



KACRAO CURRENT

Kansas Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers

February 2018

KACRAO Faithful!

I'm not sure there is a lot to report since our last newsletter, so this will be a short and sweet message from me. I want to encourage all of you to make sure and go out to visit our new website look. Past KACRAO President Casey Wallace has worked very hard with MemberClicks to upgrade both the design and functionality of the website that I think we will all benefit from. THANK YOU, CASEY!!!!

Speaking of Casey, I know you all should have just received an email from her asking for nominations for the Executive Council. I encourage everyone to go out and nominate your fellow KACRAO constituents that you think would serve our membership well and nominate them today. It also gives you a chance to see the new site while you are at it – a win-win for everyone!!!

Finally, I want to take one last opportunity to invite everyone who is planning to attend the AACRAO Annual Meeting next month in Orlando to please join us for the KACRAO Reception on Tuesday, March 27. at High Velocity from 6:00-8:00pm. We will have a lot of good food and opportunities to network with each other.

AACRAO seeks content experts to share ideas, best practices, and solutions that are helping to shape the future of technology and transfer practices in higher education. Please encourage your members to submit a session proposal for the AACRAO Technology & Transfer Conference, which will be held July 8-10 in Minneapolis, Minnesota. The final deadline for submissions for the 2018 Technology & Transfer Conference is February 28. Presenters receive a discounted registration to the meeting. View the call for proposals:

<http://www.aacrao.org/professional-development/meetings/current-meetings/2018-technology-transfer-conference>.

Questions? Please email Saira Burki at burkis@aacrao.org.

Our next Executive Committee will be held at Hutchinson Community College on Monday, April 16 from 10:00 am-1:00 pm, if anyone in the membership would like to attend.

Thank you for all that you do for our organization!!

Lynnette Hilty
KACRAO President



KACRAO Road Warriors

Log in to KACRAO
MemberClicks

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Around the State



Veteran-Ready vs. Veteran-Friendly: Part 2

There has been and will likely continue to be a great number of post-9/11 student veterans seeking degrees from your institution. According to the [Institute for Veterans and Military Families](#) at Syracuse University, nearly 3 million post-9/11 veterans have entered higher education following their service.

Whether you serve a community college, technical college, public 4-year college, or private 4-year college, you are likely to see these students continue to wish to enroll and graduate from your program. I welcome each of you to become familiar with a few simple things you could tell a veteran/active-duty service member regarding your own institution's view of its role in providing their specific educational needs.

I have often viewed higher education as a 2-way street. The institutions provide as much opportunity for the students as is ever sustainable. In exchange, the students provide the institutions with future donors and talents to brag about. Students give life and strife to the professors and staff. They wish to learn! So it is for the student veteran.

The student veteran, too, wishes to contribute to the community in a meaningful way. This unique type of student brings discipline and leadership, with skills in overcoming unforeseen obstacles. This student often has a unique world perspective based on experiences that only a veteran could describe. These are the most unique perspectives for two reasons: There are very few of us that have experienced hostile gunfire, period. Secondly, there are very few of those on our campuses that have experienced it. The reason I say this is a problem is that when these two spheres—military veterans and higher education—do not convene often enough, they lose trust in one another. They lose faith that the other is doing the “right” thing.

I had searched to find a distinction between “veteran-friendly” and “veteran-ready” institutions. I find that schools either make efforts or they don't (can't) make efforts to accommodate veterans.

I suggest that institutions are more “veteran-ready” than others when they participate in some of the following ways:

- ⇒ **Establish specific points of contact within campus offices.**
- ⇒ **Create a campus working group that spans departments.**
- ⇒ **Collaborate with community organizations to provide comprehensive services.**
- ⇒ **Ensure veterans receive a thorough introduction to the university through an orientation.**
- ⇒ **Improve campus climate by establishing a student veterans group, educating faculty and staff about veteran-specific issues, and if possible, creating a veteran-specific resource center or designated space.**
- ⇒ **Investigate the possibility of creating veteran-specific learning communities on campus.**
- ⇒ **Streamline disability and veteran services.**

In the March issue, we'll look at how certain colleges and universities accommodate veterans' needs. If you want to include examples from your own institution, email me at brian.boyle@bakeru.edu.

Brian Boyle
Associate Director of Admissions
Baker University

Metrics: Are they what they seem?

As admissions officers, institutional researchers, and registrars, we often quote our college's metrics. They sound great and appeal to prospective students, parents, external research partners, and even donors. Is it all created equal, though? [Inside Higher Ed](#) writer [Scott Jaschik](#) recently interviewed [Jerry Z. Muller](#), author of *The Tyranny of Metrics*, which "critiques not only higher education but many parts of society that rely on metrics."

In the article, Muller says that institutional reliance on metrics often drives self-fulfilling prophecies. One example he gives is the promotion of low acceptance rates, which often is tied to prestige and institutional rankings. The prestige allures applications, only for admissions teams to reject more applications to meet low acceptance rates, Muller says.

Muller offers a key solution: ensure quality meets quantity through good judgment. In the research arena, for example, quantity of research publications doesn't automatically mean high quality. Are they peer-reviewed articles in critically acclaimed journals? From an admissions and enrollment management perspective, do you accept college-ready students who make it to graduation and beyond? How does your institution accommodate access, retention, and other forms of student success?

Consider how your team, division, and institution reports and uses metrics. Are they tied to your mission and culture? Are they tied to national reporting mandates? Recruits and students will build confidence in your institution as you learn and re-learn meaning behind your numbers.

Chris Neary
Admissions Representative
Highland Community College

Advisors: Critical links between admissions, registrar

Advisors play a key role in linking efforts of admissions representatives and registrars. While it's important to enroll students, [a recent report from the Center for Community College Student Engagement \(CCSSE\)](#) says advisors are critical in retaining and graduating students.

Good news is that, nationally, more new students reported that they were required to meet with an advisor this year (73%) than last year (51%). The CCSSE report also says increased frequency and length of advisor visits leads to students exhibiting higher levels of active and collaborative learning, student effort, academic challenge, student-faculty interaction, and support for learners. In short, focused advising leads to more engaged students.

This report addresses advising of student-athletes, developmental students, and transfer-seeking students—three major college student populations in Kansas. Consider how your institution has addressed or could address these data as you sell your college's student experience. [Read the entire CCSSE report here](#)

Chris Neary
Admissions Representative
Highland Community College

KS free-speech legislation awaits colleges' weigh-in

While free speech is protected under the U.S. Constitution's Second Amendment, delivery of and reaction to free speech has long been a contentious issue at colleges and universities throughout the U.S.

The Kansas government contemplates a free-speech protection bill, known as the [Campus Free Speech Protection Act](#), "that would prohibit universities from assessing security fees based on anticipated reaction to a speaker," [according to the Topeka Capital-Journal](#).

While some state legislators want to move the bill to law, other legislators want more buy-in from Kansas colleges and universities first. Particularly, Sen. Lynn Rogers seeks more information from the state's colleges and universities that want policies guiding faculty use of social media.

Campus safety is a recurring question from prospective students and parents. Students may feel compelled to express views, while others feel uncomfortable around challenging views. How does your campus address this?

Chris Neary
Admissions Representative
Highland Community College





Member News & Announcements

Nominate your colleague for KACRAO Executive Council

Nominations for the 2018-2019 KACRAO Executive Council are now open. Our organization exists because of the engagement of our members. We appreciate the commitment of the institutions and individuals who serve in these important roles to support KACRAO and professional development.

This year we are accepting nominations for the following positions: **President Elect, Vice President of Outreach, Vice President of Professional Development, Treasurer Elect, Secretary, Admissions Advocate-at-large, Records/Registration Advocate-at-Large.**

If you have questions about the time commitment or expectations of any position please feel free to email Casey Wallace, Chair of Nominations and Elections at: caseywallace@ku.edu. You can nominate now by visiting: www.kacrao.org/nominations.

Casey Wallace
Assistant Director of Admissions
University of Kansas

KACRAO website upgraded

If you haven't taken a few minutes to explore the new KACRAO Members website I encourage you to log in now (login is now right on the home page!) to check it out. If you are a Key Contact now is a great time to update your Institutional Profile. Your Institutional Profile is visible to anyone who uses the "KACRAO Member Search" function located on the front page of the website. The search results that are returned include the contact information for the old "Parent Profiles." If you would like you can update the Institutional Profile with a more generic phone number and email address—and add a photo that represents your campus! KACRAO Members can still search for individuals within institutions to retrieve contact information for specific members.

Casey Wallace
Assistant Director of Admissions
University of Kansas

KACRAO scholarships deadline extends to April 1

The KACRAO Scholarship Committee is pleased to announce [the Glenn Lygrisse/KACRAO Scholarship application is now live!](#) The application deadline was extended an extra month this year—April 1, 2018.

KACRAO scholarships are available to any current high school senior attending a Kansas high school who has a cumulative, seventh-semester high school GPA of at least 3.25 on a 4-point scale. A student can be one of the four annual recipients of a \$500 Glenn Lygrisse/KACRAO Scholarship! The scholarship must be used at a KACRAO member institution. One \$500 scholarship will be awarded in each of these four categories: four-year public institution, four-year private institution, community college, and technical college.

Please help us get the word out to high school counselors, current high school seniors and parents. Let them know about the KACRAO Scholarship and the upcoming deadline.

An ACT score is no longer a requirement for this scholarship. This will help break down any barriers so that, if a student has not taken the ACT exam and is not required to take it for entrance into his/her chosen college/university, that student will still be eligible to apply for and receive a KACRAO Scholarship.

If you have questions, contact the KACRAO Scholarship Committee at scholarshipcommittee@kacrao.org.

Denise Hoeffner
Director of Institutional Research and Registrar
Salina Area Technical College

2018 KACRAO Conference is Sept. 26-28, 2018:



2017-2018 KACRAO Leadership

President: Lynnette Hilty, Hutchinson Community College

President-Elect: Michelle Ponce, Butler Community College

Past President: Casey Wallace, University of Kansas

Vice President for Association Services: Lori Crowther, Barton Community College

Vice President for Outreach: Tammy Tabor, Garden City Community College

Vice President for Professional Development: Chad Shade, Pratt Community College

Secretary: Ricki Ellison, Wichita State University

Treasurer: Christina Long, Hutchinson Community College

Admissions Advocate-At-Large: Rebecca Bilderback, Allen Community College

Records/Registration Advocate-At-Large: Steve Grenus, Washburn University

Contact Us

Kansas Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers (KACRAO)

Email us to give KACRAO News story topics or to contribute general ideas for KACRAO.

President Lynnette Hilty, Hutchinson Community College, president@kacrao.org

President-Elect & Program Chair Michelle Ponce, Butler Community College, program@kacrao.org

Publications Committee Chair Chris Neary, Highland Community College, cneary@highlandcc.edu

A complete list of the Executive Council, Coordinators, and Committee Chairs is found at www.kacrao.org/executive-council.

Visit us on the web at www.kacrao.org and [log in to Member Clicks](#).

Stay warm and healthy this Kansas winter.

