



THE CURRENT

KACRAO'S MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2025

WHAT'S INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

TLDR: Summarizing for Sanity
Leadership Learning
Opportunities
Spring Cleaning
Awards and Accolades
25-26 Executive Nominations
Upcoming in 2025
KACRAO Shout Out

TLDR: Summarizing for Sanity

BY WYNNTER COLSTON

"It was in the email I sent you yesterday."

How many times have you had a colleague or student ask you for information that you already sent? It's tempting to point fingers, but pointing fingers doesn't get your message across. It's time to ask yourself why they're ignoring your messages. In many cases, it's because the message is just too long.

It's 2025, and the world has changed. Media is created to be consumed as bite-sized snacks, not ten-course meals.

Everyone is swamped, running between meetings, campus visits, or events with little time to think in between. Nobody has time for a three-paragraph essay. It's time to pare down your thoughts.

•**Embrace bullet points** - Lists make it easier for the reader to process and retain the information that you are presenting. It also helps you narrow down your thoughts to the most important points (with supporting details).

***TLDR: Too Long, Didn't Read**

•**Send me a link** - Your message may be too long because you are trying to say too much. If your email contains work instructions, make a separate work instruction and link it. If you have supporting documentation, do not retype everything. Summarize and attach.

•**Break it up** - When you put all the details in one email and send it out to the whole team, that makes it easier for you (not the audience). Send the necessary details to the necessary people. Better 5 emails that get absorbed than one that does not.

•**Bold is Beautiful** - Plenty of people skimmed over this article and just read the bold parts. Don't overuse bold and underlining, but using those features can help people know where to focus if you just can't make your message shorter.

Best of all, challenging yourself to write shorter messages helps you to identify the most important parts of what you need to convey, which will make you a stronger player for your team.

Leadership Learning Opportunities

KACRAO needs leaders, like you!

We have many opportunities for you to serve. Research shows that serving on a professional organization board allows you to develop leadership skills, expand your professional network, and enhance your career marketability by gaining experience in strategic decision-making and organizational planning, all while making a positive impact on your field.

March 5th 1pm

Learn more about the various opportunities available

April 4th 10am

Deep dive into each committee chair, coordinator, and board member's responsibilities

No RSVP required.
Feel free to email
Pete Belk,
pbelk@jccc.edu, with
questions.

Zoom links sent in previous email. If you need them see KACRAO calendar or email Pete.

TIME FOR SPRING CLEANING

Please review your membership roster

Changes to your institution's membership?
Log into the KACRAO site and visit the Member Center
to submit additions or removals for your institution

[KACRAO.ORG](https://www.kacrao.org)

x x x

Questions?
membership@kacrao.org

Awards and Accolades Nominations

Our organization exists because of the engagement of our members and those who support our profession. Please know it is important for us to recognize the hard work and dedication of our members.

Laura Cross Distinguished Service Award

KACRAO's highest award is presented to the individual who has served in the Admissions, Records, Registrar, or Enrollment Management profession for a substantial portion of their career and made significant contributions to KACRAO.

Richard N. Elkins Special Service Award

This award is presented to an individual who has demonstrated outstanding leadership and special dedication to KACRAO by recognizing active members who have made, or are continuing to make, significant contributions to KACRAO.

Beth Tedrow Outstanding New Professional Award

This award is presented to an individual who has been in the Admissions, Records, Registrar or Enrollment Management profession for less than six years and is an active KACRAO member having served on at least one association committee. The recipient must also be involved in one or more campus committees. This award recognizes new professionals for achievements, involvement and potential in admissions and registration.

Diane Barnes Mentor Award

This award is presented to an individual who has served as a dedicated and inspiring mentor to new Admissions and Registration professionals.

Legacy Award

This award is presented to an individual who has made a significant impact to KACRAO and higher education and is now retiring from the profession. Recipient will receive an Honorary Membership with KACRAO for their contributions.

Certificate of Appreciation

The Certificate of Appreciation is presented to an individual who has demonstrated significant support of the Association's activities and mission. (CPC hosts, presenters, non-members and retirees may be considered).

Retirement Recognition

The Retirement Certificate is awarded to individuals retiring from the Office of Admissions, Enrollment Management, or Records/Registrar, in recognition of their ongoing support and active involvement in the Association's activities and mission throughout their career.

Honorary Member

Honorary Membership is awarded to an individual who has made significant contributions to the Association as an active member, but is no longer eligible for institutional membership. Examples of those who might be most strongly considered for honorary membership would be individuals who have left the profession, including recent retirees.

If you have questions, please feel free to contact Brenda Carmichael, Chair of the Awards and Accolades Committee at bcarmichael@htc.edu

Nominations for 25-26 Executive Council

Nominations for the 2025-2026 KACRAO Executive Council are now open. Nominations available for the following positions:

- President Elect
- Vice President for Association Services/Membership Coordinator
- Secretary
- Admissions Advocate-At-Large
- Records/Registration Advocate-At-Large

A full description of the position duties can be found in the KACRAO Constitution. The Nomination form can be found under the Member Center of the www.kacrao.org website.

Deadline: **MARCH
31st**

Upcoming in 2025

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March 14th
April 11th
May 9th

Executive Council

April 29th
June 17th
September 23rd



KACRAO 2025

IDEAS & INNOVATION: ADAPTING TO CHANGE

Mark your calendar NOW!

DoubleTree Convention Center in Lawrence, KS.

Hotel Information will be posted in May/June.

Registration opens in June.

Register before September 6th to avoid a late fee.



SUBMIT 
a session proposal
You don't have to present. Just
share a topic you'd like to learn
more about

[www.KACRAO.org/
2025callforsessions](http://www.KACRAO.org/2025callforsessions)



What's Next?

In the next issue of The Current you
can look forward to reading about:

National Volunteer Month!

#KACRAO ShoutOuts



Terri Van Slyke

Terri Van Slyke has continued to present her R.I.S.E. Playbook - Learning to R.I.S.E. Amid Adversity to staff and other organizations in Kansas

#KACRAO ShoutOuts

Have something going on at your institution you would like to share? Maybe a wellness tip or advice you think your fellow KACRAO members might benefit from? Please share it with us by emailing wcolston@neoshu.edu and we will share it in the next issue!



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