

TACRAO NEWS

2019 Spring Newsletter

Sofia's Small Talk

President Sofia Montes, University of Texas Rio Grande Valley

I am *sooo* excited to be looking ahead to the 98th Annual Conference in beautiful and historic Galveston. We'll be embracing our past and shaping our future among TACRAO family and friends. TACRAO has the **BEST EVER** Local Arrangements Co-Chairs – **Scott Branum** and **Lori Zerr** – that know the area well and are planning to show off the best Galveston has to offer.



Bobby Lothringer, **Dara Newton** and **Nancy Faris** have been very hard at work developing a great slate of sessions that we'll be sharing this summer. It is not too late to submit session ideas, though – especially in the middle of a legislative year! Reach out to us any time and we can help with your proposals and ideas.

TACRAO wouldn't be as memorable as it always is without mixing in a little fun with all our hard work learning at sessions and developing new relationships. With that in mind, we'll be entertained by the famous **Spazmatics** on Tuesday night at the conference in an effort to honor our past, and there will be plenty of time to explore the Galveston area and leave our mark to shape its future – and ours as well.

Legislature in Session

The TEC extends a special thanks to our Legislative Issues Committee Chair, **Debbie Gilchrist**, for the ongoing updates on the legislative session. Debbie has really helped us stay on top of legislation making its way through the chambers of Congress, coming to an institution near you this Fall. These developments serve as a great reminder that attending TACRAO Summer Meetings is a great way to discuss legislative impacts on higher education operations with sympathetic colleagues.

Summer Meetings

This year, [summer meetings will take place the week of July 15](#). In an effort to streamline registration for TACRAO members, registration will happen concurrently for all meetings, and members will elect which meeting(s) they want to attend and submit payment once per registrant. Please stay tuned to the TACRAO listserv for announcements coming soon regarding registration.

Field of Study, Anyone?

The TACRAO Executive Committee voted to appoint an ad-hoc committee to develop some guidance specific to Field of Study requirements. The committee's charge is to (1) make recommendations on how FOS will be recognized and transcribed (on both paper and EDI), (2) develop a feasible timeline for implementation, and (3) collaborate with the Coordinating Board as necessary. The committee is being co-chaired by **Nancy Faris** of the Dallas County Community College District and **Brenda Schumann** from UT Austin. If you have any feedback at all, please feel free to reach out to them.

Honorary Membership

If you are aware of TACRAO Colleagues retiring and eligible for honorary membership, please contact **Irene Robinson**, this year's Chair of Honorary Membership. We want to be sure they're recognized at the annual conference should they meet requirements.



Bobby's World

President Elect Bobby Lothringer, Texas Woman's University

This has been a very busy year for your 2018-2019 TACRAO Executive Committee, Standing Committees, and Session Planning Committees. I am honored to be able to work alongside such a tremendous group of professionals who are working extremely hard for this organization.

One such group is your 2018 Nominations & Elections (N&E) committee. Because 2019 is a transition year to move from the old election system to the new one approved by the membership in November, the members of the 2018 N&E committee (Jonathan Helm, Lynda Langham, & Latoya Whitaker), led by Dr. Maggie Hinojosa who is chair for the 2019 N&E committee, convened this spring to put together the ballot for the 2019 N&E committee election. I am happy to report we had a very wonderful response from the organization for this election, with 310 votes cast. Thank you to everyone who took the time to vote!

Once the 2019 N&E committee has been elected, which will be announced by May 1st, Dr. Hinojosa will then implement the new election process by putting a call out to the organization for nominations for the 2020 N&E committee and 2019-2020 TEC positions (President-elect, VP for Admissions, & Secretary). The newly elected 2019 N&E committee will confirm and review nominees, and then select individuals from the nominated pools to provide the organization a diverse pool of qualified candidates for the respective elections.

Meanwhile, your 2019 session planning committees, along with your Vice President for Admissions, Dara Newton, and Vice President for Records & Registration, Nancy Faris, are working hard to develop a wonderful selection of program sessions for the 2019 Annual Conference. If you have a session idea, or if you would like to present, please submit a [program session proposal online](#).

Also, if you are interested in serving on a TACRAO session planning or standing committee next year (2019-2020), please be sure to fill out an ["I'm Available" form](#).

Thank you for allowing me to serve this wonderful organization!

Bobby

Jabberin' with Joe

Past President Joe Papari, Southern Methodist University

Greetings TACRAO Colleagues,

Happy spring! I hope you are enjoying the spring weather and its beauty before it gets away from us.

Before going into detail of what I have been doing since the conference, I want to send out another heartfelt THANK YOU to the LAC-2018 for an excellent conference in Fort Worth! You guys are AWESOME!

TACRAO 2018 is a great memory for me and I hope everyone had a wonderful time there. Please enjoy the photos.

Conference Numbers

736 Attendees	13 Past Presidents
228 New Attendees	7 Honorary Members
135 Unique Presentations	15 Vendor Sessions

The TEC has been busy conducting TACRAO business, planning summer meetings, and calling out for session proposals for the 2019 conference.

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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. We will send out a call for mentors as we get closer to the conference.



The LAC-2018 and TEC will meet with the TACRAO Auditing Committee at SMU in Dallas to review the financials for the conference on April 17.

The Site Section Committee, comprised of Latoya Whitaker (Baylor College of Medicine), Griselda Castilla (University of Texas Rio Grande Valley) and myself, will visit site locations for the possible conference site for 2021.



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 changes/revisions for next year. All of the proposed and approved revisions for 2018 have been posted to our governing documents on our website.



Enjoy the rest of your spring semester and I look forward to seeing you at the Summer Meetings!

Joe Papari – Immediate Past President

Vice President Powwow

Vice President for Records and
Registration Nancy Faris, Dallas County
Community College District



Vice President for Admissions
Dara Newton, University of Texas
Rio Grande Valley



It's that time of year where we all are looking forward to a little R & R! For each of us in the world of Admissions, we are excited to get past the hustle of the recruitment and admission season, although many of us are in the middle or orientation and planning for the next cycle which is right around the corner. And for those of us in the world of Records and Registration, collecting spring grades and completing commencement ceremonies are at the top of our list, knowing that we are prepared to start it all over again.

Your VPs, President Elect, and Session planning chairs have been working hard to build an innovative, informative, and educational conference – but

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we haven't forgotten the FUN. Stay tuned as we start to introduce the Conference-At-A-Glance and full conference schedule in the coming months. We can't wait for you to see what we have in-store in Galveston!

Nancy's Note

First, thank you for the opportunity to serve on the TACRAO Executive Committee. I am honored to be associated with this group of talented, smart, hardworking and fun people.

I hope you all got to take a Spring Break of some kind. Time to get away, relax and well just chill. That is the plan for the November 2019 TACRAO meeting. There will be many great sessions, lots of vendors, and your choice of three hotels – all with views of the beach.

I want to thank the Session Planning Chairs for their contributions to the November 2019 TACRAO conference. They have outdone themselves this time. All have worked hard to plan some interesting sessions. Also thank you to everyone who submitted sessions. We appreciate that you are willing to share your experiences. Some topics you will see this November are:

- Texas Legislative Update
- Texas Core Curriculum, Field of Study and 60x30
- Residency Jeopardy
- Reverse Transfer Panel
- Let's Play the Match Game - Transfer Equivalencies
- FERPA, FERPA, FERPA

I want to thank the members of the TACRAO Executive Committee. To the veterans, Sofia, Joe and Brenda – you continue to advise and inform. To the newbies (like me), Bobby L., Bobbie B. and Melinda – we continue to learn together. Scott and Lori - you two are great LAC chairs, and so much fun. Finally, my gratitude and thanks to Dara Newton, veteran VP of Admissions, who is so capably teaching me the ropes, so I may do the same next year.

Have a happy graduation and see you at the summer meetings.

Nancy

Dara's Note

It is exciting to be returning to TEC for year number two. I can't tell you how much I learned in year one. We have a great Executive Team, that is working hard to ensure you have a great time in Galveston. As Nancy stated, there are lots of great sessions and that is credit due to the Session Chairs and membership. Without each of you, there would be no program!

As you and members of your team start to plan for Galveston, here are some of the Admission topics you will see:

- Dual Credit/Early College High Schools
- ApplyTexas Updates
- High School Counselor Panel
- The Changing College Student
- Social Media Efforts

Don't stop the ideas and session suggestions and help us build the best conference program yet. If you were new last year or a veteran in high education, we can learn from everyone. Submit your ideas online by visiting the TACARO website.

Have a great May!

Dara



The Buzz with Brenda

Secretary Brenda Schumann, University of Texas at Austin

Dear TACRAO Colleagues,

I hope that your spring semester is going well! I write to give you an update on TACRAO membership and invoices. As a reminder, payment may be submitted via credit card by the TACRAO primary member at TACRAO.org or a check can be submitted to the address listed on the invoice.

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Membership invoices for 2019-2020 will be disseminated in the coming weeks. Please remember that the TACRAO organization voted to change its membership structure to allow unlimited membership for our member institutions. Watch the TACRAO listserve on instructions on how the primary TACRAO member from your institution can make changes to your membership roster.

The new membership tier levels and costs will be:

- \$150 for institutions with enrollment of 1-9,999
- \$250 for institutions with enrollment of 10,000-19,999
- \$350 for institutions with enrollment of 20,000+

In addition to the invoices for 2019-2020 membership, TACRAO will be distributing the 2018-2019 Texas Common Course Numbering System Support Fee Invoices as well. To provide you with some background information on TCCNS, here is an explanation of its purpose and how the funds are utilized. During the November 1995, Town Hall Meeting, the TACRAO membership voted to collect support fees for the Texas Common Course Numbering System (TCCNS) and make disbursements as required. The TACRAO Executive Committee later approved this action.

One of the benefits this system has already brought to Texas institutions is 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. This project was conceived and developed in the absence of any direct mandate from the state and is funded and directed by colleges willing to contribute. Both taxpayers and students will continue to benefit from the implementations of the TCCNS.

I look forward to seeing you all this summer at the Summer Meetings and at the annual TACRAO conference in Galveston. The Local Arrangements Committee Co-Chairs, Scott Branum and Lori Zerr, are hard at work with preparations in what will be the best conference yet.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve you and the TACRAO organization, and best wishes for a successful end to the semester.

Best,

Brenda Schumann

Melinda's Minute

Treasurer Melinda Carroll, North Central Texas College

Thank you for this opportunity to serve the next two years as TACRAO Treasurer. I truly appreciate Jeremy Dorman's guidance and leadership throughout the transition. Jeremy has been always willing to answer my questions and leaving all records in an orderly fashion.



It was wonderful seeing you all at the Annual Conference at the Fort Worth Convention Center. We just wrapped up the Conference with the LAC audit toward the end of April. I hope everyone makes plans to attend the Annual Conference in November 2019 on Galveston Island – it is going to be a great time!

TACRAO is financially stable, and the TACRAO Executive Committee is very diligent in ensuring to manage the funds wisely. Please do not hesitate contacting me at any time if I can help in any way. I hope the remainder of your Spring semester is a huge success.



Conference Chat

Local Area Committee Co-Chairs
Scott Branum, Galveston College

Lori Zerr, University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston

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The 2019 TACRAO Annual Conference will be held at the Galveston Island Convention Center, November 3-6, 2019. This beautiful destination along the Galveston Seawall is within walking distance of all three conference hotels: The San Luis Resort, the Hilton Galveston Island Resort and the Holiday Inn Resort on the Beach. Plan some extra time to enjoy the history, mystery and [fun that Galveston offers](#)! Keep an eye on the TACRAO listserv and the TACRAO Facebook page for more information.

Announcements



The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley

The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley was named as a 2019 Campus Management Excellence Award Winner in Student Success Category. UTRGV has embraced innovative technology to achieve measurable outcomes, improve efficiencies and better serve students and faculty. Congratulations to the UTRGV Communications Team!

Tarrant County College welcomed two new directors.

Kimberly Tate became Assistant Director of Records and Reports in November. Kim was previously Registrar at Clovis Community College in New Mexico. A native of

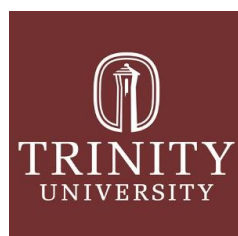
San Antonio, Kim started her career in enrollment services at McMurry University, where she now leads the alumni association. Her husband is the soccer coach at Eastfield College.

Jennifer Minke started April 15 as Assistant Director of Admissions. Jen came to TCC from Texas A&M Kingsville, where she was Associate Director of Admissions. She is an AACRAO board member and contributed to AACRAO's International Guide. A native of Boyd, Jen is thrilled to be back in North Texas.



Congratulations to Robin Humphrey (Registrar), Nasondra Fontnette (Assistant Registrar, and Hazel Nelson (Coordinator of Records) on their new positions at Lamar State College!

After 13 years of dedicated service with the Office of the Registrar, Ms. Lynda Ibarra has retired from her position as Senior Records Coordinator. We wish her the very best and good health as she enjoys time with her family and grandkids. Lynda received awards for her outstanding service, which she always delivered with a smile. Thank you, Lynda, we'll miss you!



Congratulations to Andrea Wiste on her promotion to Assistant Director of Admissions and Records at Galveston College!

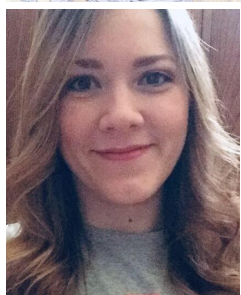
The University of Houston – Downtown recently hosted the Southeast Texas regional TACRAO conference (on April 26). The event was well attended and featured presentations on conflict resolution, leadership, and relating to today's students.





The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley

In March, the UTRGV Undergraduate Recruitment welcomed Andrea Yen to the team as the new Director of Recruitment. She joins UTRGV with a depth of recruitment and advising experience from UT Arlington.



In May, UTRGV named the new Director of Undergraduate Admissions, Marybel Villaseñor. Marybel joins the Admissions team with more than 10 years of UTRGV experience at the Student Service Centers, as an analyst, and a lead for SIS implementation.



In August, Andi Scott joined the UTRGV team as the new Associate Director of Regional Recruitment. Andi joins the team with 10 years of undergraduate recruitment experience from UT Arlington.

Congratulations, Andrea, Marybel, and Andi! The Vaquero Family is thrilled to have you!

The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley

The Division of Strategic Enrollment and Office of the University Registrar at UTRGV sends the warmest

congratulations to Sylvia Martinez on her retirement set for May 31. Sylvia has certified thousands of degrees during her 30 years with the institution, and has attended dozens of Commencement ceremonies since starting her registrar career in 1989 as a work-study. In addition to her important work with students and impacts on their degree completion, Sylvia's readiness to generously share home-cooked meals with the entire office is another contribution (to waistlines) that will be sorely missed. And while Sylvia's registrar family will be left craving her food, it's her camaraderie and kind support that will be missed more. Congratulations, Sylvia!



TACRAO



Texas Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers

The 2019-2020 TACRAO Day/Night Schedule will be posted on the TACRAO website on June 1st. There will be a calendar view and an excel spreadsheet view. This year we **WILL NOT** be using the Fair Planner software to reserve spots at fairs. We will be going back to the old style of contacting the High School coordinator or registering through the link that the high school has provided. If you have any questions please contact Jennifer Beal at jbeal@nctc.edu We look forward to seeing you all in the fall!



Texas A&M recently hired Aimee Walker as the new Assistant Registrar. She joined A&M in March 2019 and has experience in similar roles at North Central University in Minneapolis and Purdue University in Indiana. Welcome to Texas A&M!

Last year, during the Summer, Laredo Community College changed to “Laredo College” .

Lorena Rios was promoted after several years working in the Office of the Registrar from Assistant Registrar to College Registrar effective July 2018.

Ramiro Hernandez was promoted to Assistant Registrar effective September 2018.

The Admissions and Registrar Offices merged to one location and with our new name “Office of the Registrar and Admissions”. They still have two contact emails admissions@laredo.edu and registrars@laredo.edu.



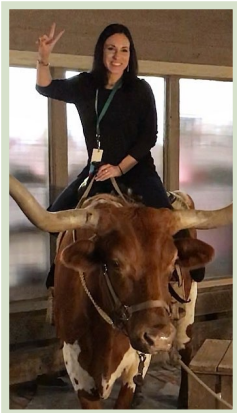
UT Arlington recently hired Jen Lasagna as the Associate Director of Admissions and Julia Garrido as the Coordinator of the UTA Office of Admissions in the Dallas Office. Congratulations Jen and Julia!

And LAST BUT NOT LEAST, congratulations to last year’s LAC Co-Chair, Araceli Hill, and her husband on the birth of their son, Leo Antonio Hill! Leo made his debut on December 13, 2018.



Comm Chair Corner

Andi Scott, University of Texas Rio Grande Valley



Howdy again TACRAO-ans!

Thank you to everyone that contributed to the 2019 spring newsletter! Be on the lookout for the summer edition in August 2019.

If you would like to submit an article for review or an announcement for the summer newsletter, you can email me at Andi.Scott@utrgv.edu.

It is truly an honor to serve an organization that has given me so much! Happy yield season!

Andi