



## Newsletter Summer 2008

### **Coming Events:**

ArkACRAO Fall Meeting: Oct. 1-3 Mount Magazine  
SACRAO Annual Meeting. February 7-11, 2009, New Orleans, La. [www.sacrao.org](http://www.sacrao.org)

### **Check Out the Updated Web Site:**

[www.arkacrao.org](http://www.arkacrao.org)



## **President's Perceptions.....**



Warm greetings ArkACRAO members, after being an Executive Committee member for the past 5 years, I am excited and look forward to this opportunity to serve as your President.

I hope that everyone that attended the fall conference this past year had a good time. President-Elect Robin Hayes has the conference evaluations and has started the reviewing process to see what type of changes (if need be) might be made to improve this year's fall conference at beautiful Mount Magazine. The changes made by the Arkansas Department of Health (ADH) raised the most concern at the fall conference last year. These changes went into effect at the start of the spring semester and will be reported beginning this fall semester. If any one still has questions with this issue, please contact the Arkansas Department of Health at one of the numbers that I have forwarded to the listserv, or contact me and I will try to steer you in the right direction. It is with great sadness to report to the membership that Immunization Section Chief, Charles Beets passed away in late February from a long illness. Mr. Beets was a speaker at some of our past meetings and was the main contact for institutions with immunization problems and concerns. He will be missed.

The Support Staff Workshop took place on the ASU-Beebe campus March 20. On behalf of ArkACRAO; I would like to thank Rosalyn Blagg and Tracy Finch for putting together the Support Staff Workshop. The workshop was good and was well attended! Great job ladies! There were almost 70 attendees. Many thank you to Robin Hayes and ASU-Beebe for hosting the workshop on their campus and for their hospitality. Also, I would like to thank the attendees for their eagerness to learn and participation during the workshop and their supervisors for allowing them to attend. The ArkACRAO Boot Camp took place July 29<sup>th</sup> on the ASU-Beebe campus. A big thank you goes out to ArkACRAO Vice-Presidents Susan Dewey and Glen Metheny for a great job in putting the workshop together. The workshop was very informational and well attended. There were over 30 members in attendance for the workshop. The members were very attentive and motivated and seemed ready to take on the task of become the faces of the different institutions as they began their travel across the state in the near future. Thanks to everyone that was involved with both of these workshops!

Mark the dates of the fall conference on your calendars! The fall conference will take place October 1<sup>st</sup> – 3<sup>rd</sup>. Members, this conference is not only a great time to increase your knowledge during the professional development sessions, but a chance to make contacts with individuals from other institutions that can help you throughout your career in higher education. It's a good feeling to not be 100% sure of something and know you can just pick up the phone and contact one of your fellow ArkACRAO member elsewhere for a better clarification to your situation. Directors of Admissions, Deans of Enrollment Management, and Registrars please help spread the word about our fall conference to your staff members.

Two important things that I would like to share with you...one, ArkACRAO has a new person responsible for the modification and updating of our website. Blayne A. Stewart, the webmaster at ASU-Beebe has agreed to take on this task. I had the opportunity to sit down and talk with him during the Boot Camp workshop about changes to the website that can make it more informational and user friendly to members and visitors to the site. I would like to thank Tammy Rhodes and her staff members at Arkansas Tech for their dedication to the website for the past years. They did a great job! For the past few years, ArkACRAO has tried to put together a letter to the institutions of Higher Ed Presidents and Chancellors describing exact what is ArkACRAO and how it benefits their employees. Well...the letter has finally been written, proofed, and ready to be mailed. The letter will be mailed along with a new directory to each top administrator at every institution in the state. I would like to give a special thank you to Candace Cooper, the Assistant Registrar at ASU-Beebe for her help and direction in creating this letter. Great Job Candace!

With the fall semester fast approaching, I would like to thank all of the institutions that have welcomed and setup up tours for me on your campuses during my term as president. I have really enjoyed my visits. I hope that you all have gotten as much out of my visits that I have. I have received great feedback from my visits. I still have 2 days scheduled to visit campuses so if I have not had the opportunity yet to sit down with someone and talk about the benefits of being an ArkACRAO member at your institution...don't be surprised to see me before the fall conference.

As I look towards the future, I welcome any suggestions, concerns, ideas, and/or comments that you might have that would help make ArkACRAO the Association that you feel it should be. This is your Association and your opinion is important! As I always say...ArkACRAO is only as strong as its membership. Get more involved with ArkACRAO! You might ask, what can I do to make a difference or what is my first step? First, take a look at the different committees that ArkACRAO offers and see if there is one you would like to be on. Then contact the Committee Chair of that committee to see if she/he needs additional members. If not now, maybe the committee will need members in the near future or after the fall conference this year. Work your way up the leadership ladder, and who knows, you might be President of the Association one day. It can happen...for some strange reason...it happened with me! ☺

Sincerely,

***Wayne D. Banks***

ArkACRAO President

## Arkansas News

ArkACRAO is looking forward to another great year. As many admissions and registrar positions and responsibilities are changing and growing, the organization is gearing up to meet any challenges and keep the organization members involved and supported. Wayne Banks has shown great leadership this past year. One of his many goals was to visit each campus to get know members, listen to issues we all face, and encourage involvement in our organization. He has been on tour all summer!

Arkansas State University at Beebe played host to two great programs this summer. A Support Staff Workshop was held in March with nearly 70 attendees. The ArkACRAO Boot Camp for New Admission Professionals was held this summer. Over 30 new admissions professionals attended. The event featured presentations regarding financial aid, communication, college fair preparation, and travel tips. Attendees also were given the opportunity to interact with high school counselors in the Counselors Panel.

Articulation Workshops were held across the state in September. Counselors heard updates and received new materials. Arkansas colleges and universities had good enrollments and exciting new programs, scholarships, and facilities to report. The admission professionals also let the counselors in on all the great places to eat in each area of the state!

The Fall Meeting (Oct. 1-3, 2008) will be held at beautiful Mount Magazine Park Lodge in Paris, Arkansas. Yes, there is a Paris in Arkansas. State Veteran Affairs will be the topic of a pre-conference workshop. The keynote will be Mary Baxton, Director of Admissions, Client Services, and International Recruitment at Tseng College, California State University, Northridge. In addition to our regular schedule, other sessions will include college safety, diversity, increasing number of students, an AACRAO Washington update, understanding the Arkansas Technical Careers Student Loan Forgiveness Program, and an ACT update. We look forward to an exciting new academic year.

# **News from the College and Universities**

## **Arkansas State University**

The Registrar's Office has added a new employee, Jackie Dotson. Jackie will be the expert on EDI and all scanning very soon. He has been a great asset already so the future is bright in transcripts department. We have experienced some real low times when four of our 12 employees had a parent die in a short period. But, with the amazing support and camaraderie in the Registrar's office we got through the fall and began spring.

## **Arkansas State University Mountain Home**

Great things are happening on the ASUMH campus! In the fall, our new Health Sciences building will open. This is the first building to be built since the college opened at our College Street location in April of 2000. The community joined us in April for a groundbreaking ceremony for our new Community Development Center, a 60,000 square-foot building that will house a convention center, auditorium, new library and more wonderful space for programs.

Recently, our first class of Respiratory Care students graduated. Ten students completed the AAS in Respiratory Care. This partnership with UAMS through state-of-the-art distance education technology, while completing on-site laboratory instruction at ASUMH, offers a high-level degree program.

Another partnership, this one with Baxter Regional Medical Center, has ASUMH hosting 160 teen girls from surrounding high schools for a "Girls Day Out" program this month. The girls will tour the campus, visit classes and receive information on steps they need to take to enter college in the near future. The girls range from 9<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grade and are recommended for the program by their school counselors.

## **Arkansas Tech University**

In January, Gina Parker left the Admissions Office to begin her new job as a Career Development Specialist in our Student Services Department. Fortunately her office is in the same building as ours and she stops by occasionally to visit. Lea Szabo is the newest addition to the Admissions Office staff. Lea previously worked in our Athletic Department and the Registrar's Office. She looks forward to meeting everyone this fall.

## **John Brown University**

JBU is adding golf and ending the swimming program.

We are finishing a new wing to North Hall, one of our dorms, which will add an additional 80 beds. This summer we are doing over half a million dollar remodel of our cafeteria.

Cathedral renovations have been completed, adding new limestone to our Cathedral, Engineering Building, and Art Building.

## **Northwest Arkansas Community College**

We have one staff transfer: Patrice Whitley, Admissions Representative, is taking a new position as Recruiting/Marketing Coordinator for the AAS Business Management Degree with a Retail Option.

## **Ozarka College**

Ozarka College is gearing up for fall and we have many exciting things happening on campus. We are expanding our Ash Flat campus, adding a new building that will house science and nursing classrooms as well as much needed office space. We have recently opened a Student Success Center, which offers Kuder Testing, tutoring, and much more. This summer we hope to have renovations complete on the building we are relocating Career Pathways and the campus bookstore to. Donna York was hired to serve as the daytime secretary on the Mountain View campus. We have added a Technical Certificate in Early Childhood Education and a Technical Certificate in Health Professions to our offerings. All three of our campuses continue to grow, and we are looking forward to another great year.

## **Southeast Arkansas College**

SEARK is adding two additional buildings the Technology Building and the Library and Distance Learning Center:

The Technology Building will be located at 18<sup>th</sup> and Hazel Street. This state-of-the-art building is currently under construction and will contain classrooms, labs, faculty offices and related support areas for several technical studies program.

The new Library and Distance Learning Center will be located on the front lawn near the entrance to the College. This 10,851 square foot structure will house the College Library, Distance Learning Center, Distance Learning Classroom, Proctoring Room, and employee offices.

## **Southern Arkansas University Tech**

Southern Arkansas University Tech is pleased to announce that Dr. Corbet J. Lamkin became Chancellor for our institution on January 2, 2008. Prior to joining SAU Tech, Dr. Lamkin served as the Vice President for Academic Affairs with Southern Arkansas University Magnolia (SAU Magnolia). Employed with SAU Magnolia since 1981, he has served as the Director of the Center of Economic Education and Research; Director of the Division of Continuing Education; Professor of Agriculture and Economics; and as a member of the SAU Magnolia Graduate Faculty. Kim Coker, Director of Communications & Student Relations is working part-time under the Student Services Division umbrella. Welcome Dr. Lamkin and Mrs. Coker!

## **University of Arkansas**

The University of Arkansas Office of Admissions will be undergoing some leadership change in the coming months. After 5 years of service and unbelievable growth in our freshman class our Director, Dawn Medley, has decided to move on with her career. We will certainly miss her guidance and wisdom but plan to move forward and make the best of our transition. In her absence, Dr. Karen Hodges, will be serving as the interim Director. Dr. Hodges has been on our campus the last couple of years working as the Director of Remediation and Retention.

We also have a new Associate Director for Information Management, Jeremy Dickerson. Jeremy has worked in our office as a Graduate Assistant and most recently as the Northwest Arkansas recruiter. We are very excited to have him join the management team of our office and with his leadership the technical support team will continue to be a huge asset.

The one major change for this fall is that we are not going to print paper applications anymore. We are going to direct students to apply on line which will allow them to receive their admission decision quicker. We will have more details in the fall.

## **University of Arkansas at Fort Smith**

There will be four new academic deans at UA Fort Smith. Three of the positions are the result of the division of the College of Arts and Sciences into three separate colleges. Named are Dr. Steve Williams of Hays, KA, dean of the College of Business; Dr. Joe Hardin of Bowling Green, KY, dean of the College of Languages and Communication; Dr. Mark Arant of Monroe, LA, dean of the College of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics; and Dr. Henry Rinne of Van Buren, AR, dean of the College of Humanities and Social Sciences. The reorganization is reflected in the 2008/2009 Catalog.

### **Admissions Office:**

Jessica Lamproe, a part-time recruitment officer, received her bachelor of science degree in Business Administration and Marketing at Commencement in May. Jessica is graduated cum laude.

Kara Smith, administrative assistant, has returned from maternity leave. Her daughter Victoria was born January 28.

### **Records Office:**

Marsha Buegler, Registrar Assistant, retired March 14 after 23 years of service at our institution. She has purchased a kayak and plans to spend time on the water, working in her garden, and visiting her grandchildren.

Beth Hice moved from Career Placement and Planning into the Records Office. Beth is pursuing a degree in rhetoric/writing and lives in Charleston with her husband and two sons.

Ann Childs retired June 30. She has been the interim registrar this past year.

## **University of Arkansas at Monticello**

Brooke Rodgers is now the Assistant Director of Admissions, effective May 1. She will continue with recruitment and assisting Mary in other areas, too. Josh Rauls will continue in Recruitment, also assisting Mary with the scholarship program. Katie Williams will continue in Recruitment, also assisting Mary with Special Student Services. Dr. Debbie Bryant continues as the Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Registrar, with Carol Dolberry as Associate Registrar and Brenda Woodard as the Assistant Registrar. Mary continues as Director of Admissions, involved also in Scholarship, International Services and Special Students Services.

I cannot leave out two very important Administrative Professionals who help tremendously in the Admissions offices....Debbie Wright and Cyndi Hargrave.

## **University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff**

The University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff will enroll its first students in the new in Agricultural Regulations master's degree program in the fall of 2008. The master's in Agricultural Regulations is accredited by the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools – Higher Learning Commission. This graduate program is based on the success of the undergraduate program in Regulatory Science, which was established in 1990. The Regulatory Science program was also designated as a Center of Excellence by the Marketing and Regulatory programs unit of the United States Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (USDA/APHIS) in 1994.

Graduate students will have a choice of three interest areas within the Graduate Agricultural Regulations Program; Plant and Animal Systems, Food Safety, and Agricultural Policy and Economic Risk.