



THE CURRENT

KACRAO'S QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2023

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HILL DAY 2023

AACRAO's Congressional Hill Day returned to an in-person event on June 22. Members from twenty-six states represented AACRAO. KACRAO was represented by Brenda Carmichael, Megan Chambers, Hugo Perez and Ramah Nation. AACRAO Hill Day is an annual discussion between those working in higher education and congressional offices.

After hearing about AACRAO's Hill Day I was curious on how the event went. Ramah Nation, University Registrar at Baker University and KACRAO's Treasurer shared her experience.

Q-What topics/experiences were discussed on Hill Day?

"When we visited our representatives' and senator's offices, we had talking points over the following items:

- The Reverse Transfer Efficiency Act (The legislation would establish a new exemption under FERPA to allow the sharing of student information between institutions to facilitate increased college completion rates).
- Several provisions to update FERPA (including specifications for electronic records, resolve the legally ambiguous status of records collected and maintained by third parties, and rescinding several parts of the 2012 expansion of FERPA to offer more protection for student privacy).
- Doubling the Pell Grant Award (raising the maximum Pell Grant to \$13,000).
- The Dream Act (providing permanent legal protections and a path to citizenship for undocumented immigrants brought to the U.S. as children)."

KACRAO *HILL DAY CONTINUED...*

Q-Why is it important for AACRAO to participate in Hill Day?

"The Reverse Transfer Efficiency Act (The legislation would establish a new exemption under FERPA to allow the sharing of student information between institutions to facilitate increased college completion rates).

Several provisions to update FERPA (including specifications for electronic records, resolve the legally ambiguous status of records collected and maintained by third parties, and rescinding several parts of the 2012 expansion of FERPA to offer more protection for student privacy).

Doubling the Pell Grant Award (raising the maximum Pell Grant to \$13,000).

The Dream Act (providing permanent legal protections and a path to citizenship for undocumented immigrants brought to the U.S. as children)."

Q- What drove your decision to participate in Hill Day? Why was this important to you?

"I participated in AACRAO Leadership this year and Hill Day is the day before, also in DC. I thought I'd apply to see if they might need representation from Kansas and got accepted!"

Q- How did you prepare for your visit?

"AACRAO staff prepared a ton of resources for us - videos, talking points, a mock interview, one-pagers over the issues we were discussing. It was all incredibly helpful. They also encouraged us to complete AACRAO's Federal Legislative Process and Advocacy 101 Online course, which we got to access free by attending Hill Day."

Q-Did anything unexpected or exciting happen during your day?

"Our group had three meetings in the house and then one meeting in the senate. We'd heard about the tunnels connecting the two and after our last house meeting, we lightheartedly asked if an intern might be available to walk us through them to go over to the senate. They immediately agreed! It was really cool and we got to ride this little train in the tunnels as well - which only went like 200 ft - but it was exciting."

Q-What advice would you give to someone considering Hill Day?

"Just do it. You'll be nervous, but AACRAO will prepare you for what to say and you end up just having a conversation with other people who are passionate about the issues. Especially if you know of another member in your state considering it, apply together! It is 100% worth it!"



KACRAO

KACRAO SCHOLARSHIP



Glynn Lygrisse KACRAO Scholarship

Cynthia Guaderrama (2 year recipient) -

Cynthia Guaderrama is a recent graduate from Ulysses High School and is planning on attending Garden City Community College. She is looking forward to getting her Dental Hygiene degree in the near future.

Ryann Warren (4 year private recipient) -

My name is Ryann Warren and I recently graduated on May 14th from Garden City High School in Garden City, Kansas. This fall I will attend Kansas Wesleyan University in Salina, Kansas, where I will study biomedical chemistry and compete on their Women's Golf Team. Upon receiving my bachelor's degree, I intend to go to medical school to obtain my Doctor of Medicine (MD). I chose this educational and career pathway as it is challenging, but the reward of helping my community is worth it and allows me to feed into my passion for serving others every day. I would like to thank you KACRAO for awarding me this scholarship and allowing me to be one step closer to my dreams.

Macie Wiltse (4 year public recipient) - My name is Macie Wiltse and I graduated from Otis-Bison High School on May 6, 2023. Throughout high school I was very involved in many different sports, clubs, and activities like Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Students Against Destructive Decisions, Student Council, Kansas Association for Youth, volleyball, basketball, and track. My future plan is to attend Fort Hays State University

in the fall and study elementary education. I plan to stay just as involved in college activities as I did through high school. I greatly appreciate this scholarship as it will help me achieve my dream of becoming an elementary school teacher.

Madison Brackney (Technical college recipient)

- My name is Madison Brackney and I graduated from Logan High School on May 7th. I will study Dental Assisting at Salina Area Technical College next fall. Eventually, I hope to get accepted into the Dental Hygiene program at SATC. I currently work as a CNA in Logan where I spend a lot of my time. I appreciate being chosen for this scholarship which will help me achieve my academic goals.

2022-2023

Scholarship Committee

Scholarship Committee Chair

Chad Steinkamp, Wichita State

Scholarship Committee Members

Tyler Allen, Labette CC

Baylee Almos, Wichita State

Anjaih Clemons-Williams, Southwestern College

Melissa Conley, Wichita State

Martecia Cooper, Butler CC

Sam DeNike, Fort Hays State

Lynnette Hilty, Hutchinson CC

Sasha Larson, Barton CC

Michelle Mackeprang, Manhattan Area Tech

Ann Nordyke, Johnson CC

Renee Olson, KU

Alie Raga, Cowley CC

Brittan Schmitz, Wichita State

Savannah Stevenson, Baker

Marissa Valles-Mora, Wichita State

KACRAO SUMMER DRIVE-IN



2022-2023

Summer Drive-In Committee Members



THE MUSEUM OF MINDSET

Salina Area Technical College welcomed a record breaking seventy-one attendees to the Annual KACRAO Summer Drive-In on July 12th. Attendees brought perspectives from a wide variety of roles in higher education in Kansas. The Drive In's theme was, "The Museum of the Mindset" and focused on how to achieve a positive mindset.

Guest speaker, JJ Davis, Neosho County Community College's Head Women's Basketball Coach talked about how "good is the enemy of great". Davis explained how the "best know what they want and always want more" and tips on how to make the move from good to great.

After ice breakers, listening to Davis and lunch the attendees participated in four exhibit/break out sessions. Presented by the Summer Drive-In Committee, the interactive break out sessions focused on topics regarding adversity, food insecurity, growth vs. fixed mind sets and examples on how to achieve a positive mindset.

Summer Drive-In Committee Chair

Amy Morris, Neosho County CC

Summer Drive-In Committee

Wynnter Snyder, Neosho CC

Kayla Luera, Northwest Kansas Tech

Denise Hoeffner, Salina Area Tech

Barb Becker Clark, Salina Area Tech

Terri Van Slyke, KU School of Nursing-Salina

Melissa Farmer, Salina Area Tech

Kandee Hoss, Northwest Kansas Tech

Mandy Garrett, Northwest Kansas Tech

Erica Kruckenberg, Salina Area Tech

Thank you Summer Drive-In Committee for all your hard work!

KACRAO

2023 ANNUAL CONFERENCE



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featuring Michelle
Ponce and Ramie
Nation**

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