



JAMIE'S JOURNAL



Jamie Hansard
Texas Tech University
President

Greetings TACRAO Friends! I hope this newsletter finds you all well. I can't believe that we are only months away from celebrating the 100th Annual TACRAO Conference. When we started this year, I wasn't sure what the future would hold but with the slowing of the virus and expedited delivery of vaccines, I am excited that we will be able to host the conference in person. I can't wait to celebrate 100 years of our rich traditions and look forward to planning for the future of TACRAO. The thing I am most excited about is to reunite with many of my TACRAO friends. I hope you'll make plans to attend the 100th conference in Lubbock **November 7-10th**.

Speaking of Lubbock, I hope you are ready to experience the *unexpected* when you visit. Our fantastic LAC Co-Chairs, Jessica Cravens and Kat Livingston, have been hard at work planning for your arrival. They have many exciting things planned and can't wait to show you the *best* of Lubbock.

Paige Bussell, Jennifer Beal and Tana Miller have done an outstanding job developing a comprehensive slate of sessions for the conference. This past year has presented many challenges as well as opportunities. We have lots to learn from each other so if you are thinking about presenting, it's not too late to share your proposal. Please reach out to any of us if we can be of assistance.

I want to express my appreciation to Sam Carrell and the members of the Legislative Committee. You have done an incredible job of keeping us informed throughout this very active session. We appreciate your weekly updates and color-coded spreadsheets. Staying informed has never been easier.

Many of you have inquired about the Summer Meeting. We will host a summer meeting July 13th and 14th. TEC recently surveyed our membership to determine if the summer meeting should be in person or virtual. TEC is reviewing the results and an announcement will be made very soon. We recognize that many of the sessions are beneficial to both 2-year and 4-year members; therefore, we have decided to combine the Community College Issues with University Issues to host one meeting. In addition to joint sessions, there will also be opportunities for each group to meet separately. I want to thank Georgina Antillon, Cindy Blanco, Melissa Hyatt and their committees for planning the Summer Meeting. Please watch the listserv for more details coming soon.

Many of our friends and colleagues have retired over this past year and are eligible for honorary membership. If you know of anyone, please contact the Honorary Membership Committee: Joe Papari, Chair, Lee Owens and Sherry Wells.

I wish you the best as we close another spring semester!

PAIGE'S PAGE



Paige Bussell
Texas A&M University-Commerce
President-Elect

Happy Spring TACRAO!
I am happy for warmer weather and flowers but not the bugs! I thought Snowmeggdon would wipe them out but I think it made them worse!

TEC recently met in March in Lubbock to begin planning your 2021 November Conference. Jessica and Kat planned amazing meals and tours were held at the Cotton Court and Conference Center.

A sneak peek at some of the sessions that will be offered include Servant Leadership, Leading Remote Teams, Life is full of uncertainty: Reset and Recharge with mindfulness, Creative Marketing in Times of Change, Planning for Productivity, How to Engage & Support Graduate Program Faculty Directors, Using Technology for Collaboration and Electronic Forms, and Just Roll With the Punches: The Registrar's Survival Guide for Inevitable Change, just to name a few.

Remember!!!

If you are interested in serving on a TACRAO committee, please be sure to fill out the [I am Available form](#). I hope you will **all** consider getting involved. TACRAO needs you!

If you have not already, **MARK** your calendars for the 2021 annual conference to be held November 7-10, 2021 in Lubbock and while you are at it, take a look at the [accommodations](#) page so you can start planning your stay.

Our next meeting will be held in June where we will solidify sessions and events and continue working toward Setting the sun, promising another century of success!

Until next time,
Paige Bussell

BOBBY'S BULLETIN



Bobby Lothringer
Southern Methodist University
Past President

Greetings TACRAO!
I hope you are all as excited as I am at thought of seeing everyone again live and in-person next November at the 2021 TACRAO Annual Conference in Lubbock.

In years past, newcomers would have an opportunity to win a free registration to the next year's TACRAO by completing the scavenger hunt form and submitting it for the drawing held at the end of the conference during the business meeting. Since we were unable to do this for newcomers this past year due to our virtual conference, the TACRAO Executive Committee has decided to award three free registrations to the 2021 conference to newcomers to the 2020 conference who have completed an "I'm Available" form.

So if you were a newcomer at the 2020 TACRAO Virtual Annual Meeting, it's not too late to be entered into the drawing for the free 2021 registration. If you haven't done so already, please complete an ["I'm Available" form](#) to be eligible for the drawing. The deadline to enter is June 1st.

We hope supervisors will consider bringing more newcomers to the 2021 conference.

We are planning a great pre-conference newcomer reception and possibly a special gift for those first-time attendees who come to the reception.

As I write this article, nominations are currently open for the 2022 Nominations & Elections Committee and the Executive Committee positions of President-Elect, Vice President for Admissions, and Secretary. I strongly encourage you to think about your colleagues who would be good fits for these positions and submit a nomination through the TACRAO website. Also, if you are nominated, please consider accepting. The future of TACRAO is dependent on the work of our volunteers, and we need you to help in leading this wonderful organization.

Again, I look forward to seeing everyone in person this November in the Hub City. I have seen the plans that Jamie Hansard, Jessica Cravens, and Kat Livingston have made for this conference, and trust me, this is one conference you simply do not want to miss.

See you in Lubbock!

Bobby Lothringer
Past President

TANA'S TIDINGS



Tana Miller
West Texas A&M University
VP for Records & Registration

WOW! It is hard to believe that a year ago we were all just learning how to navigate in a global pandemic. This past year brought new challenges professionally and personally. My heart goes out to those who lost friends and family members as a result of COVID-19.

We are hopefully at a point where we can look back over the past year and also see the positive changes created in our organizations. Technology became such a critical element of everything we have done over the past year and hopefully will help us continue to improve and provide opportunities to support personal interactions. Technology will never replace in person human interaction but when necessary, it can help fill the gap when we can't be together.

I was recently visiting with a colleague in Alabama about doing a virtual session for their organization this summer. When talking about plans for the Fall, she was so jealous of our organization and state for moving back to in person plans and talked about what a great group we have here. I can't echo that sentiment enough. The ability to rise above

challenges that face us is a key element of being "truly Texan" and by extension "truly TACRAO". In the 105 years since the founding of TACRAO and the beginning of the annual meetings, only World War II has been able to stop the conference from taking place in 1942 and then again in 1945. Thanks to technology, a tiny, microscopic coronavirus was unable to stop the 2020 conference from happening.

Yet, I am excited and looking forward to all of us being in person again at the Annual TACRAO Conference, November 7-10, 2021 in Lubbock, Texas. TEC is working to make this a great conference while also considering travel limitations that some institutions may face as a result of budget cuts. Discussions are ongoing about providing some virtual sessions for those who can't travel.

We have a great slate of sessions that have been submitted but are open to accepting more if anyone decides they have a presentation they would like to provide. Just complete the [session form](#) found on the TACRAO [website](#) as soon as possible and we'll try to work it in. For now, have a great summer and hope to see you in November!

BEAL'S DEALS



Jennifer Beal
North Central Texas College
VP for Admissions

Snowvid is behind us and the state is starting to open back up. Spring in Texas is a wonderful time of year. Your TEC is working hard to make your first post Covid conference the best that it can be. We have been receiving awesome presentation proposals from all over. I think that everyone is ready to see each other in person and share the crazy stories that have happened over the last year. We are still taking submissions, so if there is an amazing thing that you would like to share with your fellow TACRAO members please don't be shy and submit a proposal at the link below.

[Proposal Link](#)

I look forward to seeing everyone in beautiful Lubbock Texas in November. There are so many things to do here in the 806 from craft coffee, the Texas Tech University Public Art Tour, the Lubbock Culture District, and fine wine cellars. There is something for everyone. So, don't miss out on an amazing line up of session topics and quality time with the people that you have missed for a year!! See you in the BIG 806!!

TECH TALK WITH JUSTIN



Justin Schilke
Rice University
VP for Information Technology

Greetings from Houston! The bluebonnets are in bloom—not only all around Houston but also virtually on the [new TACRAO website](#)! The longhorn on the front page doesn't look too enthused to be in the photo, but there aren't many pictures more "Texas" than that picture!

We've worked hard to bring some enhancements to the site with the migration from Naylor to MemberClicks, and we hope they will bring many benefits to the TACRAO membership. We now have a calendar, news articles, enhanced profile management, and more responsive forms. If you haven't checked it out, I would encourage you to do so and take a few minutes to log in, complete your profile, and poke around the site. If you need assistance with getting into your profile, please feel free to [email me](#).

Along with the transition to MemberClicks, we've also done some other IT house-keeping things, such as migrating away from Google for our email and domain hosting. This means that we've consolidated our main IT services to MemberClicks and Sharepoint, and that we've cut the number of main systems in half since the creation of the VP for IT position a few years ago. Our next phase of implementations will be looking in to ways to enhance our listserv experience, utilization of a job board for job postings, and further build-out of member tracking. We'll also start looking into ways in which we can further consolidate our system reliance and look at some of the minor systems that support other smaller TACRAO business practices.

KRISTIN'S COLUMN



Kristin McDonald-Willey
Amarillo College
Secretary

Greetings everyone!
I hope you are all having a wonderful spring semester.

Membership Forms

At this point, you all should have received the TACRAO VP-Technology's login instructions for our [new TACRAO site](#). Once everyone knows how to login, the plan is that we will soon send all "key contacts" a link to our membership renewal form. If you're unsure who your "key contact" is for your institution, then you can visit our search tool on the website.

If the key contact needs to be updated, please [let me know](#). If the key contact is correct, but the key contact will not renew the dues, they can just forward their email to the person who will pay and/or download the invoice so that the correct person can submit the institutional dues.

Texas Common Course Numbering System (TCCNS) Invoice

The TCCNS invoice is separate from the membership dues, but goes toward the support of the TCCNS site and other associated activities that support seamless Texas transfer.

The 2019-2020 TCCNS invoice was released November/December 2019. This year's 2020-2021 invoice will not be mass released until closer to early summer 2021; the delay is due to the challenges associated with moving to the new site's platform. However, if your institution must pay now in order to pay within this fiscal year, please [let me know](#) and I will individually issue your desired contact this past year's TCCNS invoice.

I hope you all have a great rest of the term. As always, please let us know how we can best support you all. Take care!

LORI'S LETTER



Lori Zerr
The University of Texas Health
Science Center at Houston
Treasurer

Hello from Southeast Texas!
The Executive and Local Arrangements committees have been working hard to make this a great year for TACRAO! In March the LAC gave the TEC a sneak peek of their Lubbock plans – it's going to be great!

I'm excited about our new [website](#) platform – if you haven't visited it and set up your new password yet, do it! I want to give a huge shout out to Justin Schilke, our VP of Technology, as he led the charge and did the heavy lifting to get it up & running in a very short timeframe. THANK YOU, JUSTIN!! From a Treasurer's perspective, the new website offers much-improved payment & invoicing functionality. I think you will all be impressed with the ease with which you can make a payment or forward an invoice to a third party at your institution for payment.

Technology has been the mainstay of our world over the past year, as if it wasn't already! Like many of our institutions, during this time TACRAO has made technological advances in the way we do business. While new technologies can sometimes prove to be costly, the impact of this progress will serve TACRAO well financially. For example,

the new website platform is underwritten through an agreement with AACRAO – a savings of over \$5,000/year to TACRAO! Newer, less expensive technologies also allow us to discontinue outdated subscriptions and services.

TACRAO is financially strong, and the TEC is cost conscious and diligent in ensuring that we manage the funds wisely. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions concerning the finances of the organization.

Most of you are aware that TACRAO utilizes WorkSuites in Plano as our official mailing address. Our address changed last year (5700 Tennyson Parkway, Ste 300, Plano TX, 75024), so if your institution mails checks for TACRAO invoices please be sure to update the address with your business office. Our mail is collected at the WorkSuites facility in Plano and subsequently forwarded to me in Houston; therefore, there is a potential two-week delay in mail reaching me. Please be mindful of this if you are submitting checks for invoices.

I hope the remainder of your Spring semester is triumphant, and your Summer kicks off successfully! I look forward to seeing all of you in Lubbock!

CONFERENCE CHAT



LOCAL AREA COMMITTEE CO-CHAIRS

Jessica Cravens
Texas Tech University

Kat Livingston
Texas Tech University

The 2021 TACRAO annual conference will be held in Lubbock, TX on November 7 – 10, 2021. The conference will be held at the Lubbock Civic Center. Hotel accommodations will be hosted by the MCM Eleganté, the Cotton Court, and the DoubleTree Hotel.

We encourage you all to visit our website at www.lubbocktacrao.org for updates and additional conference information. We can't wait to host everyone in Lubbock! Registration will open in May, be on the lookout for more details soon!



REGIONAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

TEXAS STATE UNIVERSITY



I am pleased to announce the appointment of Ms. Martha Fraire-Cuellar as the interim University Registrar effective March 1, 2021. Ms. Fraire-Cuellar earned a Bachelor of Science in Business Administration from Texas A&M University-Commerce and a Master of Business Administration from Texas A&M International University. She began working as a student assistant in the Registrar's Office at Texas A&M University-Commerce in 1996. In 2002, she started in an entry-level position in the Registrar's Office at Texas A&M International University. She progressed quickly through the ranks and became the Associate Registrar there in 2004. She has been active in teaching US 1100 classes since 2016. Her professional experience and leadership have afforded her many opportunities to serve as a registrar

consultant to other public universities in Texas.

Please join me in congratulating Ms. Fraire-Cuellar on her appointment as the interim University Registrar.

She joined Texas State University in October 2006 as Associate Registrar. Her professional leadership experience includes direct supervision in transfer advising, NCAA compliance certification, Veterans Affairs, graduation planning, student records, registration services, and class scheduling management. She brings 17 years of experience as Associate Registrar to her new role.

STEPHEN F AUSTIN STATE UNIVERSITY

Stephen F Austin State University's Registrar's Office was excited to provide five face-to-face commencement ceremonies for our December graduates. We welcomed back approximately 200 May and August 2020 graduates for the walk across the platform they missed during their virtual ceremonies. More to come in May! The university was closed for a week during the "Snowvid" event. Staff were at home dealing with our own issues as the students grappled with loss of power and water on campus. Quite an unprecedented situation! Students are back in classes, and staff are hard at work getting everything back to normal.

KILLGORE COLLEGE

All is well at Kilgore College. We are excited to welcome Missy King, our new reports and records specialist in the office of admissions and registrar. Missy comes to us from the KC Foundation and office of community relations. She replaces Lisa Bischof whose husband's employer transferred the family back east. With their pending retirement, the Bischof's plan to settle in Florida. Lisa is the second person launching from this KC position to Florida. To that we say, "Missy, don't get any ideas." Wade Cates, admissions and continuing education specialist, and his wife, Maria, are expecting their fourth child. Wade says he will be changing diapers by Spring Break. We spoke with Pam Davis, former assistant registrar. Pam laughed when we asked if she missed us yet. Her eyes sparkled, a wide smile developed, and she replied, "Noooo, not at all."

MIDWESTERN STATE UNIVERSITY

Three new staff were welcomed into the Office of the Registrar in January and February. Ismael Peoria is our new Veteran's Affairs Counselor and also a member of our degree audit team; and Kenley O'Brien, Assistant to the Registrar, will also serve on the degree audit team. Leslie Crosley is the new Administrative Assistant. All three are proud alumni of MSU!

NORTH EAST TEXAS COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Northeast Texas Community College registrar, Betsy Gooding, accepted the challenge of co-chairing the Quality Enhancement Steering Committee for NTCC's upcoming decennial reaccreditation. Her co-chair is Jill Dietze, faculty member, and the committee is in the final stages of selecting a QEP Topic.



Congratulations to Lupe Torres (Academic Advisor) and husband, Troy Gaines, on the birth of their new baby, Emma Adeline Gaines. Emma was born January 19th and weighed 7lbs 4 oz and was 18.5 inches long. Mom is already back at work, and says Emma grows more beautiful every day!

TEXAS WESLYAN UNIVERSITY

Texas Wesleyan has selected Alan Liebrecht as its next vice president of enrollment, marketing and communications. Liebrecht brings more than 30 years of student enrollment, retention, recruitment and marketing experience to TXWES, including substantial increases in applicants and new student enrollments and graduations at institutions across the country. Liebrecht comes to Texas Wesleyan after serving as a senior enrollment management consultant for Higher Ed Strategies, LLC. Previously, he served as vice president for enrollment management at Holy Names University in Oakland, California, just one of several executive-level positions he has held throughout his career.

Ami Dominguez has been promoted to Assistant Registrar for Curriculum Management and Graduation. Ami previously served as an Academic Program Liaison at Texas Wesleyan, and brings a wealth of knowledge from her experience at Tarrant County College in the Registrar's Office. Congratulations Ami!

UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT ARLINGTON

We have a recent hire in the Office of the Registrar at UTA – Jeni King joined us in January 2021 as a Catalog Coordinator. Jeni is a UTA alum and former writer for The Shorthorn Newspaper. We are excited she will be sharing her communications expertise with us.

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH TEXAS

UNT Admissions would like to welcome new Admissions Officers: Eva Garza, Jonathan Henderson and Joshua McGinty.

