

The UMACRAO Quarterly

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

October 2012

Upcoming Meetings

UMACRAO Annual Meeting

November 7–9, 2012
Radisson Hotel La Crosse,
La Crosse, WI

ACCRAO Annual Meeting

April 14-17, 2013
Moscone Center West,
San Francisco, CA

AACRAO Technology Conference

July 14-16, 2012
JW Marriott Starr Pass
Tuscon, AZ

A Message from the President

submitted by Kristi Wold-McCormick, UMACRAO President

Welcome to fall, a new semester, and another academic year! With registration, opening day, and enrollment census behind us, it's time to focus our attention on the wonderful professional development, networking, and social opportunities that await us at the UMACRAO Annual Meeting.

You all should have received an email invitation inviting you to this year's annual meeting, scheduled for November 7-9, in La Crosse, WI. I hope you have found an opportunity to review the conference schedule and program. This year's event has been planned as a joint conference with our Wisconsin (WACRAO) colleagues, and proves to be doubly impressive! Priorities of this year's program committee were to identify new session topics, relevant professional speakers, and opportunities for co-presentations by colleagues from both associations.

Conference registration, hotel, and program information are available on the [UMACRAO site](#), as is information about this year's service project. In partnership with Golden Key International Honor Society and the Better World Books project, conference participants are asked to bring a new or gently used textbook or children's book to donate. Collections will be donated to the Books for Africa organization.

Read more about the conference in the article written by our Local Arrangements Committee (LAC) co-chair Ingrid Nuttall.

If you have not already done so, please [renew your institution's membership](#) in UMACRAO. In addition, please encourage new admission and records professionals at your campus to join our association by registering on the [UMACRAO site](#). The strength of our association is the diversity, breadth, and depth of our membership.

I am honored to have served as UMACRAO president for the past year. Working closely with the executive committee as well as our WACRAO colleagues as we have planned for the joint meeting has been a rewarding and learning experience for me personally and professionally. I'm excited for the many opportunities that lie ahead for our association with its expanded geographic boundaries and the many talented and dedicated leaders and members.

I'm looking forward to seeing you in La Crosse soon!



Books for Africa

UMACRAO has a tradition of coming together at our Annual Meeting to help those in need. In the past UMACRAO has made donations to various organizations such as Minot Public Schools Recovery fund, The City, Inc., and Project S.O.S.

This year, UMACRAO members are invited to bring a new or gently used textbook or children's book to the meeting to be donated to the Books for Africa project. Books for Africa collects, sorts, ships, and distributes books to children in Africa in an effort to end book famine.

Books For Africa remains the largest shipper of donated text and library books to the African continent, shipping over 27 million books to 48 different countries since 1988.

Over the past 12 months Books for Africa has shipped 2.2 million books valued at \$28.3 million to 22 African countries.

Please show your support at the UMACRAO Annual Meeting.

Come Together: Creating our Mosaic

submitted by Ingrid Nuttal, Local Arrangements Committee Co-Chair

Registration is now open for the 2012 UMACRAO/WACRAO joint conference in lovely downtown La Crosse, Wisconsin, November 7-9.

Representatives from institutions across Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, the Dakotas, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and northwestern Ontario will unite to share strategies and techniques from within the field of higher education administration through dozens of educational sessions, and strengthen existing ties throughout the Midwest region.

Our keynote speaker will be Darin Eich, Ph.D., an innovative motivator from Wisconsin who has led events with Fortune 500 companies and Big 10 colleges. Our closing speaker will be Minnesota Supreme Court Justice Alan C. Page. Justice Page is former Minnesota Vikings football player and is the founder of the Page Education Foundation for disadvantaged youth. To get the early bird registration rate of \$160, you must register by October 22; registration after that raises to \$200. For more information, registration forms, and hotel rates visit the [conference website](#).

We are thrilled to announce a special service project we're undertaking this year. Bring a book to the conference to help end book famine in Africa. [You can read more online](#).

If you haven't already seen it, [take a look at the special video invitation we put together for you](#). We'll see you soon!

Around the World of Higher Education

submitted by Michelle Overtom, UMACRAO Quarterly Editor

Wondering what is happening around the world of higher education, but don't have time to check multiple websites? Check out these stories for a start.

If your institution is looking for creative ways to recruit students, perhaps reality TV is the way to go, particularly if you want to increase the number of international students on your campus. The U.S. Consulate in Mumbai, India is looking for three American colleges to participate in a TV show that will promote educational opportunities in the U.S. for Indian students. The lucky colleges will get to play host to two visiting students. The show is expected to reach about 25 million viewers. Read about more wacky ways reality TV could be your next recruiting tool on the Chronicle of Higher Education's blog, [The Ticker](#).

When it comes to college entrance exams, does your campus prefer the SAT or the ACT? [The Washington Post](#) is reporting that the ACT has overtaken the SAT in popularity for the first time this year. The difference is small, less than 2,000 students, but the ACT has been slowly gaining on the SAT over the years. Will this mean any changes for your institution's recruiting strategies?

Where do your freshmen come from? Those UMACRAO members on the Admission side know the answer to this question very well; those that work on the Registrar side may not be in the know. If you are looking for the answer to this question, or you just really like bar graphs, colored dots, and anything interactive on the internet, check out [this feature](#) in the Facts and Figures section of the Chronicle of Higher Education. Look up your college, see how things have changed over the last sixteen years, and compare states. Who knew Pennsylvania attracted so many out of state students?

Is it Tax Season? UMACRAO Reviews Tax Status

submitted by Lori Beseler, UMACRAO Treasurer

For many years, UMACRAO has been conducting business as if we were tax exempt, not realizing that we actually were not classified as a tax exempt business. When Lori Beseler was appointed Treasurer, she attended the State and Regional Conference for AACRAO officers in Washington, D.C. At that meeting, Beseler learned about filing IRS Form 990, which provides information on the filing organization's mission, programs, and finances and would let the IRS know that UMACRAO is still in business as a tax exempt corporation. When attempting to file the 990 tax form, our Employer Identification Number (EIN), also known as a Federal Tax Identification Number, was not recognized by the IRS. After a number of phone calls with an accountant and the IRS, Beseler was advised to apply for a new EIN. This paperwork was completed and a new EIN was received in 2011.

The UMACRAO Executive Board approved Beseler to meet with an accountant to further discuss the organization's tax status. During this meeting, Beseler was informed that UMACRAO needed to provide tax paperwork for each year since 2003, the year of our incorporation. With this information, the accountant prepared federal and state tax forms for each year since 2003 and UMACRAO paid the appropriate tax.

A few months after completing this process, Beseler received notices from the IRS and from the Minnesota Department of Revenue that penalties and interest were due for each year for late payment. With the help of the accountant, letters were written to both the IRS and the Minnesota Department of Revenue asking for abatement from the penalties. The interest for each tax year has been paid, and to date, we have received confirmation of abatement for the 2003 year of federal tax penalty and 2003 to present from the Minnesota Department of Revenue. An additional appeal has been made to the IRS to abate penalties due from 2004 and forward.

UMACRAO has completed the paperwork to apply for tax exempt status. A notice was received from the IRS that the paperwork has been received and the organization should hear back within the next three months. If approved for tax exempt status, we would no longer have to file tax forms for federal and state taxes, but simply file IRS Form 990.

UMACRAO Members on the Move

Congratulations to Jan Stephenson who retired from Winona State University in September 2012. Jan started at WSU in the Registrar's office in 1974. She left for a short period in 1979 to spend time with her children, but returned to WSU in Rochester in 1984. She ended her career as Associate Director, Advisor and Liaison for Articulation Agreements. Jan plans to spend her retirement traveling and enjoying her children, grandchildren, family and friends. She is excited to explore new things that are not related to courses and catalogs!

Is someone from your UMACRAO institution retiring, leaving the region, or moving on to new adventures? We'd love to include it in a future UMACRAO Quarterly. Email Michelle Overtom at overt012@umn.edu with the news you would like to share.

Speaking of news, please send any exciting developments at your campus, new procedures you'd like to share, updates, or happenings at your institution for inclusion in the UMACRAO Quarterly. The strength of UMACRAO lies in the connections we make with one another. The UMACRAO Quarterly is just one more way to connect with your fellow members.

Brush Up on Your Wisconsin Trivia

We're headed to the Badger State for a joint meeting with our colleagues from WACRAO. Impress them with your knowledge of Wisconsin with these key facts.

La Crosse got its name when Lt. Zebulon Pike saw Native Americans playing a game with sticks that resembled a cross when he first came to the area in 1805.

Wausau, WI is the Ginseng Capital of the world.

With an average of 2,500 performers, Milwaukee's Summer Fest is the nation's largest music festival.

The Republican party was founded in Ripon, WI in 1854.

Mount Horeb, WI is the Troll Capital of the world and also home to the Mustard Museum (with 2,300 varieties of mustard!).

Learn more at 50states.com.

From the Archives... 1979 (Thirty-three Years Ago)

submitted by Janet Crittenden, Historian

1979 UMACRAO Officers

President, Carroll E. Peter, Registrar, Concordia College, St. Paul, MN

President Elect, Neil Ableidinger, Registrar & Director of Admissions, Dickenson State College (ND)

Secretary, R. Victory Swenson, Registrar, Mankato State University (MN)

Treasurer, Paul R. Finlay, Registrar, Bethel College (MN)

Annual Meetings

The 46th UMACRAO Annual Meeting was held October 21-23, 1979 at the Hotel Fort Des Moines, in Des Moines, Iowa. Drake University hosted the meeting and the theme was "NO TRUMP". Elbert Ockerman, President of the American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officer (AACRAO), was the keynote speaker. The keynote address focused on professional development and was titled, "How to Get the Most Out of Your Boss."

The 65th AACRAO Annual Meeting was held in Chicago, IL, April 15-20, 1979 at the famous Palmer House Hotel. The AACRAO president was Mr. Elbert Ockerman. In 1979 AACRAO had an all-time high membership count of 6,847 members and 1,996 colleges and universities with active participation in their organization.

Session Highlights

There were many interesting sessions. "Overcoming Educational Barriers through Continuing Education and Extension Programing" centered on new trends in lifelong learning. The discussion was led by Roger McCannon, from the University of Minnesota, Morris and Russell A. May from Drury College. The presenters indicated that colleges and universities need to make a greater effort at their institutions to serve the adult learner population. It was suggested that counseling centers to meet the needs of this growing population be developed.

Other sessions included a discussion on financial matters relating to foreign students receiving scholarships and/or transferring money and problems encountered with university financial statements; a session led by John Lygre, Registrar at St. Olaf College, on the definition of "Liberal Arts"; a discussion on retention within colleges and universities; and career planning.

Interesting Facts from 1979

- 116 members attended the 1979 meeting.
- The social event included dinner and a tour of the new Civic Center followed by a performance of "Showboat" at the Civic Center Theatre.
- This was the first year that four workshops/information sessions were offered concurrently and rotated throughout the two day sessions. This allowed attendees to have more opportunity to participate.
- Three members received Honorary Lifetime Membership Awards. The recipients of this award went to Amelia A Gates, Registrar at Dakota Wesleyan University, Rev. Vernon Bliss from Faith Baptist Bible College, and Michael Barry from the College of Osteopathic Medicine in Iowa.
- Iowa colleges and universities had 131,910 students enrolled. This was an increase of 6.6 percent from 1978.
- South Dakota colleges and universities had 25,671 enrolled students. This was an increase of 1.1 percent increase from the previous year.
- Minnesota colleges and universities had 164,929 enrolled students. This was a 7.8 percent increase in enrollment from 1978.
- North Dakota colleges and universities had 31,832 enrolled students. This was a .6 percent decrease from 1978.

UMACRAO Quarterly
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We want your news!

We'd love to share your news with other UMACRAO members! Send your news items to the editor, Michelle Overtoom, at overt012@umn.edu.