

# TACRAO Business Meeting Wednesday, November 9, 2022 Hill Country Hyatt

### **Call to Order**

Paige called the meeting to order at 10:20 am. She thanked the LAC for all of their hard work.

### **Recognition of Newcomers**

189 Newcomers participated in the Scavenger Hunt; 8 individuals completed all challenges. This year's winners are Mariza Olmos from Tarrant County; Andrea Davis from San Jacinto College.

# Recognition of Corporate Partner Bingo Winners & Final Corporate Relations Report

35 exhibitors at the conference. We raised over \$84,000 for the conference. Paige presented Jason Hale with the 'GOAT' award for his contributions as chair of Corporate Relations.

### **Bingo Winners:**

Jessica Braam Victoria DeLeon

# Report on Minutes of the 2021 Business Meeting held at the 100th Meeting

#### **Fun Run Winners**

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Angela Rodriguez – 28:41 Joseph Harris – 37:40

2<sup>nd</sup> Place:

Andrea Wiste – 28:45 Michael Klink – 40:02

Dead Ass Last: Jonathan McKissack Ashley Deck

### **Secretary's Report**

In accordance with previously approved procedures, the minutes of the 2021 Business Minutes were approved at the November 2021 Executive Committee meeting. These minutes may be found on the TACRAO website under the Resources Tab, then click on Reports.

### Members:

There are currently 146 active member institutions; in comparison there were 153 last year. In the last 90 days, we have 1 new member institution.

TACRAO membership is for Texas institutions who are accredited by SACS-COC

Subscribers: We currently have 221 active day/night subscribers; in comparison there were 247 last year. In the last 90 days, we have had 22 new day/night subscriber institutions.

TACRAO subscription is intended for accredited out-of-state institutions, foreign institutions, and our military partners; additional details and clarification of requirements can be found on the website. Subscribers gain access to the complete College Day/Night Schedule and the Listserv.

TCCNS Dues: TCCNS dues were paused for the previous year, but we did issue invoices this year for 2022 and institutions should have received those in early summer.

### **Treasurer's Report**

The association continues to be in good financial standing.

All invoices that have been submitted have been paid. The balances for the following accounts are as follows:

Checking - \$220,201.04 Savings - \$82,250.52 CD 7715 - \$50,174.26 CD 7744 - \$50,830.47 TCCNS - \$77,020.03

Last year the audit committee made several recommendations, and this year we incorporated those recommendations in our procedures.

### **Standing Committee Reports**

Posted online for TACRAO Membership to Review

#### **2021-22 Audit Committee Report**

Truman Glenn, Chair of the Audit Committee, provided the following statement to the membership for the 2021-22 committee:

The Audit Committee met remotely in July 2022 to review the financial records of the 2021 Local Arrangements Committee for the annual conference in Lubbock, Texas. The LAC's financial records were found to be complete and responsibly handled. A report with recommendations was submitted to the TACRAO Executive Committee on July 29 and has since been posted to the Standing Committee Reports page off the TACRAO website. The Audit Committee commends Rachel Fernandez for her outstanding job as 2021 LAC Finance Chair.

The Audit Committee also met on Monday, November 7, 2022, in person during this San Antonio conference to review the financial records of the Texas Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers (Audit period: Sept 1-Aug. 31). The Audit Committee's questions and comments were addressed with no lingering

concerns. The association's financial records were presented in good order and clearly, the financial health of the association is sound. A report with recommendations has been provided to the TACRAO Executive Committee. The Audit Committee commends Lori Zerr for an outstanding job as Treasurer.

Every year provides unique challenges to the association. Our review found that the Executive Committee made prudent financial decisions throughout the audit period. We extend our gratitude to these individuals for being fiscally responsible and leading this important organization with skill and dedication.

### **Resolutions**

(See end of minutes for full resolutions report)

# **Old Business**

No old business

### **New Business**

No new business

### **Recognition of Outgoing Members**

Paige recognized the outgoing members and thanked them for their service to TACRAO.

- \*Lori Zerr, Treasurer (moves to Past Treasurer)
- \*Scott Branum, Interim VP, Records & Registration (Moves to VP for Records & Registration)
- \* Jamie Hansard, Past President
- \*Justin Schilke VP for Technology
- \*LAC-2022: Co-chairs, Anne Delgado & Alex Holt (Flowers & Plaque)

#### **Changing of the Gavel**

Paige has been honored to serve as the President of TACRAO this past year. She welcomed incoming President Melinda Carroll to the stage.

Melinda noted that she has been honored to serve with Paige and thanked her for her support; she presented Paige with her plaque.

# **Introduction 2022-2023 Executive Committee**

President-Elect, Bobbie Brown Vice President for Records & Registration, Scott Branum (Already on stage) Vice President for Technology, Melissa Hyatt Treasurer, Truman Glenn

LAC 2023 Co-Chair, Samantha Taylor, Tarrant County College LAC 2023 Co-Chair, Kate Richardson, North Central Texas College Melinda also introduced the members who will stay on the committee for 2023.

### **New President Addresses Membership**

Melinda welcomed the 2023 LAC Chairs to the stage to share the Welcome to Denton video.

Melinda shared with the organization that she is honored to be serving the organization as 2023 President. She encouraged everyone to get involved in TACRAO; it's so important meet new people, network and get involved. TACRAO has changed her life, both professionally and personally. She is thankful for her NETC team and their support.

Melinda reminded everyone to remember their roles within their organizations, and the impact that we have on each student or person that we help. Every interaction creates an opportunity to impact someone's life. Be a rainbow in someone's cloud – Maya Angelou.

Melinda encouraged everyone to complete an "I'm Available" form.

Over the next year, she shared that TEC will be hard at work at either helping others find mentors, encouraging others to find mentors and working on connections. She encouraged everyone to submit suggestions in Guidebook and complete the conference survey.

#### **Announcements**

Sam and Kate shared information about the conference and the Big Event will be a Halloween Costume party.

#### **Adjourn the 101st Annual Conference**

11:23 am the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted, Brandy D. Simpkins Piner TACRAO Secretary

#### **Addendum**

# **TACRAO 2022 Resolutions Report**

WHEREAS, after gathering a year ago in Lubbock and "Setting the sun promising another century of success" we were excited to arrive in the beautiful San Antonio hill country among approximately 700 TACRAO participants as we kicked off the 101st TACRAO Conference and "Riding into the next century of TACRAO."

THEREFORE, be it resolved that Annie Delgado, Alex Holt, and the entire Local Arrangements Committee should be congratulated for their hard work and planning that once again made this a successful conference. After nearly half a decade of being on LAC, Annie and Alex can finally relax. Hopefully they can hit the spa after the conference for some much needed R&R!

This year's conference offered over 130 presentations covered by roughly 160 presenters and has taken place at the beautiful and unique Hyatt Regency Resort and Spa: an Arctic Oasis and maze of strangely angled hallways that attendees are still struggling to navigate after three full days.

Even those that were able to locate the fabled Fredericksburg rooms still aren't sure what was covered in their presentation as presenters were difficult to hear over whatever cheering or loud speaking was happening in the room next door! Who thought it was a good idea to put the Recruiter Olympics in the rooms with the thinnest walls? Don't you know Recruiters are loud for a living?

We had a record number of newcomers this year! 286 first-time attendees! Our newcomers seemed to really take it to heart when Honorary TACRAO member Darla English told them to plug in, network, and find their TACRAO family. In fact, it seems many of our members, both new and old, took the opportunity to "network" all the way through Monday's Awards Luncheon ...at full volume.

Thank you to Brenda Schumann who went full Honey Badger on the microphone - ensuring that the Honorary Members she was introducing were properly recognized and teaching us all a lesson in proper microphone use.

We didn't realize someone could be less commanding of the microphone than TACRAO past president Joe Papari, and then current TACRAO President, Paige Bussell handed us her beer... Thank goodness Bobby Lothringer was there to show her how to adjust the height of the mic... not that it made much difference... Which begs the question: How many TACRAO Presidents does it take to successfully operate a microphone?

Conference attendees were delighted to be welcomed to the President's Dinner and Opening Session by the performance of a local Mariachi - although none enjoyed it more than UT Tyler's, George Norton. We learned about this year's philanthropy - yet another wonderful cause - CASA - presented by the first lady of UTSA.

Oohs and Aahs could be heard across the ballroom as our dinner plates were delivered. Well, from everyone except the vegetarians. Who knew the Hyatt Regency Resort and Spa strictly enforced a mandatory 45 minute waiting period for all meatless meals.

Mouth-watering hunks of beef, expertly cooked potatoes, and flavorful broccoli were decadently placed in front of us next to our daily water ration and an empty space where - historically - iced tea would go. It wasn't until lunch on Monday that the lovely brown-colored, caffeine infused water made an appearance.

Also noticeably absent were steak knives. It is rumored that TEC had them removed after the VP of Technology ... What was his name again? ... introduced a new use for knives. And that's all we're gonna say about that.

Present at Sunday Night's dinner were several notable Past Presidents, Irene Robinson, John Hall & Edwards, The Lothringers - Both Dr. and Bobby, Darla English, Jamie Hansard, Oscar Reyna, Fred Rodriguez, David Stones, Sophia Almeda, Becki Griffith, and Joe Papari

Past president, Bobby Lothringer, was adamant he would NOT make the resolutions in 2022 - doing his best to avoid committee members and swearing to walk the straight and narrow. Since there were no fire pits and cigars around, he was sure to succeed. Right? Yeah, that lasted approximately 24 hours when the whiskey drowned and the beer chased his blues right to Karaoki where he "graced" us with two ditties and spun Kelsey - the Gecko Rep and TACRAO's honorary patron saint of karaoke and bad decisions - around the dance floor at an alarming velocity.

Speaking of honorary members, does anyone even know who they are? No, seriously, do you? I couldn't hear. So we'll recap for you... But before we do, SHHHHH!

Congratulations to Debbie Gilchrest, Fred Amble, Kim Taylor, Irene Robinson, Tana Miller, Sheila Gray, Mary Kincannon, Teresa Ringo, and Darla English (BTW, for the Gen Zers, Patrick Swayze did not sing "Time of My Life." At least not with his mouth. He let his hips do the talking. RIP."

Also, to the newcomers who shall not be named that asked who Garth Brooks was, we are going to need you to spend less time on the tikety tok and more time learning your history.

And speaking of history, thank you to our big event bus drivers for ensuring that we remembered the Alamo. We appreciate your efforts to help us remember the past as we ride into the future. Let it henceforth and hitherto be resolved that next time we are in San Antonio, we hire a company of San Antonio's most well-lit horse drawn carriages to transport us to the big event.

This committee would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to the volunteers from the Conservation Society that hosted last night's Big Event and FINALLY, after many days of anticipation and in a city that has been referred to as "Taco Capital, USA", provided us with a variety of delicious Tex-Mex food!

To our keynote speaker, Christine Cashem, thank you for reminding us that "what you say comes your way." It helped us to start the conference yelling "Let's Ride" as our shuttle buses didn't always give us the opportunity to do so... And have we got a tip for you.... *LET'S RIDE*. How about we all give a round of applause to the gentlemen that asked for a to-go box after the Sunday dinner giving TACRAO membership a new idea for how to save that per diem! Let it hereby be resolved that requesting a to go box after conference meals is highly encouraged. And, let us not forget...although we did not have any brown-colored tea, there were plenty of brown-colored references in the keynote address. How many times can we reference poop following such a huge meal?

And speaking of going, thank you to TEC and the Hyatt for providing shuttle buses for the conference attendees staying at the Hilton. Shuttle signage was considerably better this year. Registration signage? Not so much.

Shuttle drivers mostly adhered to a 15 minute pick up and drop off schedule - providing passengers with helpful minute by minute updates on departure times - and only straying from their 15 minute intervals to complete the daily wordle and to update their fantasy football lineups.

There are several congratulations in order! First, congratulations to this year's President's Award Winner, Kristin McDonald-Wiley who must have been too worn out from celebrating her award to show up for the 6am Fun Run.

Congratulations to the 16 runners that did wake up in the wee hours of the morning to participate in the 2022 TACRAO Fun Run! The threat of rain, the unlit course, the

1000% humidity, and some pretty legit hills didn't stop this bunch of athletes who were rewarded with cardboard-flavored water and a bag of crumbs previously known as a Nature Valley granola bar.

Congratulations to our Fred Russel scholarship winners, and a big thanks to College Board for sponsoring. We were pleasantly surprised when instead of Robert Hogeda, Lin Manuel Miranda's "Alexander Hamilton" sauntered up to the dais to hand out certificates. And thank you, Chrissy Gonzalez, for your generous awarding of 6 scholarships, even though only 5 were in the budget!

Town Hall. What can we say about Town Hall? No literally... What can we say? It was the most uneventful Town Hall in a decade. Where's the drama? The tense silence after the inevitable uncomfortable questions? The highlight was hearing all about how Dr. Poteet at Kilgore College was able to uncover a purchased transcript from diplomamakers.com when a 4 hour course was listed as a 3 hour course.

And speaking of Diploma-makers.com, we are excited to announce that we already have our first sponsor lined up for the 2023 annual conference! Please give a round of applause for our cubic zirconia level sponsor, diploma-makers.com! Diploma-Makers.com! Don't spend thousands on a degree! Get our exclusive transcript/diploma combo signed by Dr. Bud E. Weiser for only \$159!

While on the subject of sponsors, a huge thanks to Jason Hale for bringing in 74 individual conference attendees as exhibitors, 22 exhibitor sessions, and raising \$86,250.00! The vendors were a little confused when the Exhibitor Refreshment break was set up OUTSIDE the exhibit hall and their booths began to be torn down due to a minor miscommunication. But don't worry...If 2020 taught us anything, it was how to pivot, pivot, pivot.

Congratulations to Southeast Texas on winning Battle of the Regions with the most beautiful Fiesta float (complete with students! You can't have a parade without students!), but I think we can all agree the real prize went to West Texas. Who wouldn't want to go home with a golden cock?

And speaking of prizes, how about those door prizes? Am I right? LAC was able to pull together over 200 door prizes ranging from branded notepads and umbrellas to gift cards and obviously... alcohol. Conference attendees were especially delighted to discover the Texas Tech Registrar branded pocket knives and rechargeable lighters. Thanks Bobbie Brown!

However, let it hereby be resolved that Tshirts no longer be given out as door prizes as we need another Tshirt like we need another night of karaoke. And may we note that all members of the Resolutions Committee won a door prize at the President's Dinner and Welcome Session with the exception of our esteemed chair, Tiffany Lipscomb. Bad move, LAC. Bad move.

We'd like to extend a special thanks to all the LAC members that worked in the Sunday House! While it may sound like a church, the Sunday House was anything but. The Sunday House provided members with beer, martinis, dancing, and Loteria (where winners were rewarded with either a pitcher of candy or Luisa Ramirez's signature three second tequila poor). After consuming an abundance of libations, pizza, tacos, and cheese balls, we were all thankful that we could get our 10,000 steps in on the walk back to the hotel.

For those that didn't want to make the trek out to the Sunday House, the Hyatt offered attendees alcohol, karaoke, and good times at Charlie's Long Bar - home of the world's longest copper bar!

To all the newcomers who were puzzled to see four gen Xers sitting at the back of the bar - laptops open - and to the gentleman that kept insisting we stop working and drink more, we were actually not checking our emails but rather hammering out this year's resolutions in full view of the general population. Despite glares from TEC members and Paige's threat of coming after us with her salt gun, this committee prefers to do our bidding in the middle of all the action.

Be it henceforth and hitherto resolved that not even the Resolutions Committee is safe from the Resolutions Committee.

Tiffany Lipscomb was prematurely thrust into the Resolutions Chair role when Scott Branum abandoned us for the TEC position of VP of Records and Registration (Congrats Scott...). She was spotted calming her nerves with several vodka tonics during Karaoke Monday night that were offered up as a bribe in exchange for safety from the Resolutions Committee. Unfortunately Becky Lothringer... we can't be bought.

Andi Scott also enjoyed the bribes of alcohol and - after once again exiting the big event dance floor in a sweat-soaked shirt - offered a cringe-worthy performance of Lonely Island's "On A Boat" alongside Ashley "Smashley" Deck and "Keep the Party Going Kelsey". I hope we made Andy Samberg and TPain proud.

And everyone, let's congratulate Troy Bolton...I mean White on his new position at UT Tyler! Troy, welcome to the secular world of the UT System, where you no longer have to look over your shoulder each time you order another glass of Angel's Envy!

While not officially on the committee, we would like to say a special thank you to our mole, Jennifer Beal who was overheard stating that she would never really want to serve on the Resolutions Committee because "Y'all have to go to EVERYTHING! I don't want to go to karaoke! I wanna watch Where the Crawdad's Sing!"

Well, um... I guess that's about it. See y'all next year.

# RING RING RING

Pulls out banana from podium. Hello? OH we forgot TEC? We're not the only ones...

We'd like to thank Justin "Silky Smooth" Schilke for creating the new job board on the TACRAO website - saving institutions thousands while depositing .07 cents directly into the TACRAO budget with every post. Did y'all know how he got his nickname? Apparently, Justin rocked some silky green shorts to all his high school athletic events. Maybe if he wore those more often, people would remember him. How is one so unnoticeable that even their raffle ticket number is blank? Don't worry, Justin. Jamie will let you her borrow her "Remember Me" sweater next year.

Speaking of Jamie Hansard, Thank you to our Past President for doing her part to protect the livers of all of our newcomers by scheduling their event at 7:45am and providing not even a mimosa. No drinks for you!

Did you know TEC has its very own survival kit in Treasurer Lori Zerr. While last year, Lori distributed bandaids that evidently could be placed anywhere. This was not the case for the tablet sized portable phone charger she pulled from her backpack of necessities when resolutions committee members were running low on power.

Moving onto Fashion Icon and TACRAO Secretary Brandy Piner who brought a new level of chic to the big event by wearing her sunglasses at night and sporting a lovely, full-length, sequined robe.

VP of Admission and self-proclaimed "El Boracho," Chris Reed, was spotted hanging out on the porch of the Sunday house with three unopened beverages to his immediate left. He claims they weren't his but was then heard yelling out "Look at me working!" with a margarita in hand.

We'd like to congratulate President Elect Melinda Carroll for staying off the radar of the resolutions committee this year. But don't worry, Melinda. Your time is coming.

And now, our dear President, Paige Bussell. While we may have initially questioned Paige's mic skills, she completely redeemed herself at Karaoke when she blessed our ears with not one, but two renditions of The Wine, The Beer, The Whisky - complete with air trumpet.

The resolutions committee heard from a little bird - no literally - We heard from Sunday Evening's special guest, the Independence Hall Sparrow (which we may have had for lunch on Monday...) - that in a moment of overwhelming pre-conference stress, Paige was overheard proclaiming, "Don't you know who I am?." And Paige, after those mesmerizing performances, we won't be forgetting you anytime soon.

## Conclusion:

As we find ourselves at the end of another amazing and impactful annual conference, having spent time with friends - both old and new, be it resolved that TACRAO members ride into this new century with positivity and a renewed excitement to continue to improve the landscape of higher education.

May it also be resolved that membership continue to yell "Let's Ride" anytime a tip is inserted... into a sentence.

We wish you all safe travels home, and we can't wait to see you all again at next year's annual conference held on Halloween in Denton, Texas! It's about to get weird, y'all.

Respectfully submitted,

Your 2022 Resolutions Committee

Tiffany Lipscomb, University of North Texas Andi Scott–Buncik, University of Texas Rio Grande Valley Troy White-University of Texas at Tyler And Mole-Jennifer Beal, North Central Texas College