

TACRAO NEWS

2019 Summer Newsletter

Sofia's Small Talk

President Sofia Montes, University of Texas Rio Grande Valley

Knowing just how fast the beginnings of the academic year **SPEED BY**, TACRAO's 98th Annual Conference in Galveston is just around the corner. Local Arrangements Co-Chairs – **Scott Branum** and **Lori Zerr** – have been busting their bums to help coordinate what is sure to be a memorable conference where we'll be **Embracing Our Past, and Shaping Our Future.**



Bobby Lothringer, Dara Newton and Nancy Faris have a slate of sessions ready for your review and selection. There are so many critical issues, notable speakers and networking opportunities – just be sure you bring enough people from your institution to divide and conquer!

As always, the helpful breakout sessions will be accompanied with some notable experiences and entertainment, too. Sunday will bring a chance to hear New York Times Bestselling author, Jean Kwok, share her experiences as an international, first-generation college students and help us see the value of our hard work in higher education. Monday night will include some fun, self-guided activities in Galveston's historic downtown area. Don't forget we'll be entertained by the quirky 80's cover band, the **Spazmatics**, on Tuesday night at the conference.

The Texas Legislature Has Left the Building

The Texas Legislature wrapped up its session and Legislative Issues Committee Chair, **Debbie Gilchrist**, emailed the TACRAO listserv with a list of all the bills passed that will make their way into our work lives one way or another. Keep your eyes peeled for many of these bills to be integrated into breakout sessions during the conference.

Ad-Hoc Committees

The TACRAO Executive Committee voted to appoint two ad-hoc committees in the spring. One is dedicated to navigating Field of Study requirements. As a reminder, this committee's charge is to (1) make recommendations on how FOS will be recognized and transcribed (on both paper and EDI), (2) develop a feasible timeline for implementation, and (3) collaborate with the Coordinating Board as necessary. The committee is being co-chaired by **Nancy Faris** of the Dallas County Community College District and **Brenda Schumann** from UT Austin. If you have any feedback at all, please feel free to reach out to them.

Past-president **Joe Papari** is chairing our Ad-Hoc Committee on Summer Meetings. We have heard your feedback and agree to carefully assess what meeting we have, when, and where. Please reach out to Joe with any feedback.

Meanwhile, we sincerely thank **Melissa Hyatt** of Texas State University, **Justin Schilke** from Rice University, **Denny Yarbrough** from Tyler Junior College and **Rene Prado** from Texas A&M International University. They along with their committee members orchestrated our summer meetings and have begun providing valuable feedback for our ad-hoc committee to consider.

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Behind the Scenes

The TACRAO Executive Committee meetings held over the last full year have brought other less visible improvements that will serve to strengthen TACRAO along the same lines as dedicated ad-hoc committees and revised nominations and elections procedures.

In an effort to achieve even greater financial responsibility, hot spots were purchased for use at conference planning meetings during the months that TEC convenes. This will help us avoid exorbitant wi-fi fees often imposed on us by hotels and conference centers. (Who could possibly forget the wi-fi password in Ft. Worth – Expen\$ive?)

Our first VP for Information Technology, **Bobbie Brown**, helped TEC and other committee members transition governing and procedural document to SharePoint for convenient access and preservation of critical documentation.

Many of you experienced the conveniences of streamlined summer meetings registration. TEC agreed with recommendations received by summer meetings committee members to allow for registration for meetings in one transaction and on-site check-in one time.

An AACRAO meeting of leaders across all state and regional organizations was held in Washington, D.C. in June. Having sat with colleagues from other state organizations like ours, TEC can proudly share that TACRAO is envied by many for its organization, financial health, membership and conference size, level of service by members, and rich history. So many practices held by TACRAO are adopted by peer state organizations; and as members, we should all be proud.

Despite our good practices, there are others we can always improve on. Remember, TEC is always open to your ideas and suggestions. An officer title or committee seat is **not** a prerequisite for leading!

Thank You, Sincerely

Many are aware of the work invested into TACRAO by the Executive Committee, but so many more are not. In the year preceding each annual conference TEC members on average spend at least sixty (60!) hours together keeping the organization moving forward and planning for our big meeting. Those hours are even greater when one considers the countless web meetings, conference calls, emails and text messages that are juggled.

For this reason, I sincerely thank my TEC peers for their time and true support over the last challenging and memorable year. *Former* TEC members are not to be forgotten either. The continuum of leadership throughout TACRAO's **103 Years of History** has made our organization what it is today; and for that, we should all be very grateful.



Bobby's World

President Elect Bobby Lothringer, Texas Woman's University

It's summer, so that means it's time for the President-Elect to start the process of finalizing committee assignments for the 2019-2020 TACRAO Session Planning & Standing Committees. If you have not yet submitted an "[I'm Available](#)" form, IT'S NOT TOO LATE! We need YOU in order to have solid committee memberships that can help shape our conferences and the work of the organization.

Please, if you haven't done so, complete an "[I'm Available](#)" form just as soon as you can.

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I am excited about this year's slate of sessions for the 2019 TACRAO Conference in Galveston (Nov 3-6). Below you will find a list of some of the wonderful sessions on this year's agenda for you to look forward to. We have also worked hard to recruit some presenters from this past year's AACRAO & SACRAO conferences to share their expertise with those of you who were unable to attend those other meetings. Many thanks to our **Vice Presidents Dara Newton & Nancy Faris**, as well as to our Session planning committee chairs and members, for all of their hard work in putting these sessions together.

Lastly, for those of you who attended any of the summer meetings, you may have noticed something new this year: a single registration for any or all of the meetings. This idea was proposed by **Melissa Hyatt** and **Justin Schilke**, and they volunteered to manage it. This was a gigantic undertaking, and they have done a tremendous job with this pilot program. I can't thank them enough for all of their hard work; and if you get a chance, please take a moment to thank them as well.

I hope you all survived the fun summer season of multiple terms and orientations while gearing up for the start of Fall. See you in Galveston this November!

Sampling of 2019 TACRAO Sessions

5 Dysfunctions of a Team: Creating stronger collaboration in your office	AACRAO Criminal History & College Admissions Workgroup Report	AACRAO Federal Update
Admissions 101	Applying FERPA in Real Life Situations	ApplyTexas Update
Around the Block & Off the Chain	Birds of a Feather: Ad Astra	Birds of a Feather: Banner
Birds of a Feather: Colleague	Birds of a Feather: Degree Works	Birds of a Feather: PeopleSoft
Building Prepared College Students through Dual Credit Programs	CBM Reporting Updates	College Recruitments & the Registrar's Office? Huh?!
Community College Banner Users Round Table	Data Requests Best Practices	Degree Audit Best Practices
Destined to Graduate at Sam Houston University!	Developing a Graduate Recruitment Program...from Scratch	Developing Seamless Transfer Process
Dual Credit Matriculation	Early College HS's & Dual Credit	Effective Use of LinkedIn
Developing a Degree Audit System	E-Mentoring	Enrollment Centers
Enrollment Reporting & Auditing	Evolution of Degree Audit @ Brookhaven	FERPA - Beyond the Basics
FERPA: A Case Study	Gender Designation & Preferred Name	Getting Data out of PeopleSoft
Hashtags, Filters, & Tweets, Oh My!	Hazlewood Update	Hot Topics - Admissions Processing
Hot Topics - Campus Visit	Hot Topics - Graduate Recruitment	Hot Topics - Health Professions & HSC's
Hot Topics - Online Education	Hot Topics - Private Institutions	Hot Topics - Regional Recruitment
Hot Topics - 2 yr Registrars	Hot Topics - 4 yr Registrars	Hot topics - Social Media & Recruit
Hot Topics - Tech & Data Collection	Hot Topics - Undergraduate Recruitment	How can EPS help your Recruitment Plan
How to Host a Successful College Preparation Event	Hungry, Smart, Humble: 3 Key Elements to Finding Best Fits for your Team	Imaging in Admissions to Registrar
Insight from a Title IX Coordinator	Legislative Update: The CB Perspective	Transfer Equivalencies & the Transfer Process
Managing an Implementation with a Vendor	Managing Difficult Conversations with Verbal Aikido	Mind your Own Busyness: How Self-Imposed "Busy" Affects Us
NSC Enrollment & Degree Reporting	NCAA Transfer Certification	Only as Strong as your Student Employees
PDSO/DSO for International	Positive Communications in a Negative World: It is Possible!	Prepare for Takeoff: Graduation Programming for Rising Seniors
Preparing for a VA GI Bill Compliance Visit	Ranger Ready: Engaging & Empowering an FTIC Community	Records Security: What are you doing in there?
Recruiting the Entire Family	Recruitment 101 - Tips & Tricks	Regional Recruitment - Getting Connected
Registrar 101	Residency Jeopardy	Reverse Transfer Panel
Re-visioning Graduate Enroll Mgt	Rules! Rules! Rules!	SACS Decennial Review
Servant Leadership	Sorry, Not Sorry!	Specialty Campus Tours
Supporting & Mentoring Student Workers	Supporting Undocumented Students in Higher Education	Talk Techie to Me: Improving Comm between Funcs & Analysts
Texas Legislative Update	The Admissions Scandal	The Dual Credit Admissions Problem
The Power of Lean Six Sigma	The Productive Leader	The TCCNS
THECB Residency Panel	TSI Updates	Core Curriculum, Field of Study, 6ox3oTX
Success Counselor Visit Program	Transfer Advisors @ the 2-year college Want Recruiters to Know	Where is Everyone Going?

Jabberin' with Joe

Past President Joe Papari, Southern Methodist University

Hello TACRAOans,

Your TEC and the LAC have been very busy since the last newsletter. We met in Galveston in early May prior to the island's tourist season.



Kuddos to Lori Zerr and Scott Branum as they are hard at work preparing for a great conference in November.

TACRAO is working with HPN Global for selecting the 2021 TACRAO conference site. HPN Global is a large global site selection company; we are working with Gene Rios, Vice President for Global Accounts at HPN Global. The site selection committee had to provide conference space requirements and historical data on attendance and room usage to HPN Global before we could start the search for a venue.

We looked to our western region (Amarillo, El Paso and Lubbock) for the 2021 TACRAO Conference site. Lubbock's bid looked the best; and by 2021, it will have been twelve years since the last time the TACRAO conference was in Lubbock. Gene Rios worked with the Lubbock Convention & Visitors Bureau to provide an opportunity for Griselda Castilla and I to visit the sites in Lubbock. Due to the crazy weather system that ran through North Texas on our travel day in early June, I arrived in Lubbock after a three-hour delay, but Griselda's flight got cancelled. So, I was the lone committee member representing the site selection.

There are two new hotels under constructions that will be available in 2020, and Lubbock wants TACRAO there in 2021. We will be at the Lubbock Convention Center and three adjacent hotels for the conference. We are in the final stages of contract negotiations and I am confident that we will have a final contract within the next couple of weeks.

A huge thank you to TACRAO Site Selection Committee members, Latoya Whitaker (Baylor College of Medicine) and Griselda Castilla (University of Texas Rio Grande Valley), for all their work on this committee. Also thank you to Bobby Lothringer and Sofia Montes for helping me research and select HPN Global.

TEC discussed and revised the mentor mentee event to be more efficient and less burdensome. We will have the Welcome Event for New Attendees on Sunday at 5:30 pm to meet and greet. Then we will all move on to the reception. The new attendees have an opportunity during conference registration to let us know that they are attending the Welcome Event for New Attendees. I will be reaching out to the new attendees with more information about the event. I will also reach out to TACRAO leaders to request their attendance for this event.

Part of my role as Past President is maintaining updates to our governing documents, LAC Procedures Manual and Summer Meeting Committee's Procedures Manuals; so if you have any suggestions or comments on any of these procedures, please pass them on to me so I can review with the rest of the TEC and make recommendations for changes/revisions for next year.

Joe Papari, Immediate Past President

Dara's Discussion

August is around the corner, and we all have so much to do at work, at home, and with TACRAO! It is exciting to be able to share that our conference session planning has been a huge success this year! This is due to TACRAO members like our chairs, committee members, and you! Your TACRAO and HE family has stepped forward to provide more than 100 sessions at the annual conference!

As you and members of your team start to plan for Galveston, here are some of the Admission topics you will see:

- Dual Credit/Early College High Schools
- ApplyTexas Updates
- Transfer Counselor Panel
- The Changing College Student
- Social Media
- How to Build Strategic Communication Plans
- Themed Campus Tours

We look forward to seeing you in Galveston in November if not before!

The first day of class is oh so near
The hustle and bustle on campus you hear
Our staffs are preparing to be on their feet
Our students are moving to not miss a beat
We are focused on numbers to help meet a goal
This is the time for us not to stroll
But to roll with the punches and be a delight
As we ALL are ready to have a good night
The first day of classes is drawing near
Don't forget at some point Fall will be clear!

To everyone who helps make Fall happen – Happy August and Safe Travels to our “road warriors” as another semester and season begins in higher ed!

Notes from Nancy



Vice President for Records and Registration Nancy Faris, Dallas County Community College District

I hope everyone in TACRAO-land had a good summer. It is always so busy for us in the summer, but it is still good if we can take some time off to chill. This year has flown by and your TACRAO Executive Committee is busy finalizing plans for the Annual Conference this November in Galveston. Your 2019 Local Arrangements Co-Chairs, Scott Branum of Galveston College and Lori Zerr of UT Health – Houston, are doing a wonderful job planning an amazing conference for us.

I want to thank again the Records & Registration Session Planning Chairs;

Troy White – Management, Organization & Professional Development
Justin Schilke – Technology & Data Collection
Paige Bussell – Graduation & Commencement
David Short – Records & Registration
Jonathan Helm – Certification & Legal Issues

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Vice President for Admissions
Dara Newton, University of Texas
Rio Grande Valley

We have well over 115 different sessions proposed. Thank you to everyone who submitted a session proposal for TACRAO 2019. Here's a sneak peak of the topics:

- Enrollment Centers: Changing Admissions culture one Student at a Tie
- The Admission Scandal
- Sorry, Not Sorry!
- Re-visioning Graduate Enrollment
- Around the Block and Off the Chain
- Records Security: What are you doing in there?
- Updates on Title IX, FERPA, Hazlewood, and from the THECB

We need help with session facilitators so please complete the [“I'm Available” form](#) located on our TACRAO website, under the Get Involved tab.

Have a great fall!



The Buzz with Brenda

Secretary Brenda Schumann, University of Texas at Austin

Dear TACRAO Colleagues,

As was mentioned in the last TACRAO newsletter, TACRAO membership dues for 2019-2020 were distributed earlier this summer. The primary member from each institution received the invoice via e-mail and is able to submit payment on-line via tacrao.org or mail a check to the address listed on the invoice. The primary member is also able to add and delete members from your roster via tacrao.org. Please remember that the TACRAO membership voted to change the membership due structure to allow unlimited memberships from each institution. The new membership structure is as follows:

\$150 for institutions with enrollment of 1-9,999
\$250 for institutions with enrollment of 10,000-19,999
\$350 for institutions with enrollment of 20,000+

Please note, membership dues must be submitted by August 31, 2019, or your institution will lose on-line access to the college day/night program.

I hope you are making plans to attend the upcoming TACRAO conference in Galveston. It promises to be one of the best yet and the local arrangements committee and program committees are hard at work. I look forward to seeing you there!

Melinda's Minute

Treasurer Melinda Carroll, North Central Texas College

Hello fellow TACRAO friends!

Summer quickly drifted by, but hopefully, each of you were able to get some time away from the office and came back refreshed for a great Fall 2019!



As most know, TACRAO utilizes the Meridian Business Center in Plano as our official mailing address. Our mail is collected at their facility and forwarded to me weekly. Typically, there can be up to a two-week delay in mail reaching me. Please remember this if you are submitting checks for any invoices involving TACRAO by mail. Currently, we are receiving the Day/Night Subscriptions from our Out-of-State Colleges/Universities that participate in our TACRAO organized College Fairs. Also, registration payments for the Community College Issues Summer Meeting, the University Issues Summer Meeting and the Apply Texas/SPEDE Summer Meeting are steadily coming through. If your institution has not paid TCCNS Annual dues, please do that as soon as possible as well.

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I hope you are planning to attend the TACRAO 2019 Annual Conference on Galveston Island in November. The LAC 2019 has put a great deal of work into making sure we enjoy the Island and learn a little along the way. This promises to be a great conference with a relaxed atmosphere!

TACRAO is financially strong, and the TACRAO Executive Committee is diligent in ensuring that we remain cost conscious. Please do not hesitate to contact me concerning the finances of the organization or any questions that you may have.

Enjoy the remainder of your summer!



Conference Chat

Local Area Committee Co-Chairs:

Scott Branum, Galveston College

Lori Zerr, University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston

The 98th Annual Conference is quickly approaching and the LAC is excited to welcome you to Galveston November 3-6, 2019! Sessions and events will take place at the Galveston Island Convention Center (GICC) along the Seawall with beautiful views of the Gulf.

There are three wonderful conference hotels - all within walking distance of the GICC.

- The San Luis Resort Spa & Conference Center
- Hilton Galveston Island Resort
- Holiday Inn Resort Galveston-On the Beach

In the spirit of embracing and contributing to the conference community, there are two major event changes this year.

- On Sunday morning, the Don Palermo Memorial Golf Tournament will instead be the Don Palermo Memorial Fishing Challenge! We've chartered a 70' Catamaran fishing boat for a four hour bay fishing excursion – complete with bait, tackle, and deck hands to help out. There will be competition among your fellow anglers!
- Monday evening will not have a structured event on the agenda; instead, buses will run continuously between the hotels and The Strand Historic District. We've arranged with some retailers and restaurants to stay open later than their typical hours to accommodate us!

Other conference highlights include:

- Back by popular demand is the pre-conference National Student Clearinghouse Reporting Workshop.
- The 5K Fun Run & Seawall Stroll will be held right on the Seawall so you can enjoy the Gulf breeze.
- Tuesday night, take a ride *Back to the Future* as we celebrate all things 80s! You won't even need a Walkman because we'll have live entertainment from the popular band, The Spazmatics!!

So pack your parachute pants, Aqua Net, flip-flops & running shoes and get ready to embrace the past in Galveston, Texas!

Conference registration and accommodation reservations are open! See the [conference website](#) for details!

Announcements

Welcome Michele Dunn to TACRAO. She moved to Texas from New Jersey in March after accepting the position of Associate Registrar at the Texas A&M University School of Law in Fort Worth. With 29 years of experience in higher education, Michele is excited to tackle the registrar duties for the law school. She has experience in two- and four-year public, private and professional records offices in New Jersey, Maryland, New York and now Texas. She is also a past president of the Middle States Association of Collegiate Registrars and Officers of Admission (MSACROA) and has been an AACRAO member for 15+ years.



Why did this Jersey girl decide to take on the Texas heat? Michele has family in San Antonio and has considered retiring in Texas. When the Texas A&M opportunity became available, she and her boyfriend seized the opportunity to accelerate their timelines and relocate. He currently serves in the US Army Reserves and is in the process of securing transfers to Texas to join Michele and their two dogs (Mojo and Kelly).

She is also proud of her involvement with the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life. Michele is a 12-year survivor of stage-4 non-hodgkin's lymphoma and has spoken at several Relay for Life events, something she hopes to continue in Texas.

Michele Dunn may be reached at mdunn@law.tamu.edu and looks forward to meeting and working with her Texas colleagues.

Galveston College recently hired Diego Turrubiartes as Admissions Coordinator. Please welcome Diego when you see him recruiting at TACRAO college fairs!



Southwestern University welcomes 5 new staff members to our team. Cameron Wong, Christy Adkins, Laura Docherty, Blake Sondgeroth and Jasper Paige Howard will all be on the road proudly wearing the black and gold. Be sure to welcome them!

Congratulations to the 10 Texas universities that were ranked in the top 100 most secure universities in the nation according to ASecureLife.com!



Comm Chair Commentary

Andi Scott, University of Texas Rio Grande Valley



Hope you all had a restful (or at least a productive) summer and that your fall semester is going swimmingly!

If you would like to submit an article for review or an announcement for the fall newsletter, please email me at

Andi.Scott@utrgv.edu.