

Pacific Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers

PACRAO News

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President's Message

Pruning, Reflections, and Inspiration

As amazing as it seems, your PACRAO leadership is already knee-deep in planning for the next PACRAO conference, November 4-7, 2002, in Beautiful Victoria, British Columbia, Canada. Because our professions require us to be constantly on the lookout for new and better ways to serve our many constituencies—students, faculty, and other service departments—this conference will focus on identifying **NEW PERSPECTIVES**. Ray Pillar from the University College of the Cariboo and David Glen from the University of Victoria and their teams are planning a conference designed to look at our professional issues and concerns in different ways.

I would like to offer a way of viewing our important work through the perspective of the seasons. The Autumn Season is a time

of introspection, letting go, acknowledgment, and seeking inspiration.

Autumn activities are writing, contemplation, meditation, and examination. It is a time to resolve issues and clean out the clutter, both physical and emotional. Bringing order to your work area can lead to clearer thinking and better planning. How long has that vault been neglected? Isn't it time you remind folks that it really isn't a storage area for



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PACRAO in 2006 – the Aloha State Beckons

After querying the membership and negotiating with a number of properties, I am pleased to announce that PACRAO is headed to Honolulu, Hawaii in November 2006. The PACRAO board considered many

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Return to Victoria

Start planning to "Return to Victoria" for PACRAO 2002 as we "Go Through the Looking Glass". Sessions will feature different perspectives on the old, some points of view from our clients, suppliers, and others as well as the always valuable sessions from our Registrar and Admissions office membership. Based on your feedback, special attention will be paid to sessions that speak directly to admissions issues without sacrificing content of the

registrar side of the house. We also have session that will be beneficial to both areas. There will be sessions for new and recent professionals as well as sessions for those of us that are closing in on retirement.

Above all, we have Victoria. This just might be the best place in North America for a conference of our size and scope. The hotel and conference center are joined and within a short walk

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Reaching Out Across Our Region

All of us are painfully aware that the events of September 11 have critically and intimately impacted every facet of our nation. Not only have our institutions—even out here in the West—been traumatized by those ignoble attacks, PACRAO itself has not gone untouched. Our 2001 conference in Burlingame was smaller attendance-wise than usual. We realize and sympathize with our colleagues who have not wished to travel or be away from home and familiar surroundings for too long. These are all natural reactions to the shock of what happened on the east coast last September. But we need to reclaim our lives and our society. And as leaders in education, we should provide the models for a nation in recovery.

You may have already seen the recent commercials in which US President George W. Bush and our fellow citizens in New York have urged the nation—and even the world—to get back to living again. Now is not the time to shrink from one another or feel less deserving of the lives we have built for ourselves. We need to get back to the business of living! We need to promote the spirit that opened our hearts to one another during those first dark days following the 11th, when strangers clung to one another to offer a helping hand or just a shoulder of support. In many ways, this national tragedy has made evident for us how distant our lives have become from one another, even as we call ourselves one nation.

The PACRAO Diversity Development Committee (DDC) has always stood for outreach and inclusiveness for our members and for our association. Even

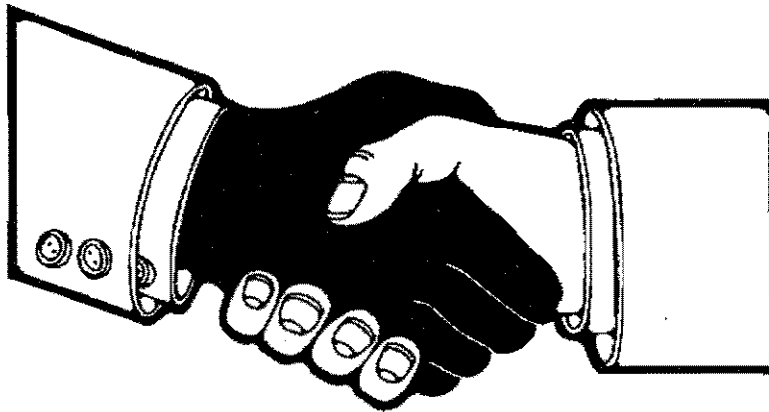
before the events of September 11, the DDC had planned its 2001 Professional Development Event with the primary objective of reaching out to our colleagues in the community colleges. And the attendance at El Camino College well represented our community college professionals, some of whom remarked about the lack of professional development opportunities available to them.

If PACRAO can contribute something significant to our national recovery, perhaps it should be in reaching out to all of our colleagues in higher education institutions throughout the region. Sharing our expertise, collaborating with our colleagues, and utilizing our common re-

sources well are all strategies that should not be limited to emergency situations. They should characterize a strong professional culture that aspires to serve our higher education community as much as it seeks to provide for its own professional development.

As individual citizens reach out to one other in 2002, let us as professionals reaffirm our PACRAO community—a community that sees beyond public or private, 4-year or 2-year, undergraduate or graduate, professional or corporate. If “Together We Stand” is the pledge of the citizens of United States, let us make that same cry a reality for our family of professionals—now in our PACRAO membership and at the coming annual meetings in Victoria and Coeur d’Alene!

Clifford A. Ramirez
President-Elect



PACRAO Honors Its Stars

At the annual meeting in Burlingame last November, PACRAO was proud to award honorary membership to three PACRAO'ans of distinction. At the recognition luncheon, President John Finney presented honorary membership certificates to Jeff Halverson, Carole Jones and Nancy Sprotte. Each of these colleagues plans to retire this year, and they have marvelous plans for life after PACRAO. Following are excerpts from the citations read at the presentation of their certificates.

"Jeff Halverson has served PACRAO and AACRAO ably in a number of ways. Jeff served as the general conference chair for PACRAO when we were in Las Vegas in 1982. He was so successful that when Las Vegas hosted the AACRAO conference in 1987, Jeff was one of only two or three local arrangements committee members who actually hailed from Las Vegas. He chaired exhibits for that conference. He served on the executive board as PACRAO's four-year vice president. Jeff served as Registration Chair in 1993 when PACRAO met in Reno and served as the AACRAO Conference co-chair in 1996, when AACRAO came west to Reno. Recognizing that he was competing with Carole Jones for local arrangements committee longevity honors, he agreed to serve as Exhibits chair when PACRAO met in Palm Springs in 1998. Jeff would drive from Las Vegas to Palm Springs for committee meetings just to enjoy his time on the road. PACRAO succeeds because of the unselfish efforts of its members. Jeff Halverson has always been willing to contribute in ways big and small, and has a wonderful way of making you feel good that you asked for his help. It is with gratitude and great delight that PACRAO bestows honorary membership on Jeffrey Halverson."

"Carole Jones has been a careful steward of PACRAO resources on the one hand, and an enthusiastic champion of PACRAO recreation. From her creative costumes to her promotion of the annual golf tournament and her favorite foursome, the Guinness Gophers, Carole knows how to cel-

ebrate the friendships that PACRAO inspires. Carole served on the PACRAO board as secretary in 1991 and on the nominations and elections committee in 1999. In AACRAO, she has served on the nontraditional education committee, the Reno, Las Vegas and Seattle local arrangements committees and as a session presenter. AACRAO attendees know they're at a meeting in the PACRAO region when they see Carole Jones welcoming them. Instead of honorary membership, PACRAO should be bestowing on Carole Jones the Local Arrangements Committee-for-life award. In addition to AACRAO LAC work, Carole has served on conference committees for PACRAO in nearly every role: publicity, registration, hospitality, budget, news and publications and as general conference chair. We are delighted to bestow honorary membership on Carole Jones."

"Nancy Sprotte served PACRAO as president in 1988, presiding over the Long Beach meeting. PACRAO was proud to nominate Nancy to be Secretary-Treasurer of AACRAO, a job she performed so effectively that she became AACRAO President and presided over the Indianapolis meeting in 1995. AACRAO benefited from her careful fiscal oversight. Those were AACRAO's healthy years, and Nancy has obviously taken that careful planning to heart as she retires long before any of us think that she should. As one of her colleagues put it, "It really annoys me that so many of my cherished colleagues are retiring without me. It is especially annoying when they are younger and better looking than I." From her colleagues, Nancy Sprotte is characterized as "a wise and treasured friend, who is generous with her wisdom, but only provides that precious wisdom when such is requested. Most of us need more friends like that." Nancy Sprotte will be missed in PACRAO. She has been a mentor, a leader and a generous colleague. PACRAO is proud to bestow honorary membership on Nancy Sprotte."

Nora McLaughlin
Past Past President

Pruning, and Reflections, and Inspiration

“stuff,” but a records archive? Walk into your area at work and try hard to view it as a brand-new visitor would see it. Are the bulletin boards full of out-dated information? Are your directional signs clear? There may be some emotional “clutter,” as well. Is there unresolved conflict between or among staff folks that you have set “on the shelf,” hoping they will just begin to get along, magically? Now is the season to help them set things right and improve your office culture (And, incidentally, improve service to students and the campus constituencies).

Autumn, a time of reflection and turning inward, is a good time to reflect on your own values. Who are you? What do you stand for? Do your actions align with your values? Integrity requires that you prune the contradictions, as you would prune back the rose bushes to allow new growth later next Spring. Our work affords us opportunities to test integrity on a regular basis. Are your students treated in a consistent manner by your staff members? Does everyone have equal access to information needed?

This is a time moving downward and inward, a time to seek inspiration, and a time to acknowledge the work of others—to thank those around you for their contributions to your life and work. I know that I can combine these two aspects of the Autumn season by drawing inspiration from those with whom I work every day. The holiday season is a great time to write notes of gratitude to your co-workers in cards or notes. One great recognition I can recommend is to write a note to your staff’s spouses, extolling your staff’s and thanking the spouse for support at home for the institution!

Our work is defined by the multitudes of details we must organize, understand, and impart to others. I am convinced that taking the time to identify what you need to let go, for personal introspection, celebrating the work of others, and seeking inspiration will contribute toward a healthier and more productive work environment.

Sunny Burns
President

Return to Victoria

in three directions you will find all of the food, drink, entertainment, and lovely scenery you can possibly absorb. In the forth direction, that short walk will get you extremely wet and quite chilly.

Put this on your calendar right now! November 3-6, 2002, PACRAO 2002, Victoria, B.C. Canada.

We will be sending out regular bulletins on Pacrao-L or you can check out the conference website:
<http://web.uvic.ca/reco/pacrao2002/>

If you are not yet convinced of the value of this opportunity, don’t forget that the vast majority of you folks will be spending those lovely American dollars that are currently spending at \$1.65 or so. You will probably never get a better bargain for a PACRAO Conference. We are looking forward to welcoming you all to Victoria.

Ray Pillar
PACRAO 2002 Program Chair

PACRAO in 2006 – the Aloha State Beckons

factors including travel costs, the response of the members to our query (80% of those responding supported meeting in Hawaii) and the importance of scheduling conferences throughout the region. We felt very strongly that our westernmost members have been bearing the travel and expense burden for many years without respite. Given the success of PACRAO and AACRAO meetings in Hawaii in 1981 and 1991 respectively, we agreed that Honolulu should be PACRAO's destination for 2006.

The Renaissance Ilikai Hotel will be our host property, and they have guaranteed a rate in 2006 of \$175 for a standard room, single or double occupancy. Their rack rates in 2001 were \$250 - \$290. Most important, the conference space meets PACRAO's meeting needs

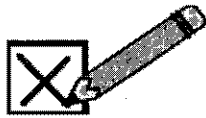
quite effectively, with most of our sessions meeting centrally between the two towers of the hotel. The Ilikai can accommodate all attendees and all of our conference space in one facility. A delightful bonus is that 90% of their rooms have ocean views. The hotel is completing a stunning remodeling effort right now.

As you look forward to PACRAO in the coming years, attendance at the annual meetings will take you throughout the region – Victoria, British Columbia in 2002, Coeur d'Alene, Idaho in 2003, Tucson, Arizona in 2004, Sacramento, California in 2005 and Honolulu, Hawaii in 2006. We look forward to seeing you every year.

Nora McLaughlin
Past Past President

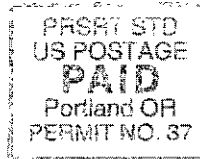


PACRAO 2002



Make sure that you plan and budget for the PACRAO 2002 conference in Victoria, British Columbia, November 3-6. Please visit the conference website at: <http://web.uvic.ca/reco/pactrao2002/>

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