

March 2, 2011 – OACRAO Government Relations Task Force Report (GRTF)

Convening Meeting - Otterbein University (Meeting Notes revised April 1 2011)

Attendees: Cindy Davis/Otterbein, Lisa Kasunic/Stark State, Connie Klingshirn/Northwest State, Dave Sauter/Miami, and Jack Miner/OSU
(Scott Burnham/Edison and Tina Hummons/Sinclair unable to attend)

Proposal: **OACRAO HELPS: Higher Education Legislative Policy Support**

INAUGURAL MEETING

This first GRTF meeting was a working session regarding issues for the Task Force to explore based upon OACRAO President Jack Miner's remarks and expectations from the Board – to explore various issues, identify sources of information, and ultimately develop a report to the OACRAO Membership at the Fall 2011 Conference as well as recommendation for an OACRAO Committee to Past President Treva Hanseman.

GRTF MEMBER INTEREST

Dave brings OBOR insight, Lisa is involved in OBUG/OBOR/ATC, Cindy brings private institution and public service background, Scott and Tina bring two-year institutional experiences, and Jack brings the OACRAO/AACRAO connection and political interest.

SOURCE DOCUMENTS (pre-meeting)

- Brad Myers 1/24/11 email
- AACRAO Public Policy Advisory insight
- AACRAO State/Regional Associations (with Connie Goodman/OSU as Chair and Treva Hanseman/UC Member of AACRAO State and Regional Relations Committee)
- AACRAO Longitudinal Data Concerns article
- Federal Compliance

MARCH 2, 2011 MEETING AGENDA

Part One: INTRODUCTIONS - To each other, interest in this Task Force, and expectations (all)

Part Two: BACKGROUND FROM OACRAO BOARD to GRTF (Jack)

- Many issues are state-based for OACRAO and other organizations; we could have a “voice at the table” and helped shape the future conversations and initiatives
- “State law” is often the root of the issue; to be at the table would enable us to testify as “experts”
- How to participate in the various discussions? A formalized OACRAO approach is one way.
- OBOR partnering
- GRTF Charge – to frame the discussion
 - OACRAO may not as valuable for seasoned professionals currently as it is for new/mid-career professionals.
 - At some point in the professional continuum there is not as much for seasoned professionals to gain from an organization, so how can initiatives be developed to have member engagement at all stages?
 - As an OACRAO organization this initiative can add value – utilize the seasoned professionals to help educate legislators and appropriately influence.

- OBOR of the future seems more receptive to listening to OACRAO opinions (as well as other organizations) than “directing” – new Chancellor brings new opportunities; with the new administration brings “new introductions” to them/us.
- Ohio House – new leadership, new faces, and new views – perhaps they would welcome a visit more so than seasoned leaders, particularly since Registrars are more “conservative” than others and so our voice is an advantage. Registrars share

Part Three: *OACRAO HELPS*

- Develop ways to be engaged at both state and federal legislative levels.
- Develop ways to be engaged with OBOR.
- Develop tangible information to OACRAO such as an ***OACRAO HELPS*** list serve for the “to be aware of” issues, for “input needed” moments, and the occasional “call to action.”
- Work alongside with the other O’s – OTC, OIR, OASFA, etc., – like minded missions on (a) legislative issues and (b) other association similarities – including efficiencies such as (C) co-located conference as well as (d) day-long theme of Wednesday a.m. workshop followed by related sessions.

Part Four: GRTF TASKS and TIMING

- Permanent OACRAO Committee – one goal is to move from task force to committee.
 - Submit draft to Treva Hanseman, Past President, who chairs the Bylaws Committee: late summer/early fall.
- OACRAO Newsletter - Cheryl Gloege, Communication Committee Chair
 - Develop ongoing ***OACRAO HELPS*** article for the next Newsletter – April 2011
- “OACRAO 101” for legislators (refer to OACRAO Board for insights)
 - Sponsor half-day workshop for meeting with legislators/OACRAO members, - a.m. how legislative process works; lunch to match OACRAO with districts; p.m. a “day in the life of OACRAO initiatives” – consider a Columbus “rally” to build up the excitement level, and follow up in home district with 1:1
 - Strategize @ Statehouse efforts; develop program of visits in Ohio Districts; June-Aug is legislative break for some local visits.
 - Meet with selected Institutional Relations staff to discuss possibilities, i.e., “lobby day” – “legislative education day” working with our established campus partners.
- Continue Ohio 5-O conversations – various state organizations, invite ourselves to the table as an “industry” colleague – i.e., ATC needs OTC/OACRAO member; ATC Data Standards Committee
- Develop an OACRAO “talent list” of government relations issues
 - Identify areas of interest of our members, outside of our “day jobs.” (i.e., political fund-raising)
- Ohio 5-O meeting and possibilities (Jack) (see notes from above)
 - OBOR portal – “announced” about creating student portal connecting all universities to all students – to do any kind of business (register, pay) from OBOR website. Possibly OBOR has backed off a bit after the message from Ohio 5-0 – not philosophically opposed to the portal, but OBOR does not develop a priority/structured approach.
 - General concern re: OBOR is to finish one project (or at least have an end in sight) – semesters, e-transcripts/HUB, portal, etc. Can Ohio 5-0 help OBOR with a “reality check?”
 - Data standards – not likely a topic, since the ATC Data Standards Committee may bring some resolution.
 - Have HUB available to privates – re-start the dialogue on a broader state scale, so within private institutional admission/registrar offices the value can be recognized.

- Promote various hosted topical meetings/workshops – i.e., hub – Columbus drive in day, with OBOR co-presenter
- Plan a visit from Barmak to Ohio ASAP
- Fact/Issue Finding: Where to seek out information: and how to forward insights as they come in from ANY source:
 - OBOR
 - State of Ohio – Ohio Department of Education
 - K-12 High schools – PSEO, Senior to Sophomore initiative
 - Common high school transcripts - Lisa Kasunic’s prior committee... current status? Docufide has contract for the state. (OBOR 4/7/11 workshop topic)
 - AACRAO
 - Bruce Cunningham/Duke attending OACRAO Conference – use for morning workshop with afternoon session
 - See March 30, 2011 document from Barmak and Dave March 23-28 conversations
 - AACRAO Government Relations Committee: Betty Huff’s message is to join the AACRAO Task Force. Started as a task force with Jack Miner as former member, keep – link to http://www.aacrao.org/federal_relations/
 - Longitudinal Data Concerns topic: http://www.aacrao.org/transcript/index.cfm?fuseaction=show_view&doc_id=4938
 - AACRAO Resources: <http://www.aacrao.org/about/contact.cfm>
 - Other associations (a) are there other list serves (b) regulations/committees – word search
 - Financial Aid
 - Admission
 - Ohio Transfer Council
 - Institutional Research
 - Institutional Relations campus offices
 - General Counsel
 - Bursar
 - CLHE Council of Law in Higher Ed
 - Federal Regulations Tracker
 - Congressional Connection
 - Prior OACRAO work
 - Brad’s role was “watchdog”
 - 2-year organizations
 - 4-year organizations
 - State Government bodies and State Higher Education organizations
 - IUC, OACC, and AICUO
 - Ohio General Assembly
 - Ohio Dept. Ed – K-20
 - Veterans Affairs
 - Ohio Department of Job and Family Services
 - Guidance counselor associates (NE Ohio)

EMAIL between Dave and GRTF March 8, 2011:

Each GRTF member has assignments as follows:

- (a) Connie, Tina, and Scott to take the AACRAO State and Regional Association list and comb their website (i.e., play DETECTIVE and FACT FINDER) for:
 - a. Committees, and any text/insights related to government relations, policy, and related verbiage
 - b. Review for current meetings/events involve these same topics
 - c. Look for the name(s) and titles (i.e., Board position?) of who are the contacts
 - d. Provide both the Association's URL as well as e-newsletter link
 - e. Anything else which looks related to our task – including (as we saw from one Association already) if a site of government relations is shut down for now.

Connie, Tina, and Scott use this breakdown:

- **Connie** takes the Regional Associations (i.e., SACRAO) – be sure to list the states within the regional – we added NY/NJ and Upper Midwest
 - **Tina** takes State Associations A-L (need status check 3/30/11)
 - **Scott** takes State Associations M-W (need status check 3/30/11)
- (b) OBOR and Ohio Department of Education – **Lisa's** area of responsibility – similar to above, take a deep dive into these groups to see what you find, who oversees government relations tasks, etc.
 - (c) Other O's such as OTC/Ohio Transfer Council - **Cindy's** area of responsibility with Jack's input of the specific groups which are part of our "Ohio 5-0"
 - (d) AACRAO/BARMAK – **Dave's** area of responsibility (conference calls with Barmak in 3/30/11 document)
 - (e) Talent List – Jack/OACRAO Board area of responsibility (Jack, I added this request – to discuss with the OACRAO Board at your upcoming meeting, and that be the conduit for Janine Shambaugh/M&M Committee) - not necessary a resource list of adm/reg expertise but other areas of interest/expertise. For example, who is an expert on political fund raising among our ranks? Who has had significant involvement in another association, such as OTC? One approach might be a newsletter "ask" about nominating yourself/others for some expertise
 - (f) Googling – all of our responsibility - think in terms of a URL resource list, to share so we can have various possibilities from which to narrow our scope, purpose, task