

TACRAO Annual Business Meeting

November 10, 2020

The annual TACRAO business meeting was called to order at the annual conference by TACRAO President Bobby Lothringer on Tuesday, November 10, 2020 at 1:32 PM.

a) **Fun Run/Walk Report:**

Alex Holt, San Antonio, LAC, provided the update on the 1st TACRAO Virtual Fun Run/Walk. There were 33 participants and over \$800 was raised. Ocelot, Othot, and Parchment served as sponsors and all funds raised went toward TACRAO scholarship funds.

- Tiffany Lipscomb – 1st female
- Juan Garcia – 1st male
- Mike Brown – The coveted last place award.

b) **Secretary's Report:**

Kristin McDonald-Willey, TACRAO Secretary, provided the following report:

- **Web Navigation:** Secretary told members how to navigate to minutes
- **Definition:** Secretary defined members, subscribers, and explained TCCNS.
- **Current Counts:** 130 active members, 262 subscription, and 122 institutions who have paid TCCNS dues

c) **Treasurer's Report**

Melinda Carroll, TACRAO Treasurer, provided the following report:

- **Web Navigation:** Treasurer told members how to navigate to 9/1/19-8/31/20 reports
- **Current Financial Status is Sound**
 - TACRAO Operational: \$122,250.15
 - TACRAO Savings: \$82,232.66
 - TACRAO CD #1: \$50,655.60
 - TACRAO CD #2: \$50,655.60
 - Total: \$305,276.34
- **TCCNS Support Fees Managed by TACRAO:** \$75,186.30
- **TACRAO Address Update:** Discussed address change and that invoices show new address.

d) **Standing Committee Reports:**

These are posted Online for TACRAO membership to review.

e) **New Officers Report:**

- **TACRAO Executive Committee**
 - **President Elect:** Paige Bussell
 - **VP-Records, Registration, & Commencement:** Tana Miller

- **VP-Technology:** Justin Schilke
- **Treasurer:** Lori Zerr

- **Nominations and Elections Committee Results**
 - **Chair-Elect:** Becki Griffith
 - Joe Papari
 - Sheila Gray
 - Blanca Guerra

f) Past President Report:

Sofia Almeda Montes, Past President, provided the following report:

- **Newcomers** (194 registered for the session. Newcomers have until and the close of business on Friday to submit the “I’m Available” form and of those submissions, 3 newcomers will be selected for a conference registration fee scholarship they will be awarded pending the fulfillment of their duties.)
- **Site Selection: 2023** – Embassy Suite Hilton Denton Convention Center – October 29-November 1st ; 2022 – Will be Hyatt Hill Country with San Antonio. A full report is posted Online.

g) Audit Report:

Diane Brice, Chair of Audit Committee, provided the following report

- April 17, 2020 - Reviewed LAC Galveston and found it in “good standing”. Laura Divine did a great job as finance chair. Full reports provided to TACRAO and posted on the Web site.
- October 26, 2020 - Reviewed TACRAO finances and found everything in good standing. Melinda Carrol commended as the Treasurer. Full reports provided to TACRAO and are posted on the Web site.
 - i. **Audit of conference and of the organization are on the website**

h) Resolutions Report:

See end of minutes for full copy of the Resolutions report.

i) Old Business:

No old business to discuss.

j) Recognition of Outgoing Officers:

- LAC Chairs (Anne Delgado and Alex Holt) served this year by hosting a 5K, but will move to again serve as LAC in 2022.
- Melinda will be rotating off but will serve as past treasurer as ex officio to assist Lori with getting her running; Bobbie will be rotating off VPIT position; Nancy Faris rotating off; Sofia rotation off.
- **Discussion of Trials and Triumphs** – Proud of organization and how we came together this year despite all the other duties.

k) Past President Thank You Message:

Bobby Lothringer moved from current to past president and gave a thank you and support to past presidents, the organization, and his wife.

Bobby passed the gavel to the new president.

l) New President Thank You Message:

Jamie Hansard began her role as the new president and she thanked Bobby for his leadership.

m) Newly Elected Officers Introduced:

Paige Bussell, Tana Miller, Justin Schilke, and Lori Zerr

n) Continuing Officers Introduced:

Bobby Lothringer (Past President), Jennifer Beal (Vice President for Admissions), Kristin McDonald-Willey (Secretary), Melinda Carroll (1st Ex Officio, non-voting, Treasurer), Jessica Cravens and Kat Livingston (Lubbock LAC)

o) Next Year's Lubbock Annual Conference Video:

Video promoting November 7-10th 100th TACRAO conference.

p) New President's, Jamie Hansard's, Closing Remarks:

"Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much"

- **Submit Evaluations:**
- **Get Involved:** Call to membership to submit forms
- **SEM Workshop:** Attend the free SEM workshop tomorrow morning
- **Regional Meeting:** Attend the regional meeting today at 4 PM

q) Adjourn:

President, Jamie Hansard adjourned the Business meeting at 2:28 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kristin McDonald-Willey
TACRAO Secretary

h. Resolutions Report (Full Copy of Report)

2020 TACRAO Resolutions Report

WHEREAS, **out of an abundance of caution**, we gathered virtually across the great State of Texas to celebrate 103 years of TACRAO and 99 years of TACRAO conferences. Participants rolled out of bed, threw off their pajama tops and put on a shirt, brewed some coffee and turned on their computers to learn how to “Use Hindsight for Future Vision,” especially in **these unprecedented times**.

THEREFORE, be it resolved that the TACRAO Executive Committee, including Bobby Lothringer, Jamie Hansard, Sofia Montes, Nancy Faris, Jennifer Beal, Bobbie Brown, Melinda Carroll, Kristin McDonald-Wiley, Anne Delgado and Alejandra Holt, are congratulated for their tremendous efforts in planning and executing an incredible conference under **the most unusual of circumstances**. We thank you for the opportunity this week to reconnect with one another, impart expertise and share stories of navigating higher education **in the age of COVID, the new normal**. Your efforts and dedication to TACRAO resulted in a most memorable and enjoyable experience!

LET IT FURTHER BE RESOLVED...

To Bobby – there’s no need to shake too much in your boots during this report. When the Resolutions Committee is stacked with your wife and one of your new employees, it’s a safe bet the Big Green Egg setting for this roast will be on a low temperature.

It’s been wonderful welcoming Bobby to his new position as University Registrar at SMU. We’ve all been impressed with his hard work mixed in with his great attitude and sense of humor as he navigates a new job, the TACRAO presidency and all the extra minutia associated with COVID. Yes, SMU rolled out the welcome wagon but we couldn’t make it too easy for him. If any other universities are looking for a fun way to haze a new registrar, assign them the **“essential worker”** task of sanitizing the microphones between speakers at your ceremonies! We all had a good laugh. [SLIDE 1 and SLIDE 2 - BOBBY SANITIZING MICS]

Monday morning’s Kick-Off and Town Hall was a nice way to begin the conference. Bobby, you’ll forever be in our minds as “Crazy Bobby.” Sounds like a used car salesman ad - “Come on down to Crazy Bobby’s –...” And who could forget you thanking a Q&A submission from an “Anonymous Attendee.” An anonymous attendee is the Zoom version of the guy that appears on the news with his face blurred and speech altered. Great job TEC on your **“social distancing”** as you artistically aligned your chairs throughout the room.

We were happy that Crazy Bobby bucked tradition and named three President’s Award Recipients: Dara Newton, Rex Oliver and Jessica Cravens. Let’s raise our coffee mugs (or your

Quaran-tinis) and congratulate these colleagues on jobs well done! Your superhero powers saved the TACRAO conference and Texas college fairs, stopped “**community spread**,” and helped in “**flattening the curve**.” We are grateful for your hard work and dedication. Jessica and Rex – we know you missed conference services at the hotel. What was the final tally of ladders you climbed, banners you hung, furniture you moved, and meals you provided?

Rex and members of the TEC – we hear you’re sorting through offers from Hollywood for the Busby Berkeley-quality production of the Kick Off. **[SLIDE 3 – CAMERA WITH SUGAR PACKETS]** Who knew sugar packets could adjust a camera angle so that the TEC didn’t look like they were sliding down a hill? We are glad to hear you did some practice sessions before going LIVE. Those camera close-ups added an extra pizzazz – It gave “Crazy Bobby” a chance to be a kid again as he gestured with his hand during a close-up of Sofia so that it looked like he was picking her nose. It was also a wonderful opportunity to work on the ascetics of the “shot.” Like making sure that Nancy Faris’ blonde hair wasn’t blending into the white wall. Also, having Jennifer and Kristi parade the TACRAO banners all over the room to get the “setting” just right - we are told it looked like TACRAO’s own commencement procession.

Joe Papari, unfortunately Hollywood execs are not calling for you when they learned it took 20 takes to film your heartfelt tribute to John Hall. We all appreciated the wonderful tribute, though, to our longtime colleague and friend!

Additional congratulations to the TEC for registering over 1060 attendees. This number shatters the previous conference record from 2012 when Berri O’Neal was president, proving that when COVID prevents mass gatherings, universities restrict travel and conference fees, and “**self-isolation**” is called for, TACRAO still prevails! But Bobby, was a mic drop really necessary in delivering this news? Berri, thank you for the gracious concession speech even after Bobby called you a “loser.” We know that below your composed Zoom appearance, you were running out to recount your conference attendees. **[SLIDE 4 - PICTURE OF BERRI’S SNEAKER]**

To President Elect, Jamie Hansard – Thank you for utilizing that “other duties as assigned” clause in job descriptions to the fullest and volunteering what appears to be your entire team to help with this year’s conference. From tech support, monitoring and facilitating, to food services, they have run the gamut of duties. TACRAO is truly thankful for their service.

To Jennifer Beal, Jamie Hansard and Nancy Faris, thank you for putting together a wonderful lineup of informative sessions. We’d venture to guess you have redone this schedule a thousand times and had to confirm and re-confirm presenters. Tonight, go to sleep and dream about something else rather than the session schedule.

[SLIDE 5 - PAST PRESIDENTS ON ZOOM] To our past presidents....Bobby reports that your wise counsel on deciding how to move forward with this year’s conference was invaluable. By show of hands, how many got off the phone or video call with Bobby and said to yourself, “Glad it’s him and not me?”

To our 194 Newcomers...we welcome you to TACRAO and are excited to have you with us. Get involved and you will find this organization will give back to you more than you can imagine! Please don't let Sofia Montes' hazing clip from "Finding Dory" scare you, though – there is no ring of fire to swim through, just long lines to the buffets.

To the 35 session presenters, thank you for sharing your expertise. Becky Griffith, your wise words at the Registrar's Forum struck a chord with all of us when you said the job of a registrar is "always something, but this year, it's something something." Chris Reed – thank you for clarifying your cough was not the **coronavirus** but that you breathed your own spit! We thought you were pausing to find a new adjective other than 'interesting' to describe the legislative year. Oh, and Mary Kincannon, "**you're on mute.**"

To our newest honorary member, John Hall, and Certificate of Commendations Upon Retirement awardee, Laura Divine.....congratulations on your honorary awards and well-deserved retirements. Thank you for keeping the lamps lit at TACRAO for these many years!

We will all miss being together tonight at what would have been the Big Event. Let us know what you decide to do instead. We were supposed to be having a fiesta so if you really miss your TACRAO friends, ask Siri or Alexa to find you a Mariachi Band playing the Cotton Eye Joe and dance as if we were all together.

To our 13 vendors, we thank you for sticking with us in 2020 for this unusual conference format. We greatly appreciate your support and generous sponsorship. Congratulations to Ysabel Alvarez and her committee for keeping us connected with these important TACRAO partners.

To Anne Delgado and Alejandra Holt, creators of our Virtual Fun Run... thank you for letting the 33 Fun Run participants submit their own new personal best times and participate even in "**self-quarantine.**" It's like we weren't even running! Congratulations to Tiffany Lipscomb and Juan Garcia, this year's fastest runners. From the looks of the maps, it appears some other runners may have attached your Fit Bits to your furry companions and your dog saw a squirrel! [SLIDE 6 – MAP OF DOG PARK] Congratulations also go to Mike Brown who secured the Dead Ass Last award. Mike, did you seize the opportunity to really excel on achieving your slowest time? Did you attach your Fit Bit to a cat, [SLIDE 7 – CAT CARTOON] taking the entire weekend to complete the 3 miles? Whether you ran or not, enjoy sporting your new F-word shirt [SLIDE 8 – FERPA SHIRT] and answering the many questions you'll get of "What is FERPA?"

Although there was no Battle of the Regions this year, we know some of you have been playing **COVID-19** Bingo during our resolutions. If you've been playing along, the count of COVID Buzzwords is currently 14. In the absence of the coveted free drink tickets, please feel free to use your **COVID-19** Bingo total to enjoy your drink of choice tonight.

As TACRAO wraps up its first (and hopefully last) virtual conference, here are a few reflections:

Positives of a virtual conference

1. There is always coffee and it is always just the way you like it
2. Not being required to **“mask up”** – we can see everyone’s entire face!
3. You can wear your slippers!
4. You only have to dress professionally from the waist up (just watch your camera angles)
5. There is a MUTE button!
6. You always have a front row seat without having to actually sit on the front row.
7. The room temperature is always perfect for you.
8. No **“incubation period”** to worry about.
9. Breaks are spontaneous-not scheduled!

Negatives of a virtual conference

1. We miss out on ANOTHER BOTTLE OF WIIIIINNNNNEE!
2. We may have to use our budgets this year to actually buy pens and Post-Its since we couldn’t raid the vendor booths. And, given 2020, we could all use a new stress ball!
3. How will we survive without winning a new coffee cup, pen and t-shirt from another Texas institution as a door prize?
4. We didn’t have to go hunting for the correct meeting room with the cute little theme-name associated with the Region of Texas we are meeting in.
5. We didn’t assist in building **“herd immunity.”**
6. No Hospitality Suite!

THEREFORE, be it resolved that as we power down our computers and move from our home offices to dens, and go back to trying to create the perfect **Tik Tok** – our favorite **Quarantine skill** -we are grateful for the three-day break TACRAO provided from **“the pandemic,”** allowing us to reflect on “Using Hindsight for Future Vision.” We look forward to being together next year and celebrating 100 years of TACRAO conferences. Jessica Cravens and Kat Livingston, in your roles as LAC Lubbock co-chairs, please send out a reminder to attendees to wear pants.

Stay Safe and Well!

Respectfully Submitted,
Your 2020 COVID-19 Resolutions Committee:
Nancy Skochdopole, Southern Methodist University
Rebecca Lothringer, University of Texas at Arlington
Jerry Martinez, Brazosport College
Jodie Rexroat, Dallas College

OH, AND FINAL BINGO COUNT IS 24







