

Newsletter

FALL 2010



Volume 35 – No. 1

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Greetings from Ark ACRAO!

Hello Everyone,

Welcoming a new season is always refreshing (especially fall weather)! Gin Brown has done a great job putting together a great fall conference. Thank you to everyone that has helped with the conference. We are excited about the program and our charity. Articulation Workshops and College Planning Programs kicked off the beginning of fall travel season. Randy Scaggs and Mary Whiting have done a great job coordinating these events. Thanks again to the host institutions.

Regina Wade-Carter did a great job and put together a well attended Registrar Therapy this summer in Hot Springs. Topics spanned from the Arkansas Challenge Scholarship to the Rogers Phillips Act with Roundtable Discussions rounding out the meeting. UACCM hosted Boot Camp this year. Topics included high school visits, professionalism, FERPA and more. Thank you to Susan Dewey and her staff for hosting this event.

I know I could go on thanking so many members. Work goes on behind the scenes by members, committees, and other executive council members. I appreciate all of you. The Executive Council met during the summer and the members are excited about the upcoming year.

Check the website often at www.arkacrao.org. Events and details will be added throughout the year.

Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns about ArkAcrao. It is an honor to be a part of this organization. Have a great fall conference and fall semester!

Best regards,
Sarah Jennings
ArkAcrao, President

Executive Council

President

Sarah Jennings, Southern Arkansas University

President Elect

Gin Brown, Ozarka College

Past President

Robin Hayes, Arkansas State University – Beebe

Secretary

Rachel Mullins, Arkansas State University – Beebe

Treasurer

Amy Thomas, Arkansas State University – Beebe

VP/School Relations

Randy Scaggs, University of Arkansas Community College – Batesville

VP/Admissions

Sorronto Aubrey, University of Arkansas at Little Rock

VP/Registration

Erica Fulton, University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff

VP/Records

Regina Carter, University of Arkansas at Little Rock

Legislative Liaison

Philip Wilson, Rich Mountain Community College

Publications/Publicity

Tracy Finch, Arkansas State University – Jonesboro

ARKANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY JONESBORO REGISTRAR STAFF

Please help me thank **Jennifer Douglas**. She is the staff member who has done the data entry and creative layout for our ArkACRAO Directory and Newsletter. I could not hold this office if it were not for Jennifer's attention to detail and commitment to her job. Thanks Jennifer! *Tracy Finch, Publications and Publicity Chairman*

Jennifer is currently pursuing a B.S. degree in Computer and Information Technology at Arkansas State University in Jonesboro. She began working at ASU in the Residence Life Office in February 2006. She joined the Office of the Registrar in September 2008 as the Academic Partnership Coordinator and has since become our Web-Site and Communications Coordinator and Course Specialist. In April 2010, she was awarded a Distinguished Performance Award in the Technical/Para-Professional category. When she is not working full-time and taking classes full-time, she is a full-time single parent to a 13 year old son, Spencer.

Darla Fletcher, Contributing Author to the Fall 2010 Newsletter

Darla has earned a BA (1998) and MA (2000) in English with a concentration in Professional Writing from The University of Memphis. She has an AAS (2006) in Web Development from Southwest Tennessee Community College and a Specialist Degree (2009) in Community College Teaching with an emphasis in Community College Administration from Arkansas State University. She is currently a second-year doctoral student in Educational Leadership at Arkansas State. When she is not hard at work in the Office of the Registrar at Arkansas State in her position as the Associate Registrar, she is sitting in a canoe or on a Harley with her husband.

Please consider submitting articles for the newsletter or recommending someone who might be interested in submitting articles for the newsletter. To obtain information on article submission, please contact Tracy Finch – tfinch@astate.edu.



Committee Chairs

Nominations and Elections

Robin Hayes, Arkansas State University - Beebe

Constitutional Review

Tony Sitz, University of Central Arkansas

Recognition

Shelley Price, University of Arkansas Community College at Morrilton

Membership

Chad Cox, University of the Ozarks

Articulation Workshop

Randy Skaggs, University of Arkansas Community College at Batesville

Professional Access and Equity

Chris Riggins, University of Central Arkansas

Annual Meeting Program

Gin Brown, Ozarka College

Site Selection

Emily Ward, Arkansas Tech University

College Planning Program / Clearinghouse Calendar

Mary Whiting, University of Arkansas at Monticello

Publicity and Publications

Tracy Finch, Arkansas State University

Hospitality Subcommittee

Chelsea Ward, University of Arkansas at Little Rock

What's New in Arkansas?

*Find out the latest news in our
Arkansas Colleges and Universities.*

ARKANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY- JONESBORO

It has been a busy summer and fall at ASU-J. ASU reached a record enrollment of 13,438 students. We also were ranked as 58th in US News & World Report as a Tier 1, Regional University (South). The Registrar's Office staff was busy as well. Kathy Mathis, our VA Representative, welcomed two new grandchildren. Sharon McDaniel is busy as the Mom of a senior! We are pleased to have promoted Jackie Dotson, formerly our Assistant Registrar for Transcripts, to the position of Systems Analyst and have hired a recent ASU MBA graduate Christopher Boothman as the Assistant Registrar for Transcripts. Karen Daniels, our Transfer Coordinator, will be welcoming a new daughter-in-law as her son Grayson is married on Oct. 16. The Office of Admissions welcomes five new recruit staff members to the team. Beyonka Adams will be covering territories in Eastern Arkansas. Tennessee and Mississippi will be recruited by Jerome Thomas. John Carroll will be traveling to the Northwest and North Central Arkansas regions. Ashley Crawford has targeted Central Arkansas for her recruitment efforts. Sara Bradberry is our new transfer coordinator as well as recruiting Missouri. Kasey Easkins will be coordinating our campus programs and working with our local high schools. Needless to say, it has been a busy time the first two weeks of August, training our new staff for the road. We are happy to report they have all hit the ground running and burning up the roads searching for new Red Wolves!

ARKANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY-BEEBE

On the ASU-Searcy campus, please welcome Amanda Blair, the new counselor and Saudia Curtis, the new Student Services Administrative Assistant. Both ladies bring vitality to recruitment of students and years of experience in the educational field. They will be vital members of the ASU-Beebe Student Services team. The ASU-Searcy campus developed a concurrent student orientation that was met with great success this fall.

ARKANSAS TECH UNIVERSITY

Ryan Taylor was recognized for his work when the Arkansas Tech University Admissions Office was selected as the Bronze Award winner in the 25th Annual Educational Advertising Awards for the Arkansas Tech DVD-ROM. Tech also received the Merit Award for their Time-out for Tech t-shirt design. Ryan was also featured in the January 2010 edition of the Higher Education Marketing Report. The four page article focused on his approach to recruiting through humor in promotional videos and highlighted his 2009 Gold and Best of Show awards for the Arkansas Tech Interactive CD-ROM. Emily Ward moved to Florida over the summer. She is recruiting for the University of Florida while her husband attends graduate school. Rachel Bond also left this summer to accept a position with Wee Care for Kids/School Partners. Cara Slone and Tiffany Terrell were hired in July to join Brandie and Courtney on the road. Cara is a 2007 graduate of Tech with a degree in English and Creative Writing Education. Tiffany is a 2009 Tech graduate with a degree in Psychology and Sociology.

COSSATOT COMMUNITY COLLEGE

CCCUA enjoyed another record enrollment for Fall, eclipsing the 1,500 student mark. We've come a long way since our days of 75 students when the College began as a Vocational-Technical School in 1975! We debuted our Engineering Technology program this Fall, and continue to see success with our Culinary Arts program. Our Rodeo Team begins competing this Fall as well. The Cossatot Colts will take part in rodeos in Arkansas, Alabama, Kentucky, Tennessee, and Missouri. Our students are very excited about this opportunity. Our staff remains intact from last year - Brenda, Nancy, Keith, Glenda, Julie, Sharon and Scott hope everyone has a great semester.

CROWLEY'S RIDGE COLLEGE

John Mark Warnick is a new recruiter for this year. He is from Paragould and graduated from CRC in May with a Bachelor's Degree in Biblical Studies. He joins returning recruiter, Michael Nix.

JOHN BROWN UNIVERSITY

John Brown University has been awarded a \$563,789 grant from the National Science Foundation to provide approximately 16-24 four-year scholarships for students from low-income families majoring in chemistry, biology or biochemistry. In addition to funding scholarships, the grant also supports the Strengthening Undergraduate Curriculum and Community to Engage Science Students (SUCCESS) program, specifically targeted to increase retention, graduation, and the readiness of chemistry, biochemistry, and biology graduates to enter the workforce or graduate school. JBU is one of only two schools in Arkansas to receive the NSF grant. An anonymous donor has given \$2 million to John Brown University for the creation of a new endowed faculty chair. The gift brings the total given in the \$110 Million Keeping Faith Campaign over the \$100 million mark, the first time JBU has reached a nine-figure amount in a campaign. In the Keeping Faith Campaign, JBU is seeking to raise \$50 million for annual and endowed scholarships, \$20 million for operations, and \$40 million for construction and renovation projects, including three new buildings: the Berry Performing Arts Center (opened this fall), the Bill George Arena (opened this fall) and the new Engineering Construction Management building (opening in Fall 2011). For more information on the campaign, please visit jbu.edu/keepingfaith. The campaign is currently in the sixth of its seven years.

NATIONAL PARK COMMUNITY COLLEGE

National Park Community College is proud to welcome Gloria Glover to the Admissions and Recruiting Office. Gloria is an alumnus of NPCC and has been employed with the college since 2005. The Recruiting Office is proud to have Gloria join us!

RICH MOUNTAIN COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Rich Mountain Community College celebrated record enrollment this fall semester and according to the Vice President of Student Affairs, Phillip Wilson, much can be attributed to the additional funding of the Arkansas Academic Challenge Scholarship and the status of the economy. RMCC also attributes the enrollment status to the addition of more online classes, particularly in the business department, the Aviation I and Aviation II programs as well as the ARNEC LPN-RN Transition Program partnership. We invite you to visit our main campus in Mena and see all of the renovations that have been completed since the April 2009 tornado. Our Student Affairs Department now houses a "one-stop" center for admissions, financial aid, placement testing, retention, and lifelong learning. We wish you all a very prosperous recruitment year and look forward to partnering with you to assist students in their higher educational goals!

SOUTHERN ARKANSAS UNIVERSITY

Southern Arkansas University Admissions and Registrar colleagues are ready to see everyone after this very hectic summer! Erin Bevan has moved to South Korea. Her husband got a promotion and they headed out. She has a great blog (From One South to Another) so we keep up with her. We lost Whitney Gass to the Criminal Justice department on campus. She loves teaching full time. At least she is still a Mulerider. We still get to see her! Look for a new hire soon to replace Erin. Our new cross country coach, Tim Servis, recruits with us part time as does Paige Burkham, student success coordinator. Look for Tim and Paige on the road this fall. Dr. Ed Nipper welcomed Teryn Richardson as a new Registrar Assistant. She puts up with Ed well and she is a great cook too. Sarah, Steve, Shelly, Whitney L., Tim and Ed look forward to seeing everyone this fall!

UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS

The University of Arkansas is creating a Centralized Scheduling Center (to be housed within the Office of the Registrar), and posted a new job position of Room Scheduling Coordinator to oversee this unit. This position's responsibilities include the coordination and management of university-wide academic facility scheduling (including all academic and special event activities in academic spaces), coordinating the development of policies and protocols relating to the use of academic facilities while working closely with all stakeholders in the process and supervising the Centralized Scheduling Center staff. In addition, the Room Scheduling Coordinator will serve as the campus functional administrator for scheduling software (Resource25, Schedule25, and X25) used for the automated scheduling of classrooms, including the upload and download of data to the Student Information System, and will train new users of the software. For complete position information, please visit <http://hr.uark.edu/jobdetails.asp?ListingID=6347>.

UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS AT LITTLE ROCK

It's been a busy and exciting year at UALR with several new building projects and many ongoing campus initiatives. Several personnel changes have occurred in UALR's Records and Registration Office, beginning last October with Joyce Hail's appointment as Registrar. Soon after, Chelsea Bishop left the Records office to assume the position of Associate Director of Admissions. In December, Elizabeth "Dee Dee" Polite was hired as the new Degree Audit Coordinator and Robert Colvin, Jr. was promoted to Technical Assistant. More recently, Eugene Wilkerson was hired to fill the Class Scheduling Specialist position and Shaun Williams was promoted to the Degree Audit Assistant position.

UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS AT MONTICELLO

News from UAM! The fall term began with record enrollment! There have been no staffing changes in the Office of the Registrar! In the Office of Admissions, Mary and Brooke have been doing double duty, while hiring new staff members. Ana Hunt was hired as an Admissions/Student Recruitment Specialist in August. Ana, a graduate of UAM and AR Tech, started the new year in Northwest AR. Amy Fenolia has also joined the Admission's staff. Amy came to UAM from Valdosta State, and will begin travel in early October. On our McGehee and Crossett campuses, Teresa Sandine, Charles Rocconi, Mitch Powell, and LaWam Rodgers are also part of the recruitment team. Everyone of us, in both the Registrar's and Admission's offices, is plugging along with regular duties and a PeopleSoft conversion! Looking forward to a great fall!

UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS COMMUNITY COLLEGE AT MORRILTON

University of Arkansas System President Dr. B. Alan Sugg has appointed Dr. Larry D. Davis as the next chancellor of the University of Arkansas Community College at Morrilton (UACCM). Davis begins work at UACCM on September 16. Davis succeeds Nathan Crook, who retired June 30 after 25 years as chancellor. Davis has 37 years of experience in community college administration and instruction, most recently serving as vice chancellor for academic affairs at Arkansas State University-Newport for the past six years. Prior to that, he was an instructor, department head and division chair during a 31-year stint at Oklahoma State University Institute of Technology-Oklmulgee. "I'm very excited and very humbled by the opportunity to work with everyone at the college and in the Morrilton community to build upon the great foundation that's already been established at UACCM," Davis said. Davis earned his bachelor's degree in mathematics from East Central State College (Ada, Okla.), and his master's and doctoral degrees in occupational and adult education from Oklahoma State University

UNIVERSITY OF ARKANSAS COMMUNITY COLLEGE AT BATESVILLE

ArkACRAO had great participation for the 2010 Articulation workshops. Both high school counselors and college representatives enjoyed the hospitality of four of our member institutions. The southern workshop was hosted by Southern Arkansas University, the northeast workshop was held at Williams Baptist College, the northwest workshop was enjoyed at John Brown University, and Central Baptist College hosted the central workshop. A special thanks goes to our president, Sarah Jennings, Paige Burkham, Angela Flippo, Aaron Abbot, Jared Burgess, and Jonathon Wilson for working so hard as they hosted us on their campuses. Sixty-five counselors attended the southern and northeastern workshops. At the northwest workshop there were fifty-five high school guidance counselors in attendance, and one hundred fifty-two counselors plus many more college representatives swarmed upon the central workshop. There were a total of 337 counselors in attendance. It was a great week of renewing friendships, meeting new colleagues, and making contacts with high school counterparts. It was a great jumpstart for the 2011 recruiting season. Next fall the workshops will be held at Cossatot Community College of the University of Arkansas on the Ash Down campus, Mid South Community College in West Memphis, Arkansas State University—Mountain Home, and Philander Smith College in Little Rock. It will all kick off the day after Labor Day for a brand new start!

ATTENTION COLLEAGUES!

Want to post a question to the Ark ACRAO listserv? It's easy! Just send your email to aacraol@listserve.uark.edu.



Upcoming Events

- **FALL Conference**
October 6-8, 2010 DeGray Lake Resort State Park
- **AACRAO Annual Strategic Enrollment Management Conference.**
November 7-20, 2010 Nashville, TN
- **AACRAO Registrar 101 and FERPA Two-Day Workshop.**
November 11-12, 2010 Nashville, TN
- **AACRAO Transfer Conference.**
Jan 30 – Feb 1, 2011 New Orleans, LA
- **AACRAO 97th Annual Meeting.**
March 13-16, 2011. Seattle, WA
- **SACRAO 2011 Annual Meeting.**
February 19-23, 2011, Atlanta, Georgia
- **SACRAO 2012 Annual Meeting.**
February 11 – 15, 2012, Northern, KY
- **SACRAO 2013 Annual Meeting.**
February 3-6, 2013, San Antonio, TX

His Holiness the Dalai Lama to Visit the University of Arkansas in May 2011

Tibetan leader to offer a public lecture in Bud Walton Arena



The Dalai Lama with University of Arkansas students who met him while they were in India researching the lives of Tibetans in exile.

FAYETTEVILLE, Ark. – His Holiness the Dalai Lama will offer a public talk in Bud Walton Arena on Wednesday, May 11, 2011, Chancellor G. David Gearhart announced during a news conference this morning. The Dalai Lama's visit is in response to invitations from professor Sidney Burris, director of the honors program in the J. William Fulbright College of Arts and Sciences, and Geshe Dorjee, a Tibetan monk and instructor in Fulbright College. The two met with the Dalai Lama during their most recent trip to India in summer 2009.

The Dalai Lama's visit is being sponsored by the university's student-funded Distinguished Lecture Series. University of Arkansas students will be able to attend the public talk for free.

"We are indeed honored to have His Holiness visit our campus. He is a spiritual leader respected around the world for his message of compassion, peace and non-violence," said Chancellor Gearhart.

The chancellor also announced that Burris will lead a committee to plan and organize a year-long series of events leading up to the Dalai Lama's visit. These events are intended to generate awareness, inform and enhance the issues related to the lecture, and to get the campus community engaged, involved and excited about the visit.

NEWS RELEASE FROM SEARK COLLEGE



SEARK College Receives Over \$20,000

The Pine Bluff Jefferson County Economic Opportunity Commission is offering \$22,000 in scholarships to Southeast Arkansas College (SEARK College) students for the 2010 fall semester. The award amount is \$500 for part-time students (less than 12 hours) and \$1,000 for full-time students (12 or more hours).

To be eligible, students must be low-income and reside in Arkansas, Cleveland, Grant, Jefferson, or Lincoln counties. Students must also complete a scholarship application, write a brief essay, and submit proof of income.



Left to right
Carol Brinker, EOC employee (floral shirt)
Carol Henderson, EOC employee (pink sweater)
Sondra Jones, EOC employee (purple shirt)
Donna Cox, Director of Financial Aid- SEARK College (burgundy shirt)
Dr. Phil Shirley, SEARK College President (dark suit)
Iry Rice, Executive Director, EOC (yellow shirt)
Betty Johnson, EOC board member (floral shirt/blond hair)
Roger Lutrell, EOC employee (checkered shirt)
Rentia Rice, EOC employee (blue hoodie)



Early Alert Systems Help Institutions Reach Out to Students

By Darla Fletcher, Arkansas State University Jonesboro

I remember my freshman year in college. I remember the buildings looked frightening, the people looked strange, and I felt lost. I didn't know where the math building was. I didn't know you could drop a class. I didn't even know that I was considered an "Undergraduate" when asked by the scouring lady at the health clinic. After my initial issues were resolved and I started to feel more at home, I realized I did not understand one iota of Chemistry and how that may make my pharmacist dreams quite impossible. So, why go to class and face the impending doom of just-not-getting-it? I chose to hide in the library and drink coffee while reading books on Existentialism, which did nothing to boost my mood. Now what? Where do I go? Who do I talk to? I had it all figured out and now...nothingness!



Sometimes we forget how hard it is to adjust to college. It is easy to get lost in the shuffle and to feel everyone has it together except for you. College can be isolating, scary, and confusing. I felt like if I just disappeared, would anyone really care or notice? When a person reaches out to say, hey, *I care* and *I notice*, it can change everything for a lost student who may be at the crossroads.

Student outreach is, therefore, incredibly important and it can be managed effectively through Early Alert systems. The mission is simple yet so powerful: to reach out to struggling students, to let them know their instructor or instructors has concern, and that there are people standing by to help.

Arkansas State University has just begun its third semester with their Early Alert system. Retention should be viewed as a campus-wide initiative and many departments (from Counseling, Residence Life, Advising and more) are involved in the ASU program and serve as Early Alert administrators. Faculty submit information online on their potentially at-risk students. Maintaining the data in a centralized repository allows administrators to diary efforts so that other administrators and faculty can be aware of what actions have occurred. The system creatively uses Banner data so that the most appropriate administrator will contact the student. Additionally, the system has email tools that administrators can use to contact student groups and faculty easily.

The response has been amazing. Faculty are actively participating in Early Alert. Staff are working together on retention efforts cross-departmentally. Students have reached out to tutors, to advisors, to instructors. A national list serv has recently been started at <http://registrar.astate.edu/earlyalert/>. Through Early Alert, the campus community has come together in a concerted effort to let students know that many care about their academic successes and their overall well-being.

And THAT is something.

A NOTE FROM THE PROGRAM COMMITTEE CHAIR



On behalf of the Executive Committee and the program planning committee, I invited you to “Renew, Reconnect, and Recharge” at the 2010 Fall Conference. We have worked hard to prepare sessions that are informative, timely, and relevant to your professional development. The program’s success also rest with the presenters and coordinators who have graciously agreed to serve in their respective roles. I applaud them for their efforts.

For the first time attendee, I encourage each of you to become involved and to connect with the rest of the ArkACRAO membership. We are a friendly group, so don’t be afraid to introduce yourself. Everyone should plan to recharge and network with other professionals in the hospitality area. Don’t forget to complete the “I’m Available” form to be sure that you are appointed to an ArkACRAO committee for next year. I look forward to meeting each of you at De Gray Lake Resort. Become connected...it is both rewarding and fun.

**Gin Brown
Program Committee Chair**

Want to submit information for our next Newsletter? Please submit all articles, pictures, and/or announcements to Jennifer Douglas (jdouglas@astate.edu) or Tracy Finch (tfinch@astate.edu) in the Office of the Registrar at Arkansas State University – Jonesboro.

Meeting Notes

