also includes coordinating LCCC’s on-campus and online orientation, which was what initially drew her to the role. However, she is enjoying the work of creating a successful one-stop model at LCCC and loves getting to be part of the Admissions team and creating positive campus experiences for all students and community members. She looks forward to expanding her professional development and contributing more to the field of higher education, which is why she is interested in becoming more involved with RMACRAO as a VP. Alli grew up in Cheyenne and graduated from the University of Northern Colorado with a bachelor’s degree in Psychology and a master’s degree in Clinical Counseling. She likes to stay active by riding bikes with her husband (mountain biking and cruising around town), powerlifting, and boxing; other hobbies include reading and yard crafts (knitting and crocheting).

Vice President—Colorado (Only Colorado Schools Vote):

Amelia Jackson (Assistant Registrar, University of Colorado Boulder)

Amelia received a Bachelor of Science in Family / Consumer Science with a major in family, child science and a minor in hotel restaurant, tourism management from New Mexico State University in 1998. She has worked in higher education for over 20 years, holding positions at New Mexico State University, Arizona State University, University of New Mexico, and at the University of Colorado Boulder since 2012. Amelia started working as a degree audit encoder in 2004 and over the years has moved into an Assistant Registrar position overseeing a degree audit unit which supports eight schools and colleges at CU Boulder. Amelia lead the Boulder campus implementation of the upgrade to u.achieve from DARS, which was released in February 2016. Her professional interests include building strong working relationships and networks, updating and streamlining processes, learning more about her profession and aims to become more involved in professional organizations. She first attended RMACRAO while working as a transcript clerk at the University of New Mexico in 2003 and over the last five years she has become more active in the organization, presenting at annual meetings. Amelia is currently working on her Masters of Arts in Information and Learning Technologies at the University of Colorado Denver and hopes that by having a better understanding of technology in today’s world, she can better approve upon degree audit processes.

Honorary Membership:

Barbara Tucci (SantaFe Community College)
In our profession, obstacles present themselves every day. Small or large, they can be obstacles. We, as records and admission professional, need to realize ‘Obstacles are Opportunities’. This year’s RMACRAO conference has a great line up of sessions and speakers to help us create those opportunities in our everyday work in higher education.

Jack Miner, AACRAO VP for Finance will be our Keynote Speaker.

Captain, Mike Stanley, Aurora, Colorado Fire Department, will be our General Session speaker – ‘Don’t Kill the Dreamers’!

Gardiner “Tuck” Tucker, Dean of Students, University of Northern Colorado will be our Closing Session speaker.

We will be offering two Pre-Conference Workshops – National Student Clearinghouse, Danette Sullivan and ‘Navigating the 7 C’s of Leadership and How to Lead in Turbulent Times’ with Mike Stanley. More information on these Pre-Conference Workshops can be found on the RMACRAO website.

The breakout sessions are looking very promising, Transfer Round Table, Recruiter Round Table, Managing 3rd Party Vendors, Updates for CDHE, Mentoring Yourself to Success, Everyone Communicates and Few Connect, and more.

Thursday night will certainly be entertaining, tour of the Anheuser-Bush Brewery, sampling, dinner and s’mores by the fire pit. You do not have to worry about driving; we have that covered for you!

If you are planning to come to town or stay after the conference, the surrounding cities are filled with fun activities. Be sure to check out the RMACRAO website for links to Greeley, Ft. Collins, and Loveland visitor pages.

We would like to thank everyone for the great session proposals this year! We had so many that we had to turn away some folks. This year we are creating different tracks to ensure there is a session related to your area during each time slot; Admission, Registrar/Records and Technical/Miscellaneous. There are also Professional Development and Exhibitor sessions. If you would like to see the preliminary program for the 2017 conference please visit the RMACRAO website for the program.

We look forward to seeing you in Loveland, July 26-28 at the Embassy Suites. Don’t forget that the registration is now open for the conference and you can book your hotel today!

Stacy Sharp, RMACRAO President-Elect
Michelle Heiny, RMACRAO 2017 LAC Chair

Starting New Traditions

The RMACRAO Board has decided to start a new tradition to ‘Give Back’ to a local community charity. Each year at the RMACRAO conference, the Local Arrangement Committee will choose a local charity to support.

This year we will be asking attendees of the conference to support Weld Food Bank. Weld Food Bank services all cities within the Weld County Limits through various programs.

This year at the annual conference, we will have an informational and donation station.

Please consider supporting this local charity.
2017 RMACRAO Annual Meeting

Membership will be voting on several items during the Thursday Luncheon & Business Meeting (items are being posted for review on the RMACRAO website under the program tab at http://www.rmacrao.org/rmacrao-annual-meeting-2017/)

2016 Business Meeting Minutes

Please take a few moments to review the minutes from last year’s business meeting in Casper, Wyoming.

Membership Application

Burrell College of Osteopathic Medicine located in Las Cruces, NM

Proposed Budget

Please be sure to review the 2017-2018 proposed RMACRAO budget prior to the July meeting.

Proposed Bylaw Changes

The Board of Directors completed a review of the current RMACRAO Bylaws and has several proposed changes. Also reflected are proposed changes based on the RMACRAO Task Force recommendations. Please take a moment to review the proposed amendments in advance of this year’s business meeting.

For your convenience, a summary of proposed changes was sent as an attachment in the 2017 RMACRAO Summer Newsletter email distribution.

2017 RMACRAO Annual Meeting

Plan to attend one of the Pre-Conference Workshops this July!
$40 for members/$55 for non-members

National Student Clearinghouse, Dannette Sullivan

Back by popular demand, Dannette Sullivan will present a workshop for participants to learn more about your National Student Clearinghouse. You can find out about existing and upcoming new services, and engage with the staff and subject matter experts on topics critical to the success of your institution and students. It's an awesome opportunity to come together with your colleagues from area institutions.

Navigating the 7 C’s of Leadership and How to Lead in Turbulent Times, Mike Stanley

This is an exciting workshop where you will learn the valuable 7 C’s, which are those concepts that Mike employs when guiding leaders through tough times. Because when those times hit, the worst thing you can do is panic or give up. Maybe your turbulent times have already come, or maybe you’re bracing for what you think is inevitable. Maybe you’d like to avoid those challenges altogether. No matter what situation your organization is in, Mike can help with the Seven C’s of Leadership.

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

Stay Connected