

Spring has finally arrived and with it comes many new beginnings. Our graduates look toward their future as they don a cap and gown for commencement ceremonies and their move into the world of work or additional studies. High school graduates look forward to the beginning of their college or university experiences. For each of us, the spring is a time to renew our commitments. Often we vow to finish up a remaining task or to begin a project we have been putting off. For all of us spring is a chance to start fresh.



We are now half way through the OACRAO year and our Local Arrangements Committee has been very busy making plans for our annual conference November 2-4, 2005. As we plan to “Experience Columbus” we look forward to the pending announcement of our guest speakers. In addition to a strong program there will be plenty of opportunities to network with our colleagues. This year, as in the past, we will welcome our new members and first time attendees at our OACRAO Annual Conference. I hope that many of you will consider becoming mentors and helping new members and first time attendees become an active part of OACRAO. Without active participants and volunteers at all levels, we could not be the strong, productive organization that we have become.

In April, several of us had the opportunity to attend the AACRAO conference in New York City. Sessions covered a multitude of topics and there were many opportunities to meet with other OACRAO and AACRAO members during the conference. New York is such a wonderful city and they certainly rolled out the red carpet for us as we visited. Former Mayor Rudy Giuliani was the closing speaker and what a dynamic presenter! He took us through the lifetime experiences that made him the person he is today and how they helped him deal with the extremely difficult decisions that needed to be made on and shortly after September 11, 2001. For those of us that visited Ground Zero, it is still a place that evokes strong feelings and deep thoughts.

The Communications Committee is undertaking a huge project – the redesign of our website. We have a great deal of information at our fingertips via our website and as many of you recall, we won an Ockerman Award from AACRAO in 1999 when our website was first unveiled. Although still very useful, it has become a bit dated and so we have set aside some funding to help our webmaster bring it up to date. It will be a great deal of work but very exciting to see the finished product. With luck, we may even see some of the changes by our fall meeting!

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Don't forget to check this newsletter for articles about upcoming workshops, the fall conference and sessions to be presented, and updates on OACRAO members. Be sure to read the new conference registration guidelines and how this may help you better budget for conference expenditures. Finally, check out our historian's article where Dave Sauter shares his perspectives on our daily challenges.

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Finally, I have a request of each of you. If you know of an OACRAO member who will be retiring this year, please send their name, institution and the date of their retirement to Marian Hogue at mjh6@po.cwru.edu. We would very much like to recognize these OACRAO members at our annual conference but need your help in identifying them.

I hope you find some time in each busy day to enjoy the spring and summer months!

Connie Goodman
President

From the Vice President-Programs

Members of the four program committees are working on sessions for the Fall Conference. Session topic ideas and possible presenters were identified at the February planning meeting.

One of the hot topics for this year's conference will be new information on 'Transfer and Articulation Guides' coming out of House Bill 95 legislation. Updates on new rules and regulations concerning transfer students and information related to CAS will be included.

An outgrowth of the HB 95 legislation is the requirement for electronic exchange of transcript information between public institutions. One or more sessions will most likely include information on XML processing and the mapping of transcript data to meet the standards being established by OBOR for this exchange.

You can expect more sessions that address the issues of admissions and recruitment at this year's conference. The Admissions Committee hopes to offer several sessions this year.

If you have a presentation you'd like to give at the conference but don't know who to call – CALL ME at 216-987-5156.

Sue Schillings
VP for Programs

From the Vice President-Workshops

Sixty-four attendees of the OACRAO Support Staff Day on April 6 learned how to energize their workplaces! Debra McBride from Gehlauf & Associates, a firm that specializes in employee relations, combined principles from the FISH philosophy with positive co-workers relations concepts for an informative, interactive workshop.

Held at Capital University, in conjunction with Capital's Human Resources department, the workshop was quite successful. Capital's hospitality and the delicious food that was served were real winners! Many thanks to Amy Adams and Theresa Feldmeier for helping to coordinate the workshop.

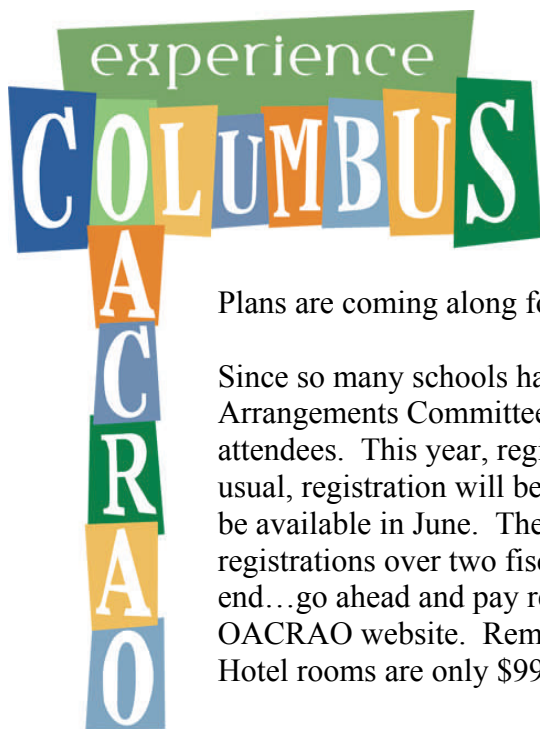
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Registration has begun for the 9th Annual Residency Update, which will be held at Otterbein College on June 21st. Lorinda Bishop, registrar at the University of Toledo will facilitate the proceedings with Jay Johnson from the Ohio Board of Regents. We are also expecting a representative from the U.S. Department of Justice, INS to participate. You may register at <http://www.oacrao.ohiou.edu/workshop.html>.

Watch for information regarding our July 19 Support Staff Workshop at John Carroll University!

BIG NEWS! WHEN YOU REGISTER ON THE WEB FOR A WORKSHOP, YOU ARE NOW ABLE TO PAY BY CREDIT CARD! A link to PayPal from the online registration form makes registration and payment easy! Big thanks to Deb Benton and Jack Miner for setting this up.

Beth Egan



2005 Conference Update

Plans are coming along for the 2005 conference in Columbus.

Since so many schools have had tight budgets over the past few years, the Local Arrangements Committee has made plans that will hopefully allow offices to send more attendees. This year, registration for the 2005 conference will be available twice! As usual, registration will be available in the fall. However, this year, registration will also be available in June. The hope is that this will allow schools on tight budgets to spread registrations over two fiscal years. For example...have some money left over at year end...go ahead and pay registration fees now. Look for more information on the OACRAO website. Remember that registration fees are \$185 for the full conference. Hotel rooms are only \$99 a night.

Remember that this is meant to be a lead in to a family friendly weekend. In addition to a great conference, we plan to have extended entertainment options for families that want to come into town and stay through the weekend. For more information on all Columbus has to offer, visit www.experiencecolumbus.com.

Its not too late to join the LAC committee. If you are interested, please contact Jack Miner at miner.10@osu.edu or Frank Yanchak at yanchakf@franklin.edu.

Don't forget to mark your calendars for the conference....November 2nd through 4th, 2005.



Although I've been an OACRAO member for about 14 years, I had never attended an AACRAO annual meeting. That changed this year when I attended my first national meeting in New York City. From the First-Time Attendee session to the closing session with Rudy Giuliani as the speaker, it was a whirlwind of activity. The hotel was perfectly located in Manhattan, just a few blocks from Times Square, Rockefeller Center, Central Park and

the Theater District. What a great choice by the LAC! Since meals are not included as part of the conference fee, the street vendors, with their breakfast bagels and Danish, and the lunchtime hot dogs or gyros, were a real bargain. I was feeling like quite the New Yorker drinking my coffee and eating my bagel as I walked down 6th Avenue!

Of course I was there for the conference sessions and there were plenty to choose from. In fact there were so many choices it was sometimes difficult to decide! From FERPA issues to transfer issues, or using pivot tables in Excel to setting up new Student Information systems, the session topics covered a broad spectrum. Regardless of your job's focus there was something for everyone.

In the evening you were 'on your own' and what better place could there be than to be in New York City? Just walking in Times Square with all of the lights and people made for some great free entertainment. And whether the choice was cheesecake at the Stage Door Deli or a hamburger at the Broadway Diner, there were many restaurants to choose from. Many people also decided to catch a show. Yes, we do have 'Broadway in Columbus', but it isn't quite the same as Broadway in New York!

There were many OACRAO members attending in New York and some of us got together for dinner one evening at Rosie O'Grady's, just a short walk from the hotel. It was nice to have the opportunity to sit down and chat with people that we usually see only at our own conference in November.

Although there were no meals as part of the conference, there were morning and afternoon snack breaks in the exhibitor/vendor areas. This area was amazing, spread out over several floors, the exhibitors all had lots of information to hand out. Many of the vendors that we see at OACRAO were there but there were also many more which were new to me. It was a great opportunity to pick up new information to take back to the office.

I am so glad to have had the chance to attend the AACRAO conference. We have a wonderful state conference to attend each fall, but I found it to also be extremely worthwhile to see the organization at the national level. It may not be easy to find the funds in each year's budget but whenever possible I would encourage people to attend. Even if only one person from an office can participate, the information they can bring back to share with others makes it a worthwhile experience.

Cheryl Gloege
Newsletter Editor

Historian's Corner

Timing

This article comes to you from "Banner Central" at Wright State University, deep in the heart of the campus where seasoned professionals are being trained on new software. We're implementing SunGard SCT Banner suite of products, beginning in June with Finance. We may be seasoned, but with what we don't know yet we feel more like "seasonal help" just arriving on the scene.

The implementation is taking it's toll, as those of us who have done this before can attest. At WSU when the implementation schedule was developed for the Banner product, I layered over it our own office staff

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retirement calendar. The intersection was scary! Thus far we have had three retirements in the past six months, all three earlier than planned. Three more will occur in the next three years. Major surgery has pulled one administrator out for three months. A temporary staffing service has enabled us to backfill with three temporary (and wonderful!) staff members. Things really do occur in THREE'S but we're anxious for having this all quiet down.

From a Historian's perspective, I'm reminded that a look to the future begins with a look to the past and present. Certainly we did that step as Banner was on the horizon. It seems that with the recent flurry of changes in admission, registrar, and enrollment offices throughout the state, the increased rate of turnover is just another issue to factor in to everything that changes. If you haven't taken the time to do so, look at your staff and of those critical offices with whom you link...will there be retirements/departures in college schedulers? In dean's offices for academic and curricular policies? In other student services offices we co-exist with? It's no wonder more schools are implementing packaged systems that (hopefully) rely on the vendor more than the collective historical perspective of staff...who leave or retire.

Amidst all of this, it's still a time to be re-invented professionally, acquiring new skills, and accomplishing new goals. But...take the time to assess the realities around us of software and staffing amidst changes in technology, professional development, software, and organizational and campus cultural changes.

As for me, it's back to Banner as well as my "day job" of serving the masses!

Dave Sauter
Historian

Updates from around the state....

From Bowling Green State University:

The office of the Vice Provost for Academic Services at Bowling Green State University announces the appointment of Christopher Cox to the position of University Registrar. Chris joins BGSU from Cornell University, where he served as Associate Registrar. He has particular experience with systems conversions and PeopleSoft products, FERPA requirements, and online student systems. Chris began his appointment on March 31, 2005. Laura Waggoner, Director of Registration & Scheduling, served as Interim Registrar.

From Cleveland State University

Marian Sofish, Associate University Registrar, will be leaving CSU. She has accepted the position of Director of Registrar Services at San Jose State University effective Aug. 1st. Marian was the OACRAO Chair for the Data Management Committee.

From Xavier University

David McGinnis, who has served as Assistant Registrar at Xavier University for the past 3 years, moves to the Middletown branch of Miami University on June 1, 2005 to begin his tenure as Registrar.

From Bluffton University:

Chris Jebson will become Director of Admissions on July 1. He was most recently Dean of Students at Dana College in Blair, NE.

Jenelle Musselman will begin an assignment as Admissions Counselor August 15. Jenelle is a 2005 graduate of Bluffton University.

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From The University of Toledo

Dan Kall, Assistant Registrar, was the honored recipient of the Pacesetter Award at the May 5th Year of the Adviser Awards Program. The Pacesetter Award recognizes someone who is not an adviser, but whose actions support advising at The University of Toledo. Dan received a monetary award for the honor which was funded by a grant from the First-Year Experience Program.

April showers bring May flowers. May also brought the Registrar's Office many changes. Dan DeNardy assumed his responsibilities as Assistant Registrar for the Service Center and Scheduling on May 9. Dan began working at The University of Toledo in Admission as a student tour guide; after graduation he continued working in that office. He held the position of Assistant Director of Undergraduate Admission before he accepted the position in our office.

Doug Alder started working on May 23 at the Service Center as a Public Inquiries Assistant. Doug formerly worked in Residence Life and is now working under Dan's supervision.

We are extremely fortunate to have both Dan DeNardy and Doug Alder as new members of our team.

With bittersweet feelings, Jo Anderson, Records Management Officer, retired May 31. A farewell gathering was held in Jo's honor. Jo had been working at the University for over 16 years. We enjoyed working with Jo and she will be deeply missed.

From Mount Union College

Mount Union College will have a new president, Dr. Richard F. Giese, starting in July.

Planning ahead?? Be sure to mark your calendars for these future dates

9th Annual Residency Update - June 21 - Otterbein College
AACRAO Technology Conference - Oct 9-11 Atlanta GA
OACRAO 2005 Experience Columbus - Nov 2-4
15th Annual Strategic Enrollment Management Conference -
(SEM XV) - Nov 13-16 - Chicago, IL
AACRAO 2006 - April 17-20, 2006- San Diego, CA
OACRAO 2006 - November 1-3, 2006 - Toledo area

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