



News for Spring 18

Hello TACRAO Colleagues,

I hope you are enjoying the spring weather and its beauty before it gets away from us. I am honored and excited to be serving our organization as president!

Brenda Schumann, Dara Newton, and I had the privilege of attending the AACRAO States & Regionals Leadership Meeting in December. We learned about financial budgeting and legal issues concerning our organization from AACRAO leaders and guest speakers. This is a great training opportunity for the Executive Committee members.

Your Executive Committee has been hard at work preparing for TACRAO 2018: Blazing New Trails in Higher Education. In an effort to reduce cost, TEC has replaced the initial planning meeting with a series of conference calls this year. The conference calls have been very productive.

"Your Executive Committee has been hard at work preparing for TACRAO 2018: Blazing New Trails in Higher Education November 4 – 7 in Fort Worth, Texas"



Joy Frazier and Araceli Hill, 2018 LAC Co-Chairs are doing a wonderful job planning an amazing conference for us. We had the opportunity to tour the Fort Worth Convention Center and the two conference hotels – the Omni Hotel and the Sheraton Hotel. The Convention Center is beautiful and Fort Worth is preparing for our annual conference on November 4-7. The conference webpage will be up soon.

TEC asked Leticia Bazan, High School Relations Committee Chair, to search for replacement software for the College Day/Night program. Leticia and HSRC reviewed a few software and recommended to implement Fair Planner software from GOTOCOLLEGEFAIRs.COM. TEC has approved the recommendation and the implementation is underway under Leticia's leadership. Leticia and the HSRC will be busy the next couple of months setting up and loading data into the software. Many thanks to Leticia and the HSRC.

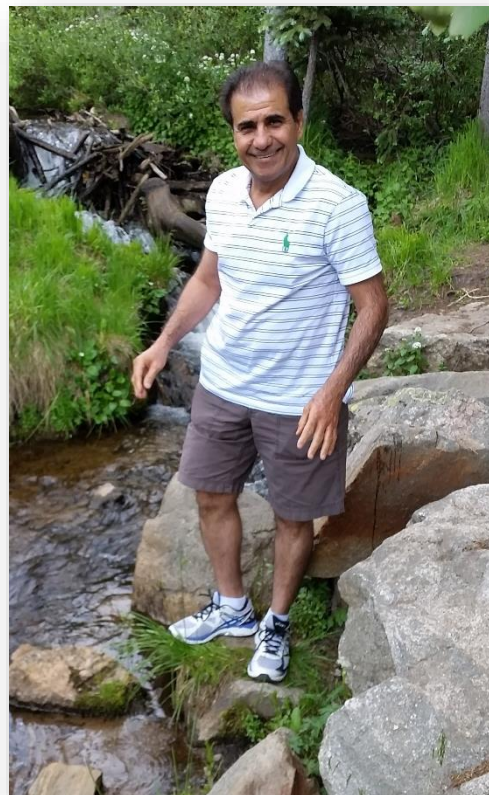
The University Issues, Apply Texas/SPEEDE, and Community College Issues committee chairs are busy preparing for the summer meetings. The meetings will be held at the Doubletree Hotel in

Austin. You can register for the meetings and make hotel room reservations on the [Summer Meetings webpage](#). The agenda for the meetings will be posted on this webpage in May. The summer meeting dates are:

University Issues Meeting	July 17, 2018
Apply Texas/SPEEDE-EDI Meeting	July 18, 2018
Community College Issues Meeting	July 19-20, 2018

Your TEC continue carrying out the duties of daily association business and responsibilities. We welcome feedback and questions from our members, so please feel free to email or call us at any time. The TEC contact information is found under the ["ABOUT US"](#) tab on the TACRAO homepage. Thank you members for all that you do for TACRAO. Our organization would not be successful if it wasn't for the dedication and effort given by so many of you. Enjoy the rest of your spring semester and I look forward to seeing you at the Summer Meetings!

Joe Papari, TACRAO **President**



Greetings TACRAO Colleagues,

I look forward to seeing you at our upcoming summer meetings and annual meeting in Fort Worth.

The 2017-2018 Texas Common Course Numbering System (TCCNS) invoices were recently sent to the institutional primary contact. Please note, due to the change in TACRAO membership databases, the TCCNS invoices are being distributed later than in previous years. One feature of the new system is that the institutional contact is able to submit payment for TCCNS invoices on-line via the TACRAO website. Please do not confuse 2017-2018 TCCNS Support Fees with the 2017-2018 TACRAO membership dues.

Texas Common Course Numbering System (TCCNS) benefits our students and institutions from across the state in the facilitation of transferring credits from one institution to another. The TCCNS enables member institutions to develop degree specific transfer guides utilizing common course numbers and send them to a central office where they will be available for distribution to all Texas community colleges.

Regular TACRAO membership invoices for 2018-2019 will be distributed to the institutional primary contact in August. Best wishes for a successful semester and I look forward to seeing you all soon.

Best,

Brenda Schumann



Secretary

Immediate Past President



Greetings from the Texas Gulf Coast!

Before going into detail of what I've been accomplishing since conference, I want to send out another heartfelt THANK YOU to the LAC-2017 for an outstanding conference at South Padre Island! Everyone had a wonderful time and it was all due to your diligent work – you guys are simply AWESOME!

The TEC has been busy conducting TACRAO business and planning summer meetings, calling out for session proposals and working with the N&E to start the nomination/election process soon – so we've hit the ground running since November.

You can help us prepare for the TACRAO 2018 Conference in Fort Worth by signing up now to become a mentor for a new member. The Newcomers Committee will strive to have enough mentors so that each of you will only need to have one mentee. Please consider becoming a mentor and help a new and rising professional to learn more about TACRAO and how to get involved. For those of you who became mentors for new members during our 2017 Conference, please follow up with your mentee and maintain that contact. Send a short email to see how their semester is going and to see if they have any questions on involvement with the association. I thank you for your valuable service to TACRAO in this capacity!

On April 6, the LAC-2017 and the TEC met with the TACRAO Auditing Committee to review the financials for the conference at SMU in Dallas. [John Hall](#) and [Joe Papari](#) have graciously agreed to host us for the day to conduct the audit. The Auditing Committee consists of [Lori Zerr](#)-Chair and members [John Hall](#) and [Bobby Lothringer](#). Also attending the audit will be LAC Co-Chairs [Maggie Hinojosa](#), [Griselda Castilla](#) and LAC Treasurer [Nicole Luna](#). From the TEC, [Joe Papari-President](#), [Jeremy Dorman-Treasurer](#), [Sofia Montes-President Elect](#), and myself-Past President will also be in attendance.

Also, on April 30-May 1, the Site Selection Committee, comprised of [Melinda Carroll](#) (North Central Texas College), [Latoya Whitaker](#) (Baylor College of Medicine) and myself, will be traveling to several site locations to visit for the possible conference site for 2020. There are so many factors that must be considered when selecting a conference site like adequate meeting space, room accommodations for our large membership, travel arrangements, airport proximity, etc., so the Committee will do our very best to present a site that is amenable to everyone in one way or another. Thank goodness that we work with a great company like Experient and our account representative Debbie Borel-Ploeger who make this huge task a bit easier.

Part of my role as Past President is maintaining updates to our governing documents, LAC Procedures Manual and Summer Meeting Committee's Procedures Manuals, so if you have any suggestions, comments on any of these procedures, please pass them on to me so I can review with the rest of the TEC and make recommendations for change/revision for next year. All of the proposed and approved revisions for 2017 have been posted to our governing documents on our website.

I wish you a successful rest of spring semester and look forward to seeing many of you at our Summer Meetings in Austin.

Irene Robinson – Immediate Past President

Treasurer's Report

We have passed the mid-term period for spring 2018....time really does pass more quickly the older you get!

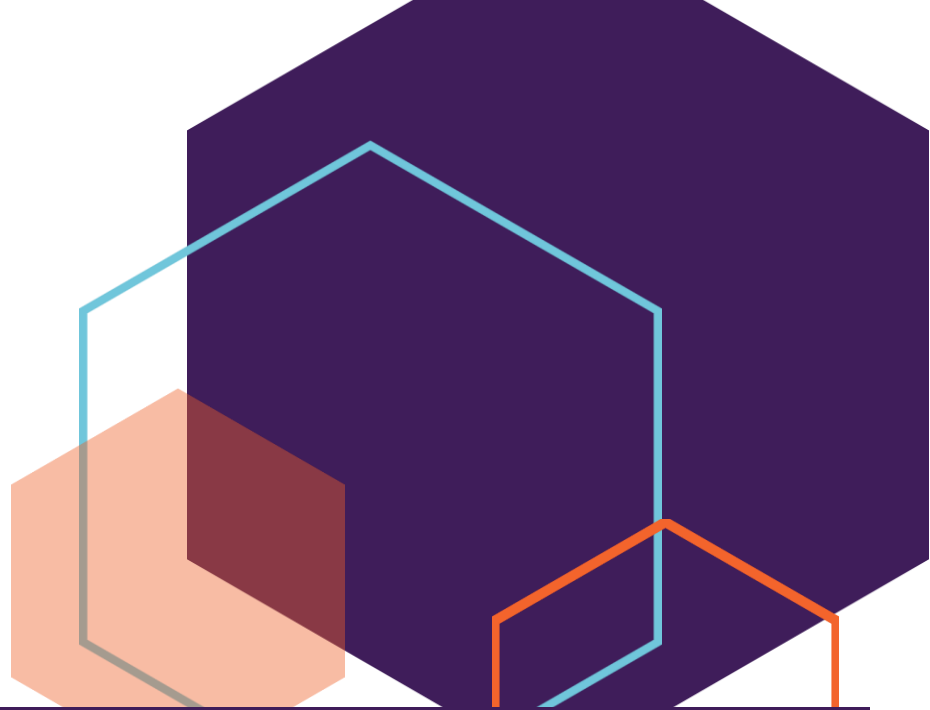
Our South Padre Island time seems like a distant memory now. We wrapped up the Conference with the LAC audit during the first week of April.

The University Issues, Community College Issues and Apply Texas/Speede Summer Meeting registrations will be opening soon (if not already by the time you read this). If you are not able to pay online by credit card through our website, please be sure your check indicates the meeting you are attending.

TACRAO is financially stable and your TEC is very diligent in ensuring we manage the funds wisely. Please feel free to reach out to me if I can help. I hope the remainder of your spring semester is a success.

Jeremy Dorman - Treasurer





"TACRAO 2018 Session Sneak Peaks"

The Spring newsletter has sprung and that means we are one-step closer to the November Annual meeting. I hope you Dabbed to celebrate an amazing spring registration. Planning is under way and **Dara Newton** and I are working very hard to pull together an excellent slate of sessions for everyone. The Records and Registration committees have pulled together amazing sessions this year. I want to personally thank the following Records and Registration Chairs for the hard work and the leadership of their committees:

- **Scott Branum**, Chair of Registration and Records Session Planning Committee
- **Justin Schilke**, Chair of the Data and Technology Collection Session Planning Committee
- **Lorena Rios**, Chair of the Certification and Legal Issues Committee

I want to thank everyone that submitted a session proposal for TACRAO 2018 in Fort Worth. Here is a sneak peak of the topics:

- National Student Clearinghouse and NSLDS reporting (multiple sessions)
- Commencement and Graduation (multiple sessions)
- The Dana Center presenting on House Bill 2223
- Automating CBM Reports
- Dual Credit Moving to Online
- NCAA Institutional Controls
- Hazelwood Reporting
- Handling Data Requests
- Creating and Maintaining ApplyTexas
- Diploma Mills and Fraudulent Credentials
- Paperless Processing

I know that only professionals in admissions and registration can truly get excited about these topics, but hey we are a unique field!!! I look forward to seeing everyone in Fort Worth, if not sooner.

Andi Liner – **VP Records and Registration**

President-Elect

I feel honored to contribute to our Spring Newsletter as your President-Elect! I'm looking forward to another three rewarding years with our great organization as I work to serve our membership's needs.

Spring is here and that means Commencement plans are in full swing and students are making decisions about colleges and universities to attend. It's safe to say we're ALL very busy!

Your TACRAO Executive Committee (TEC) knows all about busy! We are enjoying your session proposals, but remember it's not too late to submit more! Your Vice Presidents – **Andi Liner** and **Dara Newton** – are excited to be organizing a fantastic slate of sessions, and we're happy to include other topics and presenters that will add to the diversity and quality of our concurrent sessions during the annual conference.

Not ready to present, but want to get involved? GREAT! Serving as Session Facilitator is an excellent opportunity to get involved! Thank you to those who have submitted the "I'm Available" Form. To those of you who have not submitted an "I'm Available" form yet, we need you to help make the conference a great success! You can access that form and others on our website: TACRAO.org.

Finally, thank you for your responses to the Call for Nominations and Elections Committee members. The Nominations & Elections (N&E) Committee Chair, **Oscar Reyna**, will be contacting you all soon to vote for your new N&E Committee members. That committee will be presenting a slate of nominees to serve as President-Elect, Treasurer, Vice President for Records and our newest TEC position of Vice President for Technology for the 2018-2019 term.

As always, let me know what I can do to help you find the perfect opportunity for more involvement in TACRAO. Your participation, time and ideas all add to the value and strength of TACRAO.

Sofia Montes - President-Elect



The 2018 TACRAO Annual Conference will be held at the Fort Worth Convention Center, November 4-7, 2018. This location is in Downtown Ft. Worth, within walking distance to both the Omni and the Sheraton Hotel, a variety of incredible restaurants, and fabulous shopping. So pack your boots and running shoes because there is plenty of fun for everyone!



East Texas

By Lynda Langham

Tyler Junior College hosted the annual ETACRAO meeting on March 28th with a good turn-out of East Texas institutions. We had a robust agenda full of current issues that were of interest to the group including several bills for which our institutions are developing compliance procedures, commencement procedures, dual credit and GDPR. It was a great day full of collegiality, good food, very relevant/helpful information, and sharing of ideas. East Texas Baptist University will be hosting the 2019 meeting.

East Texas Baptist University (ETBU) has experienced a lot of "new" since our last newsletter. In December, we set a new record for graduates. As it stands now, Spring Commencement looks to hit a new high as well. With the recent past terms all nearing or surpassing record enrollments, this looks to be a trend for many years to come. Our Graduation Certification Officer, **Miss Karson Kent**, has her hands full!

In addition to the larger numbers, ETBU entered new territory by handing out the graduate's diplomas on stage during Commencement as they walked across. Despite the nervousness that engulfed everyone in the office, nothing was out of order and it went off without a hitch!

Our final "new" has to do with new personnel on staff in our office. **Mrs. Donna Wilson** has moved from the part-time Receptionist position into a full-time Secretary position within the Registrar's Office. Filling her vacancy at the Receptionist position is **Mr. Spencer Jones**, a recent Texas

transplant from Kansas. We are excited to have such an amazing team and look forward to great things ahead!

Northeast Texas Community College

In a unanimous decision at its December meeting, the Board of Trustees for Northeast Texas Community College voted to appoint **Dr. Ron Clinton** as president of the college. For the previous nine years, Dr. Clinton had served as the Executive Vice President for Instruction. Dr. Clinton's association with Northeast began in 1984, when the college first opened its doors to students. He served as a faculty member for music, humanities, and philosophy for many years prior to moving into an administrative role. Clinton holds Master's and Doctor's Degrees from the University of Texas at Austin, and earned his Bachelor of Fine Arts from Stephen F. Austin State University. He is the fifth president of NTCC since the college opened in 1984, and succeeds **Dr. Brad Johnson**, who served as president for nine years until September 2017. A search is currently underway to identify a replacement for Dr. Clinton's previous position in the Vice President for Instruction office.

Stephen F. Austin State University men's basketball team made another appearance in the March Madness NCAA tournament, giving the Texas Tech Red Raiders a run for their money. SFA was recently ranked as one of the safest colleges in America by the National Council for Home Safety and Security.

The Registrar's Office, in conjunction with Financial Aid, implemented Courses that Count in Program of Study (CPoS) functionality. Campus-wide implementation of Banner 9 is planned for fall 2018.

In Admissions: Showcase Saturday on March 24th was a huge hit! A beautiful spring day on campus was enjoyed by all participants. The Azaleas on campus were really showing off!



Greetings from the Southeast

Region! Despite recent rainy days, we've seen some pretty awesome weather (since our freeze in January). As we gear up to wrap up yet another spring semester, we are pleased to share with TACRAO a few Sound Bites from our area. Listen closely....

Alvin Community College hired an Assistant Registrar. **Andrea Celestine** started in January as the first Assistant Registrar in the history of the College. Andrea has over 10 years in higher education most recently at Prairie View A&M. Andrea acquired the Masters of Arts in Organization Management from the University of Phoenix. She brings a wealth of experience and knowledge to this position and we're thrilled to welcome her to ACC and TACRAO!

Galveston College Admissions Office also welcomed their very own Andrea as well! **Andrea Wiste** joined the team as an Admissions Counselor. Andrea will be responsible for dual credit enrollment, recruitment, and retention. Andrea was previously an Upward Bound Academic Coordinator for the college and brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to the Admissions Office.

Southeast TACRAO members have been selected as the host region for the TACRAO

2019 annual conference. We'll be heading back to an island – beautiful Galveston Island! It takes a village to host a successful conference, and we're hoping you will join us in making the 2019 conference one of the best! There are plenty of volunteer opportunities on a variety of Local Arrangements subcommittees, with various levels of commitment.

If you're interested in being involved send us your contact information and your area of interest to lac.oddyear@tacrao.org. More information will be forthcoming.

CONGRATULATIONS to **Robert Jenkins** for submitting our first Southeast Sound Bite Help Corner Question: What is generally accepted by the membership to be the greatest TACRAO annual conference of all time (OK maybe the last 25 years will do) and why?

Thanks to **Irene Robinson**, **Robert Jenkins**, **Scott Branum** & **Lori Zerr** for submitting information for our Sound Bites. SETACRAO, share your news! Be sure to submit any updates or Help Corner Questions to amartin@alvincollege.edu so you don't get left out the next newsletter! We want to hear your Sound Bites!

Southeast Texas

By Akilah Martin



South Texas

By Lorena Rios



Hello TACRAO family,

I appreciate the opportunity to be a member of the Communications Committee. It's a great honor and I look forward to serving this amazing association. I'm also Chair of the Legal Issues Committee for TACRAO 2018. Please make plans to attend the Annual Conference in November at Fort Worth. We have been working very hard at arranging interesting sessions. With all the new state and federal laws, we need to help each other and work together!

From the South Texas Region, **Laredo Community College** is excited to share with the TACRAO family that our institution was ranked #7 among Nursing



Programs in Texas by *RegisteredNursing.org*. Programs are evaluated according to the level of student support offered for licensure and beyond. Also weighed into consideration are the past and present first time NCLEX-RN "pass-rates". 116 schools were selected for evaluation and 50 were ranked. Our institution is honored to have attained this accolade. It is rewarding to share this news alongside the stellar achievements from other institutions within the TACRAO family. I wish you a smooth rest-of-the academic year and a great summer!



UT Rio Grande Valley is excited to announce the hiring of our new Associate Vice President for Strategic Enrollment, **Dara Newton**. Many of you know Dara comes to UTRGV from UT Arlington, where she served as Executive Director of Enrollment Management. Dara will oversee the Offices of Undergraduate Recruitment and Undergraduate Admissions including the Visitor's Center, New Student Orientation, and Campus Tours. We look forward to having her on our Strategic Enrollment Team! WELCOME DARA!

Dora Colvin of **Texas State Technical College** was recognized as a recipient of the TSTC Chancellor's Excellence Award for the second time! Congratulations go out to Dora from her colleagues across South Texas!



West Texas

By Diane Brice

Texas Tech University: On March 8th, 2018, the Office of the Registrar at Texas Tech University hosted a FERPA Training presentation, featuring guest speaker AACRAO Senior Fellow, **LeRoy Rooker**. We had an outstanding turn out, with more than 120 attendees from over 35 departments and offices across the university campus. During the event, Mr. Rooker covered a variety of topic areas regarding FERPA compliance and best practices for universities, colleges, and departments. Mr. Rooker's presentation allowed us, as a Texas Tech community, to expand our breadth of knowledge on various FERPA topics and implications for institutions of higher education. Most importantly, this event provided a very positive means for the TTU Registrar's Office to support the greater efforts of our campus, and help to identify areas for improvement.



FERPA is a fundamental part of what we do, and having the opportunity to learn directly from Mr. Rooker was an invaluable experience. This event allowed the Registrar's Office to develop extensive documentation of potential improvements in how we provide guidance and support for FERPA compliance among our campus partners. We would like extend a very special thank you to Mr. Rooker for his willingness to share his time, expertise, and vast knowledge of FERPA with the Texas Tech University community.

Amarillo College has formed a partnership with Texas Tech University to expand horticultural studies in the Texas Panhandle, [reports The Amarillo Globe-News](#). The announcement comes as Amarillo College prepares to open an impressive new greenhouse facility. The Texas Tech partnership will open a pathway for Amarillo College students to finish an entire 4-year bachelor's degree in plant and soil science from Texas Tech, without ever leaving the Amarillo campus. The new \$2 million greenhouse laboratory facility will be located at the college's Washington Street campus. Students will also be able to choose a two-year associate's degree program in horticulture. The new partnership will also open up research opportunities between students at the two schools.

Angelo State University: **Robert Sport** has replaced **Chris Houston** as the West Texas representative for Angelo State University.

West Texas

Continued...

A New Day Dawns for **Texas State Technical College** in Abilene (#TSTCbiggerandbetter). That's the social media hashtag the marketing team is using to promote our growing presence and new building in Abilene. But the term is so much more than just a promotional tag. It commemorates our long history and defines our future in the Big Country.

With construction on TSTC's Industrial Technology Center to be completed in early July near Abilene Regional Airport, TSTC is poised to better serve the students and workforce of the region. The 56,000-square-foot structure will house state-of-the-art equipment and bring new technology disciplines to the area.

In short, TSTC has chosen to go all-in. TSTC administrators and economic development experts are betting the college will do for Abilene what it's done for other TSTC campus communities: attract industry and families to the region.

TSTC has gone into this venture with a strategic eye for industry need and demand. The new programs to be offered this fall – Electrical Power and Controls, Industrial Maintenance and Welding – are programs chosen to fulfill regional and statewide industry needs. The EMS program, already well established in Abilene, also will be housed in the new space.

With baby boomers retiring, industry is desperate for trained professionals in many fields. One of these is Electrical Power and Controls, which among other things focuses on electrical power technology, robotic interfacing and electrical construction. We're so confident you'll get a job after earning a degree in this program that we offer a Money-Back Guarantee for it.

We are actively and aggressively recruiting students, as well as educating the community on the opportunities these new programs will bring to Abilene. But we need your help to get the word out. If you know someone in a low-paying job or someone who wants to learn a lucrative skill, or if you are tired of living paycheck to paycheck, then call TSTC. We've got folks standing by to help you.

Post it on social media. Let everyone know that TSTC is coming. And don't forget our hashtag: #TSTCbiggerandbetter. 'Cause we are.

Rick Denbow is the newly appointed Provost of TSTC in West Texas and has oversight of all four campuses in Abilene, Breckenridge, Brownwood and Sweetwater. He comes to higher education from industry and has extensive experience in higher ed fundraising and economic development.



Rendering of new facility

Central Texas

By Anni Judkins

Texas A&M University-Central Texas

Caroline Williams was recently hired as the Associate Registrar at Texas A & M University-Central Texas. She was previously employed as the Coordinator of Records & Registration at Central Texas College. Caroline received her M.S. in Counseling Psychology from Texas A & M University-Central Texas and a B.B.A in Economics/Finance from the University of Mary Hardin-Baylor.

Texas State's new Engineering and Science Building (Bruce and Gloria Ingram Hall) is slated to open this Fall. It's a state of the art facility with five floors that will house several existing and planned Engineering programs as well as Biology research facilities.

Baylor has made quite a few changes in the Registrar's Office.

Anna Kay Hollon-Harris retired as Associate Registrar back in December after 25 years with the Office of the Registrar.

Dawn Khoury has been promoted from Assistant Registrar to Associate Registrar working with Curriculum, Catalog, Class Scheduling, Registration, and Commencement.

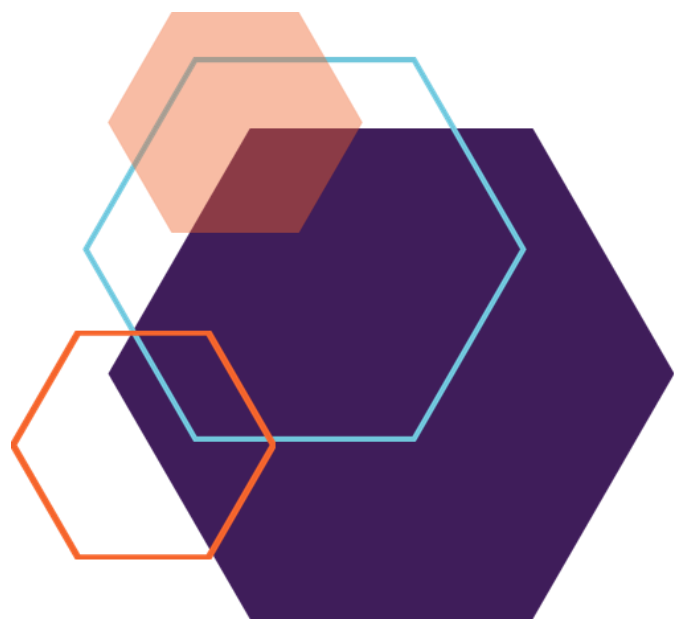
April Clanton has been promoted from Commencement & Course Action Process Coordinator to Assistant Registrar over Curriculum, Catalog and Commencement.

Ashleigh Bailey has been promoted from Transcript Production & Document Imaging Associate to Commencement & Course Action Process Coordinator.

Blinn College registration is currently underway for summer and fall 2018. This is a big registration year for the college as we are opening a new residential hall at the Brenham campus and a new instructional site in Bryan through the Texas A&M University System RELLIS Campus. We are excited about the new endeavors for Blinn and the growth that new construction will bring to the college. We look forward to sharing our war wounds and success with the opening of two new construction projects in November at the Annual Meeting.



Explore your degree options at
BLINN.EDU/RELLIS



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Need assistance with session construction?
Take advantage of the TACRAO Session
Sponsor Initiative (TSS). Contact Cié or Kayla.

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Newsletter Editor

Thank you for reading. If there are other items you would like to see in the newsletter, please contact me. The Summer newsletter will arrive late July.

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TACRAO offers many ways to get involved. By being part of this organization, higher education professionals have a chance to learn best practices, increase their network, stay abreast of legislative issues, and trouble shoot policies and processes. But perhaps the greatest benefit to TACRAO is the friendships made across the state. If you haven't been involved, or it's been a while, I invite you view the various opportunities listed to the left. We look forward to seeing you soon!

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