



Rocky Mountain Association for College Admission Counseling

Fall 2008

Send Future Articles and Fun Facts to robinboren@comcast.net

FROM THE PRESIDENT

By Monica Huggins, Daniels Fund

For those of you who attended NACAC's National Conference in Seattle a few weeks ago, I hope you had an opportunity to rejuvenate and renew your connection to your profession and your colleagues from our region and around the country. There is always so much to do during NACAC, but if you connected with old friends, made some new ones, and were reminded why you are in the profession you are in, then I hope you will consider your time at NACAC a success. I would especially like to thank you for representing our region as participants, session leaders, and committee members. I am always very proud to be a part of the Rocky Mountain region where we have so many talented college counselors and admissions professionals.

If you attended the Rocky Mountain ACAC General Membership meeting during NACAC, you surely noticed the incredible energy and commitment of our current board. We would like to encourage you to get involved and let us know if you are interested in serving on any of our committees. We would also like to welcome the newest members to our board: Cathy Nabbefeld, Kendall Smith, Eric Nissen, Carlos Jimenez, Morgan Boyack, Joe Swingle, Patrick McHorney, and Ralph Figueroa.



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PRESIDENT'S COUNCIL GRANTS

APPLY NOW for NACAC's Presidents' Council Grants program – a program made possible through NACAC's Imagine Fund.

The purpose of the Council Grant Award program is to provide funding to individuals, or state and regional affiliates, for professional development and/or innovative programs that support the college admission profession or process. It is especially for those who may otherwise be unable to participate in such programs.

Grant application materials are available at:
http://www.nacacnet.org/MemberPortal/AboutNACAC/Governance/PresCouncil/SR_PresCoun_Grants.htm

The next application deadline is February 1, 2009. If you have any questions about the Grants program, contact Monica Huggins at mhuggins@danielsfund.org or Yanecia Green, NACAC's Assistant Director of Membership and Affiliate Relations at 703-299-6848 or email: ygreen@nacacnet.org.

SUBMIT YOUR PROPOSAL FOR ADDITIONAL FUNDING NOW!!

SAVE THE DATE: APRIL 23-25, 2009

RMACAC: COLORADO SPRINGS

NACAC Assembly Clarifies May 1 Mandatory Practice

By Noah Buckley, Delegate, University of Wyoming

Your RMACAC delegates participated in the 2008 NACAC Assembly at the NACAC Conference in Seattle and helped make important decisions that impacting college admissions and the direction of our association. The assembly adjourned having elected a new NACAC President Elect and three new board members. Those elected were:

President Elect:

- James Jump, Academic Dean and Director of Guidance, Saint Christopher's School (VA)

Board members:

- Nancy Beane, College Counselor, Westminster Schools (GA)
- Lynn Slaughter, Director of College Counseling, Emery/Weiner School (TX)
- Kris Getting Roach, Director of Admissions and Financial Aid, University of St. Thomas (MN)

Jeff Fuller, associate director of admissions at the University of Houston was elected Coordinator of the State and Regional Presidents' Council. Two additional board members appointed by the current board who will begin their term this year were also introduced to the assembly. They are:

- Michael Goldberger, Athletic Director, Brown University (RI)
- Patricia McDonough, Professor of Education, UCLA

The assembly also clarified the intent of NACAC's mandatory practice that member institutions must not require students to commit to enroll prior to May 1. The assembly approved adding language to specify that a scholarship offer made to a student must also remain available to that student until May 1. The intent of the May 1 rules are to help prevent students from making college choice decisions before they have all the necessary options (including financial aid) available to them. NCAA scholarships were noted as exceptions to this rule. While some institutions were concerned about their ability to dictate scholarship policy to the various units on their campuses that control scholarships, there was agreement that the policy is in the best interest of students.

Because of this action by the assembly, colleges and

universities are encouraged to review this policy with those on their campus that administer scholarships to ensure compliance. Additionally, institutions should review all policies that may be perceived by students and parents as a requirement to commit to their institution prior to May 1. Consider deposits or fees required or making insinuations that a student may lose an opportunity if they do not make a commitment prior to May 1 (housing for example).

Another highlight of the Assembly was a presentation from Dr. Philip Ballinger of the University of Washington and Shelley Arakawa from College Board regarding high school graduation and demographic projections and how states and institutions might use this data. The projected decline in overall high school graduates and the growth in ethnic minority populations will create two certainties. First, competition for traditional college-bound populations will get more intense. Second, colleges and universities must work with high school counselors and other partners to promote college options and college preparation to underserved populations in an attempt to grow the percentage of students who will be college-bound.

Your Rocky Mountain ACAC delegates are:

- John O'Connor (Past President, Chief Delegate), Natrona County School District, john_oconnor@ncsd.k12.wy.us
- Monica Huggins (President, Delegate), Daniels Fund, mhuggins@danielsfund.org
- Noah Buckley, University of Wyoming, nbuckley@uwyo.edu
- Joanne Augustine, Arrupe Jesuit High School, jkraus@arrupejesuit.com
- Susan Boyle, Naropa University, sboyle@naropa.edu
- Joe Swingle, Arizona State University, Joseph.swingle@asu.edu
- Patrick McHorney, Phoenix Country Day School, Patrick.McHorney@PCDS.org
- Rafael Figueroa, Albuquerque Academy,

Please read this



ADMISSIONS PRACTICES

By Kendall Smith, Admissions Practices Chair, Verde Valley Schools



At the Seattle national conference, we put out a call for volunteers to become members of the Rocky Mountain Admission Practices Committee. For those Rocky Mountain members who were not in attendance, the welcome mat is still out! The regional Admission Practices Committee investigates complaints regarding non-compliance by institutions within our five states with the Standards and Principles of Good Practice as set forth by NACAC.

The following Rocky Mountain members have joined the committee and more members are welcome:

Cara Sturman, Senior Admission Officer, University of Colorado, Boulder CO
 Jim McConnell, College Counselor, Notre Dame Preparatory High School, Scottsdale AZ
 Cate Armstrong, Independent Counselor, Colorado

Although we hope that all regional members are always in compliance and thus that the Committee never confers, please contact Kendall if you are willing to serve (phone: 928.284.2272, ext. 32).

Please refer to Noah Buckley's Assembly report on the previous page for information on changes to the SPGP that were voted on and approved to go into effect for the 2009-2010 application cycle.

COLLEGE HORIZONS: A ROADMAP TO HIGHER EDUCATION

By Whitney Laughlin, Ed.D., Program Director: laughlin@rt66.com



Because of the help provided through your College Horizons program, my daughter will graduate from Stanford University next spring. As a first generation college student, we had no idea what opportunities there were for her. She came back from your program with so much information and a strong vision for her future, and ended up being admitted to Stanford. And what an experience she has had the last three years!

COLLEGE HORIZONS 2009, in its twelfth year, is a pre-college workshop for Native American, Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian current 10th and 11th graders. Over 1400 students have attended College Horizons since 1998; 95% of our alumni have gone on to four-year colleges and universities, and an exceptional 85% have graduated in four or five years. Of our 2007 and 2008 high school graduates, 26 were named Gates Millennium Scholars. In recognition of this incredible record, College Horizons and its founder, Dr. Whitney Laughlin, received the National Association for College Admission Counselors (NACAC) Human Relations Award. This award is given to the organization or individual that "is instrumental in making post secondary educational opportunities available to historically underrepresented students."

The amount of self-esteem you bestow upon your students, and the success rate you have achieved for Indian students is amazing. Not only do you prepare them to apply to excellent colleges, you specifically introduce them to colleges that are Indian-friendly and will support them throughout their four-year journey and beyond. Even more important, you network Indian leaders for the next generation. – Mother of CH '02 & '06 alumnae, Cornell University and NYU (Tisch)

On June 20-24, we will be at Yale University, New Haven, CT and June 27 –July 1 at Whitman College, Walla Walla, WA. Additional collaborating partners are AIGC (American Indian Graduate Center), *Winds of Change* Magazine, the Princeton Review Foundation, the College Board and 43 of the nation's finest colleges and universities. Substantial funds are available for travel and tuition assistance.

Information is presented on a variety of topics to help participants select colleges suitable for them, apply, get admitted, and receive adequate financial aid. Students have an opportunity to learn about a broad group of colleges and to establish a personal relationship with college representatives and counselors that will continue long after the program is over. The entire faculty lives in the dorm alongside the students, which helps establish close ties.

RMACAC: SPRING ANNUAL CONFERENCE

By Eric Nissen, Conference Planning Chair, UC Colorado Springs

This year, RMACAC's Annual Spring Conference will take place at the foot of the Rocky Mountains, in Colorado Springs, Colorado! Participants will enjoy world class accommodations at the historic Antler's Hilton in downtown Colorado Springs, within easy walking distance to restaurants, shops, museums and parks.

Your conference committee is hard at work putting together a great lineup of keynote speakers and breakout sessions which will offer options for professional development, cutting edge information, trends in our industry and a few surprises! There will be an opportunity to tour local universities. And, you will also appreciate the dedication of our Social Committee, which has been tireless in researching the best options for fun in the area.

We are looking forward to welcoming you to Colorado Springs, April 23 – 25, 2009, where we will all enjoy Reaching New Peaks together.

For more information on the 2009 RMACAC Annual Spring Conference, please contact Eric Nissen at 719, 262-3866, or enissen@uccs.edu.



RMACAC STRATEGIC PLAN: 2008-2011

By Susan Boyle, University Delegate, Naropa University

The RMACAC board is in the process of developing a strategic plan. It has become clear to us that with such a large and diverse regional organization, a multi-year plan with goals and objectives is necessary if we are to accomplish our great mission. In creating our plan, we re-examined our mission statement and went through a SWOT analysis (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats) in order to assess any possible gaps between our vision and our reality. It is our hope that our plan will guide the board's activities, will provide new initiatives for our committees, and will create new ways for counselors and admission officers to get involved in our great organization.

The plan addresses goals that include increased collaboration with counseling organizations in the five-state region; increased and improved professional development for members and non-members in our states; improved financial stability; increased membership; and increased activity in government relations.

The board will continue to develop the plan and should finalize a draft at its next meeting in January of 2009. At that time, we will share the plan with our membership via email. We look forward to receiving your comments and ideas. We will then take your feedback and integrate it into the plan as best as possible. The board will finalize and approve the plan at its April meeting just prior to the spring RMACAC conference in CO Springs. At the conference, we will share the approved plan with the entire membership.

It is an exciting time for RMACAC! We have lots of ideas and lots of energy. The plan will lay out many ways for others to get involved and we look forward to sharing it with you very soon.

JOIN RMACAC NOW
www.rmacac.org

RMACAC EXECUTIVE BOARD 2008-2009

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<p><u>OFFICERS</u></p> <p>PRESIDENT Monica Huggins Daniels Fund (CO)</p> <p>PRESIDENT-ELECT Cathy Nabbefeld Colorado Academy (CO)</p> <p>PAST PRESIDENT John O'Connor Natrona County Schools (WY)</p> <p>TREASURER Mike Bryan Page High School (AZ)</p> <p>SECRETARY Adrienne Loveland University of Wyoming (WY)</p>	<p><u>CHAIRS</u></p> <p>ADMISSION PRACTICES Kendall Smith Verde Valley School (AZ)</p> <p>COLLEGE FAIRS Shanna Hamblin University of Denver (CO)</p> <p>CONFERENCE PLANNING Eric Nissen Univ. of Colorado at CO Springs (CO)</p> <p>GOVERNMENT RELATIONS Dianne Leonard University of Utah (UT)</p> <p>HUMAN RELATIONS Carlos Jimenez Colorado College (CO)</p> <p>MEMBERSHIP Morgan Boyack</p>	<p>PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT Lynn Ossowski Salpointe Catholic HS (AZ)</p> <p>PUBLIC RELATIONS Robin Boren Independent Counselor (CO)</p> <p><u>DELEGATES</u></p> <p>Noah Buckley University of Wyoming (WY)</p> <p>Joanne Augustine Arrupe Jesuit High School (CO)</p> <p>Susan Boyle Naropa University (CO)</p> <p>Patrick McHorney Phoenix Country Day School (AZ)</p> <p>Joe Swingle Arizona State University (AZ)</p> <p>Ralph Figueroa</p>

CALL FOR SESSION PROPOSALS

Rocky Mountain Association for College Admission Counseling

**April 23-25, 2009
The Antler's Hilton
Colorado Springs, CO**

- Is there a topic that you consider your area of expertise?
- Which activity or approach to your job has been working especially well?
- Have you had a discussion with colleagues lately about an area of interest to us all?
- Do you have a "best practice" that you would be willing to share with your colleagues?
- Are you interested in being on a panel discussion?

We'd love to see you submit a proposal for a session at the RMACAC Annual Conference!

Please fill out the form below to submit your proposal.

Session Title:

Target Audience: college admissions professionals high school counselors everyone

Time: Conference Session (45 min.)

What will your audience gain from this session?

Presenter/Moderator (name and title):

Institutional Affiliation:

E-mail: Phone: Fax:

Address:

Co-presenters or panel members Institutional Affiliations

1.

2.

3.

Description of Session (be specific)

Please return session Proposals by December 31st to:
Carlos Jimenez, RMACAC Sessions Subcommittee Chair
By e-mail: carlos.jimenez@ColoradoCollege.edu

By fax: 719-389-6816