

# The UMACRAO Quarterly

Newsletter of the Upper Midwest Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers

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## UMACRAO Annual Meeting Summary

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## Looking Back on the UMACRAO Annual Meeting

*submitted by Ingrid Nuttall, UMACRAO President*

Like all of you, I have been swept up with the usual business and bustle of the academic year since our gathering at the La Crosse Center for the second UMACRAO/WACRAO joint annual meeting. Sitting down to write this article is the first time I have actually spent reflecting on that experience and what it meant, and I don't think that's okay. I encourage all of you to do your best to dedicate time every week (or even every month) to taking a moment to think about your work in the context of what you learn from professional development opportunities like the joint conference. If you weren't able to attend, take time to seek out information from your colleagues, or just give yourself some room to think rather than respond. Thinking: it does a mind good.

We were so fortunate to have AACRAO Executive Director Michael Reilly at our conference. His legislative update on the heels of the elections provided a unique perspective on the future of higher education (and the current state of affairs). Mr. Reilly [even wrote about his experience at our conference in a recent Executive Director Update](#). I strongly encourage all of you to get involved in AACRAO, either through a committee; by submitting a presentation for an annual meeting; or taking advantage of one of their many professional development opportunities. Some things cost money, but many don't. [Visit their website to see the latest news](#).

Darin Eich, Ph.D. kicked off our conference with an engaging exercise about broadening our circle of engagement and taking the time to get

feedback from others. Minnesota State Supreme Court Justice Alan Page (and former Minnesota Viking) closed our conference with a poignant reflection on his own experiences, and issues of race, education, and how we can each make a difference by sharing our time and knowledge with others who need us.

What made the conference most memorable for me, however, was the sessions I had the opportunity to attend. Learning from my colleagues makes me feel lucky; when I hear about what others are doing at their institutions it makes me want to try new things, and the fact that I am part of a community that has so much to share is fortunate beyond words. Thank you to everyone who took the time to share their stories, knowledge, and challenges at our conference.

Planning will begin soon for next year's conference in Iowa. Again, I feel lucky to be a part of that process and I strongly encourage you to participate in UMACRAO in some shape or form. Being a UMACRAO member means you have a library of resources and an army of support at your disposal. Take the time to take advantage of it.



## New UMACRAO Officers Chosen

Congratulations to Julie Fell, our new President-elect. Julie has been an active member of UMACRAO, having served as chair of the Local Arrangements and Site Selection committees and also as Vendor Chair. In addition, Julie was the 2007-2008 Exemplary New Member.

## Join us in 2013

The 2013 UMACRAO Annual Meeting will be held in October 27 - 29 in Cedar Rapids, IA. The meeting will be held at the [Kirkwood Center](#) and [The Hotel Kirkwood](#) will provide accommodations. We look forward to seeing you next year!

## UMACRAO Members Honored at Annual Meeting

Each year at the Annual Meeting, UMACRAO honors members who have made outstanding contributions to the organization. This year, Jennifer Love, Lori Beseler, Ingrid Nuttall, and Rhonda Kitch as well as WACRAO members Amy Gleason and Ed Lee, were recognized for their achievements.

### Exemplary New Member - Jennifer Love

*nominated by Kristi Wold-McCormick and Ingrid Nuttall*

I am thrilled to nominate Jennifer Love for the Exemplary New Member award.

Jennifer has served as the Vendor Chair for UMACRAO for the past two years. In this role, she has maintained solid relationships with our annual meeting participants and developed new connections to enrich vendor participation. The work of the vendor chair begins early and ends late in the conference planning process; Jennifer has been a positive, reliable and gracious liaison to our valued participants. She is very dedicated to ensuring that UMACRAO members' needs are met through the vendor exhibit/presentation process, and that the vendor experience makes them want to participate in future meetings. I have no doubt that Jennifer will be a future UMACRAO leader, and I am honored to recognize the good work she has done so early in her tenure.

### Exemplary Service Award - Lori Beseler

*nominated by Ingrid Nuttall and Kristi Wold-McCormick*

It is my honor to nominate Lori Beseler for UMACRAO's Exemplary Service Award.

I first worked with Lori when she volunteered to serve as the LAC co-chair for our 2008 conference in Rochester, Minnesota. To say that Lori was organized is an understatement; she documented each step of her process and that of her co-chair so perfectly that I knew I could count on her to relay key details that were needed to make the conference a success.

Lori took over as Treasurer for UMACRAO in 2010 and has had an amazingly adventurous tenure in this role. She has worked through tough issues related to our taxes, our status as an association, and has helped navigate the nuances of the finances for our joint conference with professionalism and grace. She is ever vigilant to the budget to ensure the association continues to operate with a strong base for years to come. In addition, she is instrumental in the member renewal and new membership processes, streamlining the process for invoicing and maintaining the membership database.

While Lori's style is a strong, silent type who prefers to remain out of the spotlight, her behind-the-scenes leadership, dedication and creative problem-solving have helped move UMACRAO to forward and remain fiscally strong and well-organized.

Lori truly is an exemplary and highly-valued leader and member of UMACRAO and is very deserving of this award.

### Exemplary Service Award - Ingrid Nuttall, Rhonda Kitch, Amy Gleason, and Ed Lee

*nominated by Kristi Wold-McCormick*

It is with great pleasure to present a team of dedicated professionals across two associations with the Exemplary Service Award. The collaborative spirit and shared commitment

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to producing a high quality conference and program make Ingrid Nuttall, Amy Gleason, Rhonda Kitch and Ed Lee very deserving co-recipients of this highly revered UMACRAO award.

As Local Arrangement Committee co-chairs, Ingrid Nuttall of the University of Minnesota, and Amy Gleason from Vitterbo College, worked tirelessly behind the scenes to ensure that the facilities, the speakers, the food, and the registration experience were comfortable, insightful, delicious, and smooth. Knowing the importance of balancing traditions of each association with new experiences for our combined memberships required them to meet on numerous occasions, not just via phone or email, but in person traveling frequently between Minneapolis and La Crosse. Their flare for fun and unwavering attention to details has resulted in a conference by which others will be measured for years to come.

Equally impressive was the collegiality between conference Program Co-chairs Rhonda Kitch of North Dakota State University and Ed Lee of University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point. Their mutual admiration and respect for one another coupled with their enthusiasm and professionalism resulted in a program that is balanced, diverse and current. Striving to identify sessions that represented both admission and records needs, utilizing the expertise of WACRAO and UMACRAO members, including our new Canadian membership, and creating opportunities for discussion on multiple national trends and best practices has hopefully led to a memorable and satisfying program experience for all.

The UMACRAO Exemplary Service Award was established to celebrate the outstanding contribution of an individual to the Association and/or the profession. These individuals dedicated much of themselves to their respective associations over the years in a multitude of volunteer and leadership capacities. During this joint conference, which is the culmination of this collaborative spirit, it is very fitting and appropriate to recognize the leadership and professionalism of these four individuals for this highest UMACRAO award.

Congratulations Ingrid, Amy, Rhonda, and Ed on the well-deserved recognition!

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## Thank you!

*submitted by Kristi Wold-McCormick*

Whew – what a ride! Thank you to everyone who attended the joint conference of UMACRAO/WACRAO in November! It was a memorable annual meeting filled with top-notch sessions, excellent speakers, and great camaraderie with colleagues from several states and provinces. I was personally glad to see some new members from Canada journey down to beautiful La Crosse, and I plan to continue work on building this membership base in the coming year.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as UMACRAO president this past year. It was an incredible experience, and I learned so much about the history, funding, and operations of our association. We have a strong base thanks to dedicated leadership, both past and present, and an active membership that always rises to the occasion with their involvement, philanthropic spirit, and commitment to travel near or far across our vast region. I am so excited about the future of UMACRAO and know that the best is yet to come!

## UMACRAO Gives Back

Thanks to everyone who contributed to the book drive at the Annual Meeting. Together with WACRAO, over 100 textbooks and 100 children's books were donated to the [Better World Books](#) project.

Better World Books sells books online for a discount and for every book sold, a book is donated to someone in need. Better World Books has donated over 7 million books, raised over \$13 million for literacy and libraries, and reused or re-cycle almost 100,000 books.

In addition, \$569 was raised during the Annual Raffle, no doubt enticed by the wonderful prizes donated by UMACRAO members.

Thank you UMACRAO for your generosity!



***UMACRAO and WACRAO members discuss ideas during the keynote address by Daren Eich.***

***Enjoying the Vendor Social sponsored by the National Student Clearinghouse!***



***Live music at the Vendor Social.***

***Past  
UMACRAO and  
WACRAO  
Presidents  
gather for a  
photo at the  
banquet.***



***Closing speaker MN  
Supreme Court Justice Alan Page,  
UMACRAO Past President Kristi  
Wold McCormick, and UMACRAO  
Executive Director Mike Reilly.***

***Want to see more pictures from the  
conference? Check out the Jolesch  
website to see more.***



***It just wouldn't be  
UMACRAO without Carl  
Stange in a costume!***

# Thank You Vendors and Sponsors!

The UMACRAO Annual Meeting is so successful each year due to the generous support of our vendors and sponsors. Thank you to all the vendors that joined us in La Crosse this year!

## **ACT**

Tim Osborn, Debra Fitzgerald  
tim.osborn@act.org  
debra.fitzgerald@act.org

## **CELCAT**

Edward O'Donnell  
eodonnell@celcart.com

## **College Board**

Scott Smith  
scsmith@collegeboard.org

## **College Scheduler**

Johnathan Dela Cruz, Haley Zitinitzky  
jonathan@collegescheduler.com  
Haley@collegescheduler.com

## **Credential Solutions**

Dan Gajos  
Gajos6@credentialssolutions.net

## **Digital Architecture**

John Schoenborn  
John Schoenborn

## **Ellucian**

Hope Graves  
hopelynnegraces@ellucian.com

## **Infosilem**

Pierre Guay  
pierre.guay@infosilem.com

## **Jolesch**

Mark Hommerding  
homer@jolesch.com

## **Leepfrog Technologies**

Annette Rohlk  
arohlk@leepfrog.com

## **National Student Clearinghouse**

Nancy Penna  
penna@studentclearinghouse.org

## **On Base - Hyland Software**

Amy Sindelar  
amy.sindelar@hyland.com

## **Paradigm, Inc.**

Elizabeth Kunde  
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## **Parchment**

Debi Kowalski  
dkowalski@parchment.com

## **SCRIP-SAFE International**

Frost Johnson  
fjohnson@scrip-safe.com

## **Source Code Systems**

Rhonda Burish  
rburish@sourcecodedms.com

## **Stamats**

Becky Morehouse  
becky.morehouse@stamats.com

## Get Involved with UMACRAO! Volunteer!

It's easy to get involved with UMACRAO and we are still seeking volunteers for committees. E-mail Ingrid Nuttall, UMACRAO President, if you are interested or have questions about the different committees. Volunteering for a committee does not require a large time commitment and it is a great way to meet other members.

You can find more information on the different UMACRAO committees on the UMACRAO website. Click on the link "About" and then click on "committees."

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## See you at AACRAO!

We hope to see many of you at the AACRAO Annual Meeting, April 14 - 17 in San Francisco, CA. Look for information over the UMACRAO listserv and [website](#) about the joint UMACRAO/WACRAO social.