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Summer 2010

2009-10 KACRAO Newsletter

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Please e-mail
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newsletters.

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A Letter from the President

It is my distinct pleasure and honor to have served the association and its members this year, and I thank you for entrusting me with such an opportunity. As the annual conference in Topeka draws closer and my year as president enters the home-stretch, I am reminded of the hard work that so many of you have put into making this such a memorable year. I have been blessed to serve on the executive council with dedicated professionals who have worked tirelessly to fulfill, and many times exceed, the responsibilities of their roles.

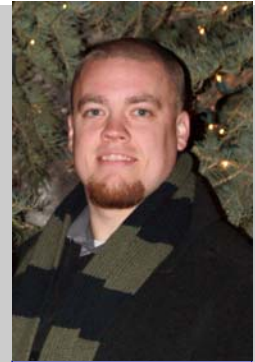
I want to take a moment to remind everyone about the professional development opportunities available this year and encourage you to remain involved in shaping the future of this organization.

The Professional Development committee under the leadership of Mysti Byrd has put together an outstanding program for the Summer Drive-In Workshop to be held in Hutchinson on July 16. Here exists an excellent opportunity for you to provide professional development training to your office support staff at a cost any office can afford.

The Program and Local Arrangements committees under the steady guidance of Aaron Hamilton, Kris Klima, and Carla Rasch have put together what we anticipate will be one of the best conferences in memory. As we celebrate the 50th Anniversary of KACRAO, we'll be bringing in some familiar faces to speak, provide a wonderful selection of sessions, and experience the talents of Blues singer Kelley Hunt.

I would encourage you to take advantage of these opportunities to not only learn a great deal during the sessions, but to further engage yourself in the future of KACRAO. This organization is only as strong as the members who volunteer their time to make it successful. As I look around at the work being done by our association, I am confident the next 50 years will be even greater than the last.

Ben Schears
KACRAO President 2009-2010
Cowley College



Ben Schears
KACRAO President
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*Are you on the KACRAO List Serve? Sign up
today at www.kacrao.org*



KELLEY HUNT is coming to KACRAO in the CAPITOL!

**KACRAO 2010 Annual
Conference**

Sept. 29—Oct. 1

Ramada Inn

Topeka, Kansas

KACRAO will hold its 50th annual conference at the Topeka Ramada Inn from September 29 through October 1, 2010. The LAC, Program, and 50th Anniversary Committees are working hard to put together a wonderful event for all.

We will host a 9-hole golf tournament Wednesday, September 29 at the Shawnee Country Club. Tee-off at 9 a.m. to allow golfers enough time to finish the tournament and return to the Ramada in time for the opening session and keynote speaker, Pat Long, President of Baker University and former KACRAO leader.

Over 40 information sessions will provide many opportunities for increased awareness in the areas that affect the admissions and student records fields and further professional development.

Join us in this exciting annual event. More information and registration available at www.kacrao.org.

By Carla Rasch

Registrar

Washburn University

Are you ready to Boogie? Boogie Woogie? Get ready to Boogie Woogie to one of the best blues singers in the country.

KELLEY HUNT will be the entertainment for Wednesday night at the annual KACRAO conference in Topeka. Mind you, this is not a “band”. This is a professional entertainer who is a singer/songwriter/piano player/guitarist who performs with instrumental artists who fly in from different parts of the country. She makes music on her own terms with an identity steeped in blues/roots/ Gospel



Kelley Hunt



traditions and has a refreshing originality. You will be guaranteed to want to dance and tap your feet. She will perform two sets and entertain you from 7:30 to 9:30. Her ability to play the keyboard will have you shaking your head in amazement.

If you have not seen her in a live performance, my guess is that you have not seen anything like this. In case you don't know, she has performed across North America and Europe, has produced 4 CDs, written music for films, performed with well known artists whose names you would recognize, taught seminars, directed choirs, et cetera, et cetera, et cetera.

What I am trying to say is that KELLEY HUNT is the real deal and KACRAO is really lucky to snag her for our 50th celebration. So be there! You will not be disappointed.

Fiesta Mexicana 2010

For as long as I can remember, the middle of July has signified the return of Fiesta Mexicana to the streets of the Oakland neighborhood of Topeka, Kansas. This event which is celebrating its 77th year this July 13-17, owes its success to the strength and unity of the community of Our Lady of Guadalupe Church, on whose grounds this Fiesta began during the midst of the Great Depression in 1933.

When a large group of immigrants from Mexico settled in Topeka to work on the Atchison, Topeka, and Santa Fe Railroad early in the 20th century, one of their first acts as a community was to build the first Our Lady of Guadalupe Church (1914) literally across the street from the Santa Fe shops. By 1921 they had added a parish school, which has always been the primary beneficiary of the funds raised from the Fiesta.

As a child, I can recall seeing carnival rides like a Ferris wheel or Tilt-a-Whirl in the middle of the street. Part of this tradition continues, though now it is only rides for the young children that are still nestled on the narrow streets of the Oakland neighborhood. Within the last decade, the Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway has graciously offered one of its parking lots so that an even larger professional carnival can come in for the length of the Fiesta.

Every year young men and women of the parish community vie for the title of Fiesta King and Queen. They raise money for the Fiesta by conducting food sales and other fundraisers. In 2009, the three Fiesta Royalty candidates raised \$96,000 over the three month campaign period. Activities began the Friday evening before the Fiesta with the Fiesta Mexicana Parade and Street Party on July 9th, which will begin at 7:30 pm in downtown Topeka. On Saturday morning, there is a golf tournament and a 5K Run/Walk. The Fiesta King and Queen are crowned on that Saturday evening at the Agricultural Hall at the Kansas Expocentre in Topeka.

The Fiesta will begin on Tuesday July 13 with a Jalapeno Eating Contest on the main Fiesta stage at 7pm. For those with less exotic tastes, there will be homemade and delicious food on sale from 4pm until they sell out from Tuesday through Saturday. The items include tacos, enchiladas, tamales, burritos, tostadas, and tacos. On a good evening, there are over 10,000 items sold.

Once you have eaten your fill of Mexican food, there are two stages with dancing and music starting at 6pm nightly and going until 10-11 pm in the evening. There is no charge to watch the entertainment.

There are additional activities like the annual Art Show, Mercado (which will offer jewelry, clothing, religious items and other arts and crafts for purchase), and a fun-filled kids zone. In truth, there is something for everyone at the Fiesta Mexicana. I hope you will take the opportunity to experience the celebration of culture and heritage that the Fiesta Mexicana provides. Viva Mexico!



Nicolas Shump
Assistant Director
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SUGGESTED SUMMER READING

By Lee Furbeck
University of Kansas

These are not necessarily new, but they are worth a look whether you are thinking about (or facing) a restructuring or wondering what it's like to work in admissions at a highly-selective institution.

One Size Does not Fit All: Traditional and Innovative Models of Student Affairs Practice co-authored by Kathleen Manning, Jillian Kinzie, and John Schuh (2006)

What works for one may not work as well for others. This text presents 11 possible models of student affairs practice based on research involving 20 higher education institutions of various types

The Gatekeepers: Inside the Admissions Process of a Premier College by Jacques Steinberg (2002)

Follows an admissions officer from Wesleyan and several students vying for spots in America's top colleges throughout the process.

Happy reading!



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**KACRAO's
2010 DRIVE-IN
WORKSHOP**

**WHERE: HUTCHINSON
COMMUNITY COLLEGE
PHYSICAL & BIOTECHNOLOGY
SCIENCE CENTER**

**WHEN: JULY 16, 2010
9:00AM-1:00PM
REGISTRATION BEGINS AT 8:30
IN COMMONS AREA**

REGISTRATION FEE OF \$30

**TO REGISTER AND FIND INFORMATION ON THE SERVICE PROJECT GO TO
WWW.KACRAO.ORG**

KACRAO Financial Task Force

With a new executive structure being implemented, the upcoming year is a prime opportunity to address fiscal accountability and transparency. Melinda Roelfs, past KACRAO President and former Treasurer, has been appointed to form a Financial Task Force to ensure the continued success of our organization. Issues to be addressed include

- ◆ Conference location
- ◆ Annual audit process
- ◆ Membership dues

If you are interested in serving as a member of the Task Force, please contact Melinda.



Melinda Roelfs, Chair
KACRAO Financial Task Force
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