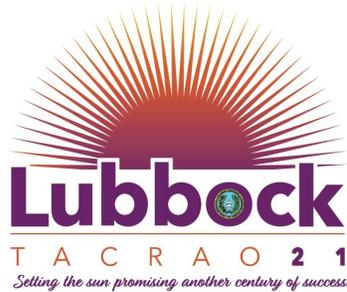


TACRAO NEWS

DECEMBER 2021

2021 Conference Recap Special Edition



“Excellent conference this year! The sessions were informative, the big event and hospitality were fun, and I didn’t have any negative experiences. Looking forward to next year.”



Inside this issue

Bussell’s Bullets.....	2
Moments with Melinda	3
New Honorary Members	4
Thank you Lubbock LAC!	5
Jamie’s Journal.....	6
Reed’s Ramblings.....	7
Newcomers.....	7
What People are Saying	8
2021 Resolutions Report.....	9
Tana’s Tidings	10
Justin’s Jottings	11
Brandy’s Beat.....	12
Lori’s Letter	13
’22 Conference Chat	14
Don Palermo Fun Run 5K	15
Communications Comm.....	16
Pictures, Pictures, Pictures.....	17

Bussell's Bullets



Paige Bussell
President
Texas A&M University
Commerce

Hello TACRAO!

Please join me in thanking the 2021 TEC & LAC Committees as well as a special thank you to all our presenters, facilitators, etc., for an outstanding Lubbock Conference. It was so rewarding to see all of our friends and colleagues after so long! The food was delicious, the sessions were informative, the entertainment was delightful and that BAND! IMPRESSIVE!

Thank you again for allowing me to serve as your 2021-2022 President for this amazing organization! I am thrilled to continue serving with Jamie Hansard (Past-President), Justin Schilke (VP-Technology), Tana Miller (VP-Registration) and Lori Zerr (Treasurer). In addition, please join me in welcoming our new TEC members; President-Elect Melinda Carroll, Vice-President for Admissions, Chris Reed and Secretary, Brandy Piner.

I would also like to extend a WELCOME BACK to the longest standing TACRAO LAC co-chairs ever - Anne Delgado and Alex Holt. I know they are anxious and excited to get Riding in the Next Century! A sincere thank you to them for their patience and understanding and for holding on as we all survived the many obstacles and challenges that obstructed their paths.

As such, PLEASE Mark your calendars for the 101st 2022 annual conference to be held November 6-9, 2022 in San An-

tonio on the Beautiful Grounds of the [Hyatt Regency Hill Country Resort and Spa](#). Anne and Alex along with the LAC committee members will be working hard to astound us with excitement and entertainment! In fact, we already have a lot of things planned and ready to go! You can watch for conference updates [here](#).

If you have a session idea or you would like to present, please submit a [session proposal](#). Your TACRAO VP's Chris Reed and Tana Miller would LOVE to see proposals pouring in as soon as possible.

And finally, a very special **thank you** to Jamie Hansard for her excellent leadership this past year. We accomplished a great many tasks together and her guidance helped us do that!

Until next time I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Paige Bussell
TACRAO President





Moments with Melinda

Greetings from North Texas!

Thank you for providing this opportunity to serve an amazing organization! First, I would like to say a special thank you to the Lubbock LAC who planned a great conference...it was much needed and a memorable time with our fellow TACRAO colleagues and friends. Additionally, I want to take this time to thank the fantastic presenters and great discussions this year. After a year filled with stress and a sense of being disconnected aside from the many virtual meetings, it was a time to connect with old friends, meet new people and create new friendships and this year's conference gave us a time of connection.

As we look forward to the 2022 TACRAO conference in San Antonio, I encourage each of you to get involved in the many ways offered through the TACRAO organization. If you are interested in serving on a TACRAO session planning or standing committee next year (2021-2021), please be sure to fill out the "I'm Available" form online.

I hope you each have a great remainder of the Fall 2021 semester.

Wishing you a restful and Happy Holiday!

Melinda Carroll
TACRAO President-Elect



Melinda Carroll
President-Elect
North Central Texas College



Congratulations New Honorary Members!



Berri O'Neal Gormley (2019)
Texas A&M University Commerce



John Hall (2020)
Southern Methodist University



Nancy Faris
Dallas County Community College District



Myra Hafer
University of North Texas



Lynda Langham
Stephen F. Austin University



Alfred Rodriguez
Trinity University

2021 Honorary Recipients unable to attend:

Debbie Gilchrist - University of Texas-Rio Grande Valley

Lisa Serna - University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio



THANK YOU

Lubbock Local Arrangements Committee!

Bobbie Brown, Co-Chair
 Kat Livingston, Co-Chair
 Ysabel Alvarez
 Rene Andre
 Evelyn Arnold
 Clara Baxter
 Kalyn Bednarz
 Carol Bonner
 Shelly Bowman
 Diane Brice
 Veronica Canfield
 Karli Chambers

Allison Cottrell
 Jonathan Duncan
 Heather Eaton
 Carlos Favela
 Rachel Fernandez
 Kristi Fonseca-Williams
 Brittany Garcia
 Sheila Gray
 Jason Hale
 Brandi Havens
 April Hollingsworth
 D'Ann Holubec

Christopher Johnson
 Amanda Lang
 Virginia Leathers
 Shandra Lenord
 Taylor Love
 Ann Marie Maldonado
 Brenda Martinez
 Jennifer Mauppin
 Laura McCord
 Amanda McSween
 Cassie Montgomery
 Julian Olivas

Rex Oliver
 Kyle Phillips
 Lance Pickle
 Jaymie Pierce
 Crystal Regalado
 Andrew Ruiz
 Andi Scott
 Kirsten Smith
 Lorina Tercero
 Melissa Thomas
 Mark Wagner
 Ashlea Watley



“THEREFORE, be it resolved that **Bobbie Brown, Kat Livingston,** and the **entire Local Arrangements Committee** should be congratulated for their hard work and creative planning that once again made this a conference to remember. After not seeing each other in person for two years, every event was a celebration to be remembered. We hugged, fist bumped and waved our way to old friends and new and simply enjoyed everything you did to bring us back together. We thank you for your hard work and want you to know, this will be one of the most appreciated TACRAO conferences ever held.”

- 2021 Resolutions Committee



Jamie's Journal

Greetings TACRAO members!

I am excited to say that the 100th TACRAO conference in Lubbock was a tremendous success with almost 500 attendees. The past couple of years have been challenging and stressful and being able to reconnect in person with colleagues and friends has been the highlight of my year. I want to express my heartfelt gratitude to everyone who made the 100th conference a great event.

I especially want to thank Kat Livingston, Bobbie Brown, and all the LAC Committee members for their tireless efforts to host the almost 500 members who attended the conference. I also want to thank the amazing 2020-2021 Executive Committee who went above and beyond to make the conference happen. I sincerely appreciate the efforts of Paige Bussell, Jennifer Beal, and Tana Miller for all their hard work to provide over 100 sessions. I also wanted to send a thank you to our presenters for giving their time and sharing their expertise with our members.



Thank you all for allowing me to serve as your president over this past year. It has been an honor to serve and now I look forward to working with the new TACRAO leadership team. I am excited about the future of our organization.

Jamie Hansard
TACRAO Past President



Jamie Hansard
Past President
Texas Tech University



Chris Reed
*Vice President
for Admissions
Texas A&M University*

Reed's Ramblings

I've been learning a lot lately about imposter syndrome after seeing a session about it on the schedule in Lubbock and I'm starting to understand the feeling a lot more. As I write my first column for the newsletter in my new role I find myself wondering if I know exactly what I'm supposed to be sharing!

In any case, here is what I know about for sure. If you thought we on the Executive Committee were resting on our laurels after an amazing TACRAO Conference in Lubbock you would be wrong. We are sorting through digital piles of evaluations and already working to identify those sessions you'd like to see get a reboot for TACRAO 2022.

Remember there is still time to fill out that ["I'm Available"](#) Form to get involved and its never too early to start thinking about what you may want to present in San Antonio. Ever wondered what the glamorous life of a TACRAO presenter was like? Powerpoints! Ribbons! Throwing candy during Q & A! All this and more is yours for the taking! I look forward to hearing from all of you!

Chris Reed
Vice President for Admissions



147 Newcomers!



CONGRATULATIONS

to the winners of the Newcomer Scavenger Hunt drawing and a FREE registration at the 2022 TACRAO Conference in San Antonio!

Brandi Clark

West Texas A&M University

Julio Reyes

Texas A&M International University

What People are Saying...

“This was a great conference! It was my first and it really inspired me to get more involved!”



“The conference sessions were relevant and well-preserved. I learned a great deal. The meals were excellent and the table arrangements were gorgeous!”



“This was my first year attending...I’m very happy that I came. I really enjoyed the conference...met a lot of wonderful people. Feel like I have some good suggestions to take back to my university.”

2021 Resolutions Report

WHEREAS, after gathering virtually thanks to COVID 19, who knew “Using Hindsight for Future Vision” would end up meaning so much, approximately 474 TACRAO participants ventured to the caprock to celebrate the 100th TACRAO conference by “Setting the sun, promising another century of success.”

THEREFORE, be it resolved that Bobbie Brown, Kat Livingston, and the entire Local Arrangements Committee should be congratulated for their hard work and creative planning that once again made this a conference to remember. After not seeing each other in person for two years, every event was a celebration to be remembered. We hugged, fist bumped and waved our way to old friends and new and simply enjoyed everything you did to bring us back together. We thank you for your hard work and want you to know, this will be one of the most appreciated TACRAO conferences ever held.

LET IT FURTHER BE RESOLVED...

To Jamie Hansard, TACRAO President and the other members of the TACRAO Executive Committee: Thank you for all your work to assure we could have an in-person conference this year. In a year when it might have been easier to just say, “we’ll be virtual again,” we appreciate your dedication to the organization and the members to provide such a great slate of presentations and to push forward with the 100th TACRAO conference here in Lubbock. Your accomplishments over this past year are something to be recognized as you cut costs, continued the conversion to our new enterprise system for the organization, Member Clicks, and cleaned up by-laws and procedures. This work is quite impressive and has improved the experience for TACRAO members in many ways.

HOWEVER, next year could you invest in some signs that are bigger than a recipe card to mark the TACRAO shuttle? We always appreciate the free transportation but this year, Uber appreciated it more as we had no idea that big ole bus was for us. Speaking of shuttles, did you happen to get to ride the “party shuttle last night?” It was quite the transportation complete with bunk beds. Wait... that wasn’t a shuttle? Our bad...

Lubbock Civic Center and the Texas Tech Caterers – Thank you so much for your hospitality and the meals were delicious! Each meal was served with care, cooked well and were generous portions. Well, except for the one ravioli included in the lunch Tuesday. Would that make it a raviol-a? And, there was much concern over the missing tea at dinner on Sunday, but the wonderful dessert made up for it. Still, it was good to see it make an appearance back on our tables at lunch on Monday. It’s a good thing that the caterers did so well. We understand if they hadn’t, President Jamie is known to walk right into the kitchen and get complete the meals herself – Just ask Whataburger.

President Jamie’s signature drink – the Chilton - and Past President Bobby’s signature drink – Crown Black - were a big hit Monday evening. Bobby may have even been heard stating it made for the best night of his life.

To our past presidents. John, Chuck, Becki Griffith, Oscar, Berri, Dave, Becky Lothringer, Dorothy, Sophia, Troy, Joe, Fred Rodriguez, newest Past President Bobby Lothringer, late arrival, John Edwards and also, to Wanda and Margaret who were able to join us for the Past-presidents meeting virtually, your presence and the sharing of your experiences are truly a cornerstone of our conference.

To Chuck Kettlewell, Dave Stones and John Hall. Thank you for sharing your years of wisdom in your session, “Tales from the Three Wise Guys.” It was the talk of many of the attendees. I’m sorry to tell you, however, that the attendees thought your presentation title was, “Tales from the Three OLD Guys” and reported they learned a couple of unexpected jewels from John Hall when he explained the Methodist motto and what “chaps his ass.” And, Dave, with all your years of IT work, perhaps you should consider a more up to date way to gather your notes other than crinkled papers you pull from your pants pocket.

(continued on page 26)

Tana's Tidings



Tana Miller
*Vice President for Records
& Registration*
West Texas A&M University

WOW! I want to thank all of you who were able to attend the 100th TACRAO Annual Conference in Lubbock, Texas! After not being able to meet in person in 2020, it was wonderful seeing everyone's smiling faces. Thanks to you we were able to have a successful conference with approximately 100 sessions, lots of fantastic food and fun times at Cook's Garage and in the hospitality room. We learned that Practice Makes ~~Perfect~~ Permanent, that the Three Wise Guys truly are wise and that TACRAO members really do love an opportunity to dress to a theme (Greased Lightning). We seriously missed many of you who weren't able to come but hope to see you next November in San Antonio.

It is hard to believe but we are actively planning for the 101st Conference to be held November 2022 in San Antonio, Texas at the Hyatt Hill Country Resort. Committees are working on putting together sessions for the conference so if you have a session that you'd like to see presented OR even better, if you'd like to volunteer to present a session and share your expertise, complete and submit the Session Proposal form. It can be found on the main TACRAO website (www.tacrao.org) or you can access it directly here: <https://conferenceprogram.tacrao.org/session/submission/evid:30/>

Remember that TACRAO is a 100% volunteer organization and that your involvement is critical to our success. We have the largest (and absolute best) organization under the AACRAO umbrella. We would love to have you volunteer to serve the organization as a member of a session planning committee or standing committee, or even as an officer serving on the TACRAO Executive Committee (TEC) in the future. Be sure to complete the "I'm Available" Form which can be found on the TACRAO website or directly here: https://tacrao.memberclicks.net/index.php?option=com_mcform&view=ngforms&id=2082178#/



I look forward to seeing all of you at our Summer Meeting July 12-13 at the Double Tree Hotel in Austin, Texas and then at the annual meeting, November 6-9 in San Antonio.

Tana Miller
Vice Present for Records & Registration



Justin's Jottings

Greetings from Houston!

Thank you to everyone who made Lubbock 2021 a success! We are very thankful for the dozens and dozens of you who stepped up to put on a great conference! While the conference may have ended, you can still take advantage of the many great presentations that were delivered by going to <https://www.tacrao.org/2021-annual-conference-presentations>. On that page you will find a list of all the presentations along with hyperlinks to download the presentation slides if they have been provided. (And if you are a presenter who still would like to upload your slides, you may do so by going [here](#).)

Over the next few months we plan to tackle a few items on the IT side of things:

- Further enhancements to the website to make it a little more navigable, especially on a mobile device
- Restructuring of the TACRAO SharePoint site to allow TEC to find and store documents better
- Increased technology support for High School Relations with their teamwork needs
- Reviewing options for listserv transition

If you have ideas of things that would be beneficial to the TACRAO membership in terms of technology, please don't hesitate to reach out to me at vpit@tacrao.org!

Justin Schilke
Vice Present for Technology



Justin Schilke
Vice President for
Technology
Rice University



Brandy's Beat



Brandy Piner
Secretary

*The University of Texas Health
Science Center at San Antonio*

I am honored to serve the TACRAO membership as Secretary for the next two years. I look forward to working with such a great organization and serving the needs of our members.

As we head into a new semester and you are checking your recruiting and enrollment lists twice, please take a moment to also check your institution's member directory. If there are any updates that need to be made, the key contact for your institution can make those updates online. You can view your key contact by visiting our [member directory search](#).

In the upcoming months, we will send out more information pertaining to Membership Dues for 2022-2023 and invoices for the Texas Common Course Number System (TCCNS).

I hope you have a great spring semester! As always, please let us know if you have any questions or need further support.

Brandy Piner
Secretary





Lori's Letter

What a fantastic 100th Annual Conference in Lubbock! With an extensive slate of sessions, entertaining social events, and terrific hospitality, it was one for the record books! I appreciate the countless hours of hard work that each person contributed to the overwhelming success, especially the **LAC Co-Chairs Kat Livingston and Bobbie Brown!**

As I move into my second year as TACRAO Treasurer, I would like to thank everyone for their support. I'm very grateful for this opportunity to get to know folks across the state as both colleagues and friends. I look forward to continuing to serve this great organization and its members! If serving TACRAO interests you, visit our [website](#).

Although the 100th Conference is barely in the rearview mirror, I'm already looking forward to next year's conference in San Antonio. I know the LAC has great things in store – they've been hard at work making arrangements already!

I wish all of you the happiest of holidays with your family and friends!

Lori Zerr
Treasurer



Lori Zerr
Treasurer

*The University of Texas Health
Science Center at Houston*



2022 Conference Chat



Anne Delgado
Local Arrangements Co-Chair
The University of Texas Health
Science Center at San Antonio



Alejandra (Alex) Holt
Local Arrangements Co-Chair
The University of Texas Health
at San Antonio

Though we had already begun preparing for TACRAO 2020 in San Antonio with Past President Bobby Lothringer, COVID 19 had us pivot to a virtual annual conference instead. And so we have begun planning AGAIN for San Antonio!

We are in full swing for TACRAO 2022 working alongside President Paige Bussell to bring you a valuable and dynamic annual conference. We had a great response by the membership to join our LAC subcommittees. Thank you to all who have responded to the call! A kick-off call for subcommittee chairs will be held after the new year, so please be on the lookout for our email. If you are interested in joining LAC, please send Alex and myself an email so we can add you to our list.

Lastly, we are excited for our Big Event, NIOSTA, to held in downtown San Antonio. Did you know that Fiesta San Antonio is the city's biggest and most attended festival with more than 3 million people attending every year?

A Night in Old San Antonio (NIOA) is a four night festival in the heart of downtown that celebrates the city's diverse cultural legacy. It is 1 of more than 100 events hosted during Fiesta San Antonio. NIOA is sponsored and benefits The Conservation Society of San Antonio and is the top fundraiser for historic preservation, education, and museum programs of the Society. NIOSTA, is a private miniature version of NIOA, which creates a special celebration that offers the flavor of San Antonio with a traditional fiesta.

We hope our Big Event sparks excitement and look forward to seeing you in November 2022!

Your San Antonio LAC Co-Chairs,

Annie Delgado
Delgadoa@uthscsa.edu

Alex Holt
Alejandra.Holt@utsa.edu





Don Palermo 5K Fun Run



1st Place

Female: **Katie Brown**
Motomatic: 31:47

Male: **PJ Wollston**
UTPB: 31:46

2nd Place

Female: **Andrea Wiste**
Galveston College: 31:53

Male: **Anthony Perez**
TAMU-SA: 32:30

3rd Place

Female: **Cara Hogan**
Odessa College: 1 hour

Male: **Michal Klinck**
UT-Arlington: 1 hour

2022 Communications Committee

We want to hear from you! Let us know what is going on at your institution so that we can be sure and include it in the Regional News portion of future TACRAO newsletters. Below please find your regional contact for the Communications Committee as well as THE upcoming deadline to get your news into the next newsletter!

<u>Committee Member</u>	<u>Institution</u>	<u>Region</u>	<u>Email</u>
Bobby Lothringer (Chair)	Southern Methodist University	North	rlothringer@smu.edu
Truman Glenn	The University of Texas at Austin	Central	truman.glenn@austin.utexas.edu
Betsy Gooding	Northeast Texas Community College	East	bgooding@ntcc.edu
Melissa Chapa	Texas A&M University - Corpus Christi	South	missy.chapa@tamucc.edu
Julie Palmer	Lamar Institute of Technology	Southeast	jrpitts@lit.edu
Julian Olivas	Texas Tech University	West	julian.olivas@ttu.edu

Due date to get your regional news into the next newsletter: **APRIL 7, 2022**



PICTURES, PICTURES, & MORE PICTURES!

flashphotography

THE NATION'S PREMIER EVENT PHOTOGRAPHER



Digital photos courtesy of **FLASH PHOTOGRAPHY**. To view these and other photos from the conference, go to www.flashphotography.com, and enter **TACRAO** in "Other Events". You may also choose to order print photographs at a cost.

PICTURES, PICTURES, & MORE PICTURES!



Digital photos courtesy of **FLASH PHOTOGRAPHY**. To view these and other photos from the conference, go to www.flashphotography.com, and enter **TACRAO** in "Other Events". You may also choose to order print photographs at a cost.

PICTURES, PICTURES, & MORE PICTURES!



Digital photos courtesy of **FLASH PHOTOGRAPHY**. To view these and other photos from the conference, go to www.flashphotography.com, and enter **TACRAO** in "Other Events". You may also choose to order print photographs at a cost.

PICTURES, PICTURES, & MORE PICTURES!



Digital photos courtesy of **FLASH PHOTOGRAPHY**. To view these and other photos from the conference, go to www.flashphotography.com, and enter **TACRAO** in "Other Events". You may also choose to order print photographs at a cost.

PICTURES, PICTURES, & MORE PICTURES!



Digital photos courtesy of **FLASH PHOTOGRAPHY**. To view these and other photos from the conference, go to www.flashphotography.com, and enter **TACRAO** in "Other Events". You may also choose to order print photographs at a cost.

flashphotography

THE NATION'S PREMIER EVENT PHOTOGRAPHER

PICTURES, PICTURES, & MORE PICTURES!



Digital photos courtesy of **FLASH PHOTOGRAPHY**. To view these and other photos from the conference, go to www.flashphotography.com, and enter **TACRAO** in "Other Events". You may also choose to order print photographs at a cost.

flashphotography

THE NATION'S PREMIER EVENT PHOTOGRAPHER

PICTURES, PICTURES, & MORE PICTURES!



Digital photos courtesy of **FLASH PHOTOGRAPHY**. To view these and other photos from the conference, go to www.flashphotography.com, and enter **TACRAO** in "Other Events". You may also choose to order print photographs at a cost.

flashphotography

THE NATION'S PREMIER EVENT PHOTOGRAPHER

PICTURES, PICTURES, & MORE PICTURES!



Digital photos courtesy of **FLASH PHOTOGRAPHY**. To view these and other photos from the conference, go to www.flashphotography.com, and enter **TACRAO** in "Other Events". You may also choose to order print photographs at a cost.

flashphotography

THE NATION'S PREMIER EVENT PHOTOGRAPHER

PICTURES, PICTURES, & MORE PICTURES!



Digital photos courtesy of **FLASH PHOTOGRAPHY**. To view these and other photos from the conference, go to www.flashphotography.com, and enter **TACRAO** in "Other Events". You may also choose to order print photographs at a cost.

2021 Resolutions Report (cont.)

To our Sunday night keynote speaker, Elizabeth McCormick...thank you for encouraging us to ask “why not” and to work in our “potential zone” because when we work in our comfort zone, we only get what we’ve already accomplished because we are working where we’ve already been. You wrapped your lessons around tales of your experience becoming a Black Hawk helicopter pilot and challenged us to be on a “mission of excellence” where “practice makes,” say it with me, “permanent.” She also got a kick out of trying to embarrass past president, Bobby Lothinger. We aren’t sure he was embarrassed but he did turn as red as the stripes on his tie. I hope you don’t hold it against those of us that streamed the season premiere of Yellowstone during the dinner. At least we didn’t skip out.

To our President’s Award Recipient, Jason Hale: Great job bringing together the 78 sponsors for our conference. Your work and their sponsorship really helped support this conference and our ability to meet this year. Speaking of our vendors, since some weren’t able to join us at the dinner Sunday or the lunch Monday, let’s please pause a moment and allow Jamie to recognize them... each... by name... again. Truly though, we thank each of our sponsors and are so happy to have you with us. You are an important part of the success of our conference. We also loved seeing so many of you participating in our events this year. I hear you gave our runners a challenge and bebopped with the best of them at the big event.

To our 147 Newcomers...we welcome you to TACRAO and are excited to have you with us. This is just the beginning to your participation in TACARO. We can’t wait to see what each of you will accomplish in the future.

To the presenters for our sessions, thank you for sharing your expertise. From upspeak, to federal and state mandates, to recruiter Olympics, the 106 sessions informed and promoted our professional development. Okay, stop that.

To our newest honorary members: Alfred “Fred” Rodriguez, Nancy Faris, Lynda Langham, Myra Hafer, Debbie Gilchrist, and Lisa Serna, congratulations on this recognition of your work and dedication to TACRAO. Thank you as well to Berri O’Neal and John Hall, who were kind enough to attend the conference this year to be acknowledged for their Honorary Status previously awarded last year. And although the plaque was missing when Jamie tried to award it to Berri, it soon arrived, ran into the dinner much like the Olympic Torch, and Berri was able to accept it, on the floor... alone. No, Berri, you can’t get a do over. You’re still an honorary member, even if you are in the picture alone.

To the LAC & TEC...What a Main Event last night! Pink Ladies, T-birds, Rizzos, Sandys, that kid from the track team and more, showed up and danced the night away. It was just like “greased lightening” which is also exactly how I felt each time I stepped into the shower with this soft Lubbock water. Congratulations to our costume winners. You really embraced the theme – so much so that Troy White shaved his beard for his costume. He’s going to be in so much trouble when he gets home.

Emerald City was the perfect band for the night as they played a variety of music that had something to appeal to most all. That’s good too, because their music distracted the attendees from their search for food as the menu became less of a, “here’s what we are serving tonight,” to a “here’s what you could have had if you had gotten here earlier” list. Still the morsels were delicious, and the bar was open all night. To the participants of the Hospitality suite and karaoke nights, yes nights, in the hospitality room at the MCM Elegante, you lined up to amaze, or maybe not amaze, the audience with your musical prowess.

In addition to the Karaoke, the MCM arranged for Live snakes to be present for our arrival Sunday. Although there was much speculation, no snakes were found interacting with the hospitality attendees. We also thank the MCM Elegante for their thoughtful donation of left-over food from the manager’s reception held earlier in the evening. I know many people crave chicken alfredo, at 10:00 pm, as they prepare to sing karaoke. Unfortunately karaoke did not extend to Tuesday night and it became a DIY thing and no one was doing it, until suddenly, they were.

Once again, TACRAO members were given the opportunity to support a great local charity. This year Buckner was our selected beneficiary. We want to acknowledge Jasmin, who touched us with her personal story and reminded us all that “when you help someone, you become not only a part of their lives, but a part of their hope.”

To our Fun Run participants...congratulations on making it back to the conference. The LAC tried their best to lose you, but you were resilient and found your way to Chimi’s. It’s amazing what some TACRAO members will do for a margarita. Kudos to the winners. We had no idea who you were but are glad to know now that you were recognized earlier in the meeting.

(Continued on the next page)

2021 Resolutions Report (cont.)

To the 2021 Battle of the Regions...After a rousing game of minute to win it, it turned out that the West Texas region and the Southeast Texas region equally sucked... as they had to move M&Ms with a straw from place to place. After a double tie, the West Texas Region beat out Southeast for the trophy with a declarative game of Rock, Paper, Scissors. Really? Could it at least be Rock, Paper, Scissors, Lizard, Spock next time? Congratulations West Texas.

Be it also known, that President Jamie Hansard, was the first president in recent history to complete our meetings ahead of time. So, as she looks at her watch, we begin to wrap up resolutions and we all see TEC stop holding their breath.

BUT wait, there's more. Most people think Melinda is quiet, but catch her on the right night, in the right mood, and she'll call out the elephant in the room, even when it's a BIG elephant, and tell you quite forcibly how she feels. By the way, Paige, I "go both ways" is such a risky phrase, especially when said within earshot of the resolutions committee. Evidently those TACRAO converse tennis shoes are not as comfortable as they look. We hope your blisters are doing okay, Jennifer, but if not, we understand Lori can give you a band aid that evidently you can use, anywhere. Tana and Kristin...y'all keep your noses clean and we've got nothing. Wow, that's impressive.

So as we prepare to leave the Hub City and go our separate ways, it is time head back to reality, virtual or not, and look forward to the 101st gathering in San Antonio, where we will attend the conference that never was, due to COVID 19 interruption. Oh wait, we forgot Justin. Sorry Justin. If we didn't know better, we'd think you've been eliminated. (For those that don't know, that's a Squid Games reference that is equivalent to being "voted off the island.") Just kidding Justin. You know we love you.

THEREFORE, be it resolved that as we pack our bags, after a fantastic "Setting the sun, promising another century of success," and travel home and back to reality, we feel a little deflated.. we see you snickering out there. Get your minds out of the gutter. We look forward to reconvening in San Antonio next year and seeing all our friends again. Until then, may all stay safe.

Respectfully submitted, at 3 am,
Your dedicated 2021 Resolutions Committee:

Rebecca Lothringer, University of Texas at Arlington
Scott Branum, Galveston College
Tiffany Lipscomb, University of North Texas