



SUMMER 2017 NEWSLETTER

PRESIDENT LOUIS HUNT

Over the past several months, preparations have begun in earnest to create SACRAO 2018! In July, Megan Mitchell, Associate Director of Admissions at Austin Peay State University, and her LAC hosted the programming committee chairs and executive committee at the Embassy Suites Nashville SE – Murfreesboro hotel and conference center. The conference facility is fantastic and is large enough to easily accommodate our needs. Take a few steps out the backdoor and you'll find a great selection of shopping and dining options. As details of the conference roll out in the coming weeks, I think you'll notice a few modifications to our program and conference agenda that you'll enjoy. I know the big event on Tuesday night will be a crowd pleaser. I encourage everyone to mark their calendars and start making plans to attend!

In addition to program planning, the executive committee has been working on a variety of other topics. Brad Barron, Vice President for Information Technology, is assessing our online technologies to see how to make them more responsive to the needs of our membership. We are looking at our membership fee structure to see how we might make it easier for institutions to add additional members to their rosters, without incurring additional costs. Our goal is to be more inclusive and increase the professional development impact SACRAO can have within our individual institutions. I hope a new model might include an affiliate membership, or something similar, that would help maintain and foster the relationship we have with our colleagues in the United Kingdom through our collaborations and exchanges with SROC. We are also looking at our communication strategies to see how we might leverage new communication techniques to engage members and keep them better connected throughout the year.

I can't close without reiterating what a privilege it is to serve as president of this organization. With each activity, I see first-hand how the efforts of so many individuals contribute to making SACRAO one of the premier organizations serving our profession. I also see how SACRAO can make a positive difference in our professional lives and contribute to the well-being of our institutions. My sincere thanks to all of our members. I look forward to seeing you in 2018.

Louis Hunt, Senior Vice Provost and Registrar , North Carolina State University