Greetings!

Greetings from your PACRAO Board! This is the first edition of a quarterly newsletter to keep in touch with you, the members of PACRAO, as well as inform you of any upcoming events or issues. After a very successful annual conference in Portland, the 2008-09 Board met to discuss goals and objectives for the upcoming year. Some of the goals include: increase correspondence with the membership about non-conference activities; develop a “catalog” of professional development opportunities and investigate what could be offered via webinars; create a promotional piece outlining the benefits of PACRAO membership; add a calendar of events to the PACRAO Webpage; rethink our new member orientation; make deliberate efforts to coordinate and be in contact with state organizations; enhance our online conference registration process; publish more information about PACRAO leadership opportunities and the time commitments involved.

PORTLAND WAS A HUGE SUCCESS!

The 2008 conference was attended by 406 colleagues and 31 exhibitors and was a financial success for the organization. Our thanks go out to Sue Eveland, LAC Chair and Ali Crane, Program Chair, for the wonderful work done by them and their committees. As well our thanks go out to all of the presenters and facilitators - without you, we could not have done it! The overall conference evals were very positive and we did receive some constructive feedback for improvement which is much appreciated. The Board and the LAC and Program committees take your comments very seriously so thanks for taking the time to complete the evaluation! In the archives we found the program from the Annual Convention of the Pacific Coast Association of Collegiate Registrars held November 5-8, 1950 in Portland! Our predecessors were concerned with some of the same things that we are still discussing in 2008: The Curriculum – General Education vs. Specific Majors and Junior Standing; Professional Ethics; Junior College Issues; and, Orientation Week for New Students.
MEMBERSHIP RESEARCH

John Snodgrass, Registrar at Chapman University, provided the Board with some excellent research on the recruitment and retention of members of the PACRAO organization. His thought-provoking study called for a membership focus group at the Portland conference to speak to the board about the ideas and concerns of relatively new members to the Association. Tom Bradhave, past VP for Membership, identified and invited members to meet with the Board for an informal discussion. Nine colleagues participated and the Board found their ideas and suggestions to be very helpful. The Board would like to continue this practice of holding some kind of organized opportunity for the membership, especially newer members, to share feedback. Look for that opportunity at the Newport Beach conference. However, you don’t have to wait until the conference – you should feel free to contact any member on the Board with your ideas or concerns (see board contact information at the end of the newsletter).

CREATING COMMUNITY

For those of you who attended the session in Portland “Have You Given at the Office Lately?” about giving back to your community, Rayanne Williams of San Diego State and several of her fellow CSU registrars, have a great idea to help build PACRAO community! They would like to create a PACRAO cookbook for the organization. They want to solicit your favorite recipe along with what makes it so special to you. A small photo of you would be great as well. Just another way for us to become acquainted with each other! If other folks in PACRAO have had experience with creating a cookbook or if you just have some other great ideas on the logistics, email Rayanne that as well (william7@sdsu.edu). Likewise if you are willing to submit a recipe, let Rayanne know that too for planning purposes. At this point we are not sure if the cookbook will be online or a print version, but the actual recipe submission process will be easy with an online format. There will be more information to come if there is enough general interest.

CONGRATULATIONS TO BETTY HUFF, ALICIA MOORE, AND JULIA POMERENK

Betty Huff from the University of California Santa Barbara has been nominated for AACRAO President Elect – congratulations, Betty! It’s great to have a PACRAO person serving in this capacity. Our last AACRAO President from the PACRAO region was our own Nancy Sprotte! Also serving this year on the AACRAO Executive Board from the PACRAO region are Mary Baxton from Cal State Northridge serving as AACRAO Vice President of International Education; Nora McLaughlin from Reed College serving as Vice President for Professional Development and Management; and Michele Sandlin from Oregon State University serving as AACRAO Vice President for Admissions and Enrollment Management. In addition, Alicia Moore and Julia Pomerenk are nominees for the AACRAO Nominations and Elections (N&E) Committee. If you are a member of AACRAO, please remember to vote in the N&E election by February 11, 2009 (see www.accrao.org for voting instructions).

LEROY ROOKER RETIRES FROM US EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

The renowned LeRoy Rooker, Director of the Family Policy Compliance Office at the U.S. Department of Education, will retire after more than two decades of distinguished service. LeRoy is best known to the PACRAO community for his FERPA presentations at our annual meetings as well as numerous workshop throughout the PACRAO region. LeRoy asked AACRAO to pass along the following message:

As the saying goes, “All good things must come to an end.” It is hard to believe that 21 wonderful years as Director of FPCO have gone by so quickly. In recent years, my sons, Ron and Stephen, have grown up much too quickly as well, and I determined
a while back to spend more time with them before they embark on their college adventures. That decision, of course, means some changes for me. Having completed the arduous process of publishing the new FERPA regulations in December, this seemed to be the moment to make my move to new but less time-consuming career challenges. Consequently, January 3, 2009, is my last day in my capacity as director. As I think back on the highlights of my time at FPCO, I am especially grateful for the many friendships I have gained through my interaction with the wonderful AACRAO community. There are far too many for me to express my appreciation individually for their years of friendship; consequently, I would appreciate your forwarding this email to the AACRAO membership. I am looking forward to staying involved with the education community and continuing those friendships. I will provide more details in the near future. In the meantime, my new email address is rooker.ferpa@gmail.com. Thanks again for being such great friends.

LEADERSHIP NOMINATIONS

The Nominations and Elections Committee for 2008 met at the Portland Conference and has prepared a wonderful slate of nominees for the upcoming year. On behalf of the N&E Committee and Chair Past President Nirmala Sharma, I’m happy to announce the voting slate for your PACRAO N&E Committee for 2009. Voting will begin this spring, so please watch for an email to vote online. And please consider seriously your opportunity to nominate a colleague or yourself for a leadership position in PACRAO for the open positions this coming fall 2009.

2009 N&E Committee Nominees:

Rayanne Williams, San Diego State University, California
Cindy Baccar, Portland State University, Oregon
LaVern Lazzeresci, University of California Berkeley, California
Kristen Labreque, Seattle Pacific University, Washington
Jean Irving, California State University Chico, California
Amber Coffey, Life Pacific College, California
Angela Bigby, University of Southern Nevada, Nevada
Bobbie Nelson, Everett Community College, Washington
Joyce Allen, Seattle University, Washington
Tara Sprehe, Clackamas Community College, Oregon
Teresa Church, Boise State University, Idaho
Barbara Fortin, University of Utah, Utah
Erica O’Neal Howard, California Institute of Technology, California

Congratulations!

2009 N&E Chair, Past President Michele Sandlin

PACRAO MEMORABILIA

The AACRAO organization will turn 100 years old in 2010 at the New Orleans’ Annual Meeting. They are asking the regional associations to submit pictures, short histories, anecdotes, and the contributions of individuals or groups to the profession for the displays that they will have available. If you have pictures or things that you would like to share, please let Mary Neary Morley know (mmorley@caltech.edu). She is also looking for someone to spearhead this effort for PACRAO so if you would like to volunteer, please step forward!
Preparations are well underway for our 2009 conference in Newport Beach, November 1-4. The Board, the Local Arrangements Committee (LAC), and the Program Committee met in January to tour the property and organize logistics. If you want to volunteer to assist the LAC, please contact Anne Delfin-Schnirch, Associate Registrar, Chapman University at schnirch@chapman.edu. The Program Committee has put out a call for session presentations via the PACRAO listerv. Please consider submitting topics of interest to the membership. Contact Ginny Johns, Registrar, University of California, Santa Barbara at virginia.johns@sa.ucsb.edu.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- February 2-27, 2009 AACRAO Admissions Manager 101 (Online course)
- February 9- March 7, 2009 AACRAO Managing the Registrar’s Office (Online course)
- February 15-17, 2009 AACRAO Second Annual Transfer Conference in Tampa, FL
- March 22-25, 2009 SunGard Summit in Philadelphia, PA
- March 22-25, 2009 Alliance 09 Conference in Anaheim, CA
- April 13-16, 2009 AACRAO Conference in Chicago (www.aacrao.org)