



Summer 2026 Newsletter

**Pacific Association of Collegiate
Registrars & Admissions Officers**

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Message from the President

Dear PACRAO,

I hope your summer has been going well. I am really not sure where the summer went. I remember it being May and now it's August. As many of you are probably doing, I am preparing for new students to arrive on campus. I cannot believe how many orientation sessions I am participating in, new students, new faculty, new chairs. However, I am finding it beneficial to review slide presentations from future past to gain a better understanding and make tweaks so that it can be received well by this new class of students and faculty. I love the summer - and not just because my birthday is in July - I love it because the past and future exist in the same space and time. I am wrapping up projects hanging from the previous academic year while setting goals and intentions for the new academic year. This is the perfect time to reset, to check in with yourself, complete goals and set new ones. So, for those of you who need a reminder, the past and future are linked, but the future is not fixed - you have time to make adjustments. Now is the time to lock in and set your course.

In this edition, we are unveiling the PACRAO 2026 Gala Theme and asking you to share your added riches by presenting or co-hosting a roundtable discussion at the conference. We are also updating you on N&E election results, while requesting that you raise your hand or nominate someone for a leadership role on the 2027 Board. Don't forget to check out what the Diversity Development Committee is up to, how you can join the newly formed Professional Development Committee. Also, the Leadership Development Institute (LDI) is still accepting applications!

Until next time, be well and remember to breathe!

Erin Michelle Collins

PACRAO President

Registrar and Assistant Vice President for Academic Affairs / Claremont
McKenna College

2026 Annual Conference

November 8-11, 2026



Registration for PACRAO 2026 is still open!

The PACRAO 2026 [Annual Conference site](#) has [registration links](#), [hotel information](#), tips [about getting to Hollywood, California](#) (and [things to do](#) once you get there), and a [conference grant application](#).

Back by popular demand (and this time in-person) AACRAO Federal Update hosted by AACRAO's Director of Government Relations, Scott

Filter! Review the [sessions](#) for a preview of the great content available at the conference!



Gala theme...
You're the Star!



The stage is set for an unforgettable night worthy of the silver screen. Join our cast for a Hollywood-inspired evening where the real stars are the people who make PACRAO shine: you! Experience a touch of Hollywood magic where you'll enjoy exceptional cuisine by Wolfgang Puck Catering, dance the night away, and make lasting memories with your fellow PACRAO colleagues. No auditions. No casting calls. No headshots. No critics. Just the role of a lifetime and your moment to be celebrated. Whether you channel Old Hollywood elegance, embrace a modern red-carpet style, or come dressed for a simple night out, you'll fit right in as the star you already are. The Hollywood Sign may light up the skyline, but on gala night, the spotlight belongs to you!

Coming for the whole conference? Making a day-trip appearance? Either way, you're on the guest list!



2024 Gala: Shoot the Moon



2025 Gala: Peace, Love, and PACRAO

Help Shape Future PACRAO Roundtables

PACRAO's roundtables are a great opportunity to connect with colleagues, exchange ideas, and tackle the challenges we all face in admissions, records, and enrollment services.

We're looking for your input! Please take a minute to complete our Roundtable Interest Poll and let us know:

- Which topics you'd most like to discuss.
- Whether you'd be interested in hosting or co-hosting a future roundtable.

Whether you're a seasoned registrar, a new professional, or somewhere in between, your feedback will help us build meaningful conversations for our conference.

Have an idea for a roundtable that's not on the list? Share your suggestions in the poll!

Take the Poll Now!

Call for Session Proposals – We Need Your Ideas!

There's still time to help shape the 2026 PACRAO Annual Conference! We're looking for additional session proposals in several key areas and encourage members from all institution types and experience levels to share their expertise.

We're especially seeking proposals on:

- FERPA
- Privacy & AI
- Academic Scheduling & Curriculum
- Regulatory Updates, Reporting & Compliance
- - Enrollment reporting
 - Financial aid audit support
 - NSLDS
 - Fraud and records requests
- Continuity Planning & Documentation
- Data Governance & Stewardship
- Student Information Systems (SIS)
- Operational Topics
- - Degree Audit
 - Transcripts
 - Residency
 - Grading & Repeats
 - Academic Standing
 - Registration
 - Admissions
- Transfer & Articulation
- Organizational Change

- Assessment & Analytics

Have a great idea that doesn't fit one of these categories? We'd love to hear that too!

Thank you for helping create a conference that reflects the expertise, innovation, and collaboration of the PACRAO community.

[Submit a Session Proposal!](#)

New Pre-Conference Workshop Added!

We're excited to announce a new pre-conference workshop for the 2026 PACRAO Annual Conference!

Becoming a Trusted Campus Partner: Building Credibility, Influence, and Strategic Relationships Across the Institution

Presenter: Alex Underwood, University Registrar & Associate Dean, Enrollment Management, University of Arizona

Admissions, registrar, and enrollment management offices play a vital role in supporting student success, but their impact often depends on the relationships they build across campus. In this interactive workshop, Alex Underwood will share practical strategies for building credibility, strengthening partnerships, and navigating institutional dynamics with confidence and professionalism.

Participants will explore approaches to stakeholder engagement, communication, and collaboration that help enrollment offices become trusted campus partners and advance student-centered outcomes.

Pre-conference workshops provide an opportunity to dive deeper into timely topics through interactive, extended-format learning. If you're looking to strengthen your leadership skills and expand your influence across your institution, you won't want to miss this session.

Submit a Session Proposal Now!

Session Submission

2026 Conference Chairs



Sean Pattison

2026 Program Committee Chair



Eduardo Leon Garcia

2026 Local Arrangements Chair

University of California, Los Angeles

programchair@pacrao.org

Loyola Marymount University

lac@pacrao.org

Nominations and Elections Committee Update

PACRAO members have voted, and your 2026 Nominations and Elections Committee members are:



Tina Lowery

Past-President | 2026
N&E Chair

University of
Washington, Seattle



Peyton Coronas

2026 N&E Vice Chair

University of Nevada,
Las Vegas



Paul Lampano

2027 N&E Vice Chair

Deputy Registrar,
University of
California, Irvine



MacKenzie Boyd



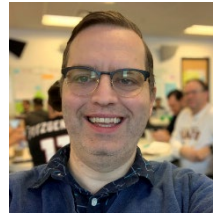
Shelly Hsu*



Academic Records and
Compliance
Representative,
Oregon State
University

University Registrar at
California State
University, Fullerton

Adam Lucero
Coordinator - Student
Records, Portland
Community College



Joe Tate

Senior Director,
Program and
Policy
Implementation,
University of
Phoenix

Jeff Williams

Associate
Registrar,
Systems and
Compliance,
University of
California,
Riverside

Gregory Jose

N&E Alternate

Manager,
Admissions and
Evaluation,
University of
Phoenix

Kris Thrasher

N&E Alternate

Admission and
Evaluation
Document
Processing,
University of
Phoenix

**Shelly will join the committee at the end of the November 2026 Annual Business Meeting, when her term as PACRAO's Vice-President for Membership ends.*

PACRAO wants you!

Now that the committee has formed, we will begin the process to gather nominations for the following 2027 PACRAO Slate positions:

- President-Elect

- Treasurer-Elect
- Vice-President, Communications and Technology
- Vice-President, Professional Development

Descriptions of these roles can be found in [Article V of the PACRAO Bylaws](#)

We will also be recruiting people to run for next year's [Nominations and Elections Committee](#) and [Audit Committee](#).

For more information on any of these roles, please reach out to Past-President Tina Lowery (was Miller) at past-president@pacrao.org.

Diversity Development Committee Update

PACRAO Diversity Luncheon - Speaker Request

The Diversity Development Committee is planning our annual Diversity Luncheon, and we would love your help identifying members to spotlight this year.

We're hoping to feature members who can share experiences of working to support equity, diversity, and inclusion initiatives within their institutions. We know that many of you are leading or contributing to important efforts toward meaningful policy changes, program updates, and systemic improvements that positively impact students, staff, and communities.

Examples might include:

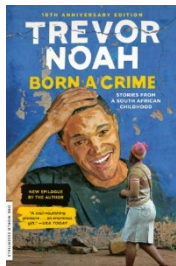
- Updates to institutional systems or policies (e.g. preferred name practices)
- New or expanded support for first-generation college students
- Other initiatives that promote diversity, equity, and inclusion in tangible ways

How you can help:

- Nominate yourself or another member who has led or contributed to this work
- Priority consideration will be given to members who are local to the conference and planning to attend

Remember that no efforts are too small! Some of the most valuable conversations come from honest reflections about what worked (or didn't work!) and what we're still learning. Thank you for helping us highlight the important work happening across our organization.

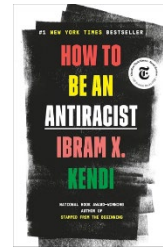
Please don't hesitate to reach out with any questions or suggestions.
Thank you!



On August 4, the DDC held a virtual book club to discuss Trevor Noah's memoir, Born A Crime. If you weren't able to join us, but are interested in reflecting on the book, you can review the discussion prompts on the event page.

[Discussion Prompts](#)

The DDC's next book club is in-person at the conference in Hollywood, CA! Join us for a discussion on How To Be An Antiracist by Ibram X. Kendi.



DEI Roundtable Discussion

Apologies to anyone who signed up to attend our July DEI Roundtable discussion- it was unfortunately cancelled at the last minute. We are currently working on finding an appropriate time to reschedule the discussion.



Laura Schonberger

Vice President for Diversity
Development

Professional Development Updates

Help Shape the Future of PACRAO: Join the Professional Development Committee!

Greetings, PACRAO Colleagues!

I hope your summer is winding down smoothly and you are finding some time to recharge before the busy fall term begins. As your Vice President for Professional Development, I have been mapping out our learning and growth opportunities for the coming year, and I need your talent, energy, and expertise to help bring them to life.

To support our diverse membership across the region, I am looking to form our Professional Development Committee. We will be working together as a collaborative team to shape these initiatives, and I am actively seeking passionate individuals to join us as Committee Members and Leaders to drive impactful goals across four key areas:

- PACRAO Webinars: Help curate, coordinate, and host virtual learning sessions. Our goal is to sustain this highly successful program while identifying creative ways to increase member participation and year-round engagement.
- PACRAO Pals: Support our cornerstone peer mentoring initiative. Our goal is to evaluate how we can add more structure to expand the program from a conference-focused event into a robust, full-year experience.
- The PACRAO Review: Join the team revitalizing our annual publication. Our goal is to fully reimagine and revive this journal, which has been dormant for a few years, bringing fresh professional insights and research to our community. (If you ever served on a yearbook committee—or ever wanted to—we need you!)
- PACRAO Packs (New Initiative!): Be a trailblazer for our newest program! Our goal is to build this initiative from the ground up, launching functional affinity groups (e.g., Class Scheduling, Transfer Admissions, Degree Clearance) to foster deeper, specialized peer networking and collaborative spaces.

Whether you want to drive a new initiative like PACRAO Packs or help elevate our trusted staples like Pals and webinars, there is a place for you

to collaborate and make a lasting impact. Serving on this committee is a rewarding way to give back to our community, build your career network, and work alongside incredible colleagues across our association.

Please note: While the level of commitment will vary depending on the area you choose, we know how busy campus life gets and are committed to keeping these roles flexible to fit your schedule.

If you are ready to jump in, please complete the interest form below. On the form, you will be able to indicate your interest in these four areas and provide a short statement explaining why you are excited about getting involved. We will begin reviewing forms and assembling the Committee in early September, so please submit your interest soon!



Michael Pastore

Vice President for Professional
Development

**Professional Development
Committee Interest Form**

Leadership Development Institute



Greetings PACRAO Colleagues,

The application deadline for the 2026–2027 PACRAO Leadership Development Institute has been extended to August 31, 2026.

Lisa Erck

lerck@pacific.edu

LDI Dean
PACRAO Leadership
Development Institute

The LDI is a year-long professional development experience designed for emerging and established leaders who want to strengthen their leadership skills, expand their professional network, and apply their learning through a meaningful leadership project.

Leadership
Development
Institute Application

We encourage you to consider applying or to share this opportunity with colleagues who would benefit from a supportive and engaging leadership development experience.

Please submit completed applications by August 31, 2026.

We look forward to welcoming the next LDI cohort!

Access to Financial Records

Prior to July 2026, PACRAO maintained archived records through the PACRAO website and members could access all archived records through the member portal. With the transition to MemberClicks, PACRAOs new website, archived records were moved to PACRAOs Google Drive. Financial records for 3 years will be accessible to members through the [Financial](#)

[Documents](#) page on the website. Members can request access to additional archived records by contacting the [PACRAO Secretary](#).

PACRAO Job Board

Find a Job

Post a Job



2025 - 2026 PACRAO Executive Board



Erin Collins

President

*Claremont McKenna
College*



Tina Miller

Past President

*University of
Washington*



Steve Downing

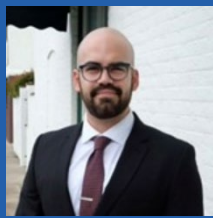
President Elect

Bellevue College



**Michael
Pastore**

Vice President,
Professional
Development
*University of
Puget Sound*



Shelly Hsu

Vice President,
Membership
*California State
University -
Fullerton*



**Michael
Davenport**

Vice President,
Communication
& Informaton
Technology
*The University
of Arizona*



**Laura
Schonberger**

Vice President,
Diversity
Development
*University of
Phoenix*



Omar Saucedo

Secretary
*University of
California - San
Francisco*

Josh Reinhold

Treasurer
*University of
California -
Merced*

Steven Stubbs

Treasurer Elect
*North Idaho
College*

**Chelsea
Peoples**

Business
Partner Liaison
*University of
Nevada - Las
Vegas*