



for the RECORD

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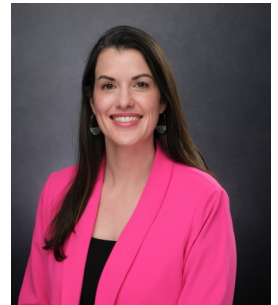
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President Welcome Lauren Martin, OACRAO President



Dear OACRAO Members,

As I step into the role of President of OACRAO, I'm filled with gratitude for the opportunity to serve this incredible community of professionals. Our work together is vital in shaping the future of higher education in Ohio, and I look forward to collaborating with everyone in the year ahead.

Recently, the OACRAO Board gathered for our retreat at Salt Fork State Park to reflect on our mission, envision our path forward, and plan for an exciting year ahead. The retreat provided an invaluable opportunity for the board members to come together, share insights, and strategize on the priorities that will drive OACRAO forward in 2025.

The discussions were both inspiring and productive. See below for important takeaways:

Save The Dates! The board secured the following dates for 2025:

- **Residency Workshop:** April 24, 2025, at Mount Carmel College of Nursing
- **Ohio Summer Institute:** July 30-Aug 1, 2025, at Salt Fork Lodge & Conference Center
- **Staff Development Workshop:** September 2025, location TBD
- **Annual Conference:** October 15-17, 2025, at Salt Fork Lodge & Conference Center

2025 Annual Conference Theme: "Leaving Our Mark" LAC co-chairs Molly McDermott-Fallon and Sarah Mancini will oversee our 99th annual meeting at Salt Fork Lodge & Conference Center. As we return to the land of Bigfoot sightings, the conference theme will be "Leaving Our Mark." This speaks to the literal marks we leave in the registrar space [helllooo permanent academic records!], but also the impact we are making on the policies and procedures at our institutions. While our effect may not be as profound as spotting Big Foot in a dense forest, the legacy we are building as we define what it means to be a higher ed professional will serve generations to come.

Call for UPDATES!

Submit news for future issues to Carlier Myers at cmyers@case.edu

President Welcome, cont.

Let's Hear From One Another I want to take this opportunity to ask for YOU to consider submitting a presentation to the annual conference. This is an excellent opportunity to share your expertise, innovative ideas, and best practices with colleagues across Ohio's higher education community. As we continue to navigate the evolving landscape of higher education, we are looking for presentations that highlight creative solutions, emerging trends, and successful strategies that can support our profession and drive positive change on our campuses. If you collaborate with another office on your campus, consider a joint presentation. Let's learn from one another! Consider submitting a conference proposal today: <https://forms.gle/CXQkFynj9kFSXZUw5>

In closing, I am thrilled to work with the rest of the board to bring wonderful opportunities to the OACRAO community for the upcoming year.

Cheers to 2025!

Scholarship Committee... A Year in Review

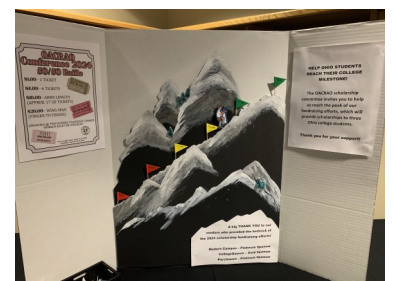


The Scholarship Committee had an impactful year, making significant progress in supporting students through fundraising and scholarship opportunities. This year marked our inaugural Day of Giving event, which raised \$350 and set the stage for ongoing support of the scholarship fund. We also introduced a QR code for direct donations, offering a convenient new way for individuals to contribute.



At the annual conference, we hosted a successful 50/50 raffle that brought in another \$860, with half of the proceeds benefiting the scholarship fund. In addition, vendor sponsors Modern Campus, College Source, and Parchment generously contributed \$1,750, bringing our total funds raised to \$2,790 for the year.

Despite being a small committee, we made a big impact. This year, 29 scholarship applications were submitted by students from colleges across the state. After a careful review, we selected three outstanding recipients: Bisher Mashal from Owens Community College, McKenna Phaner from Kent State University, and Yaniah Powell from Heidelberg University.



As we look ahead to 2025, we are excited to grow our committee membership and explore new ways to raise funds for our students. Thank you to everyone who contributed to this year's success and helped us make a difference in the lives of students across the state!

A Revitalized Membership and Mentoring Committee

Missy Weininger, OACRAO VP for Membership

Greetings OACRAO! With the Ohio Summer Institute making its return this year (July 30-August 1 at Salt Fork State Park – mark your calendars!), we're hoping to inject a renewed energy into the Membership and Mentoring Committee.



For the Membership piece, we aim to encourage our newest OACRAO members to join the Membership and Mentoring Committee from the jump. One of our overarching goals for 2025 is to align the benefits of an OACRAO membership with fresh and emerging ideas, which we then hope will lead to the beginning of an increasingly year-round OACRAO experience that extends well beyond the annual conference, including programming that aligns with the wants and needs of today's professionals. Over time, we hope this will lead all members to feel more integrated, valued, and engaged by their membership in OACRAO.

For the Mentoring piece, we need your help! If you have served as an OACRAO mentor in the past, have previously benefited from a mentoring experience (through OACRAO or otherwise), or are just interested in serving others in your profession, please considering volunteering! The success of our mentorship programming depends on the willingness of committed volunteers.

To join the Membership and Mentoring Committee and contribute towards these efforts, please contact Vice President for Membership Development, Missy Weininger (WeiningerM@tiffin.edu). Thank you!

OACRAO Fall Conference Recap



New Member Spotlight Theodore Peters, Miami University

Tell us about yourself - anything you want to share!

I am always challenged by this question. Who am I? I'm a thwarted writer and artist, an amateur photographer, an erstwhile educator, and a world traveler. I'm a sympathetic ear and a solid sounding board. I try to be a good friend and a great partner. I'm a child of the 80s and probably a little too independent for my own good. I'm a cinematic bottom feeder, by which I mean I'll see pretty much anything in a movie theatre. I've been a vegetarian for more than half my life and, as a result, am adventurous in the kitchen. I can't help but pick up every candle in a store and smell it. I go to stores and sort through their 'last chance' plants to find the ones that need to be brought back from the brink. My house is an orchid foster home where I rehabilitate plants back into bloom and then give them back to their owner (if they're deserving). I haven't come across a wine, beer, or bourbon that I'm not willing to try once. And finally, when I travel, I look forward to getting lost so I can have an adventure in finding my way again.



How did you come to your current position?

I would say I came to my current position as University Registrar accidentally, but that's not wholly true. I spent 23 years in academic affairs, ending as a senior assistant dean and head of advising for the largest college at Miami University. In that role I got to know my predecessor pretty well and learned more about the functioning of the registrar's office and her role. As she started looking ahead at retirement, she started planting the seed that I might want to look into the role after she left. So, really, I blame her. There are many parallels between my current job and my previous one, but I am learning more and more each week. It has only been 3 months.

Did you attend the October 2024 OACRAO Conference? What did you take away from it?

I did attend the 2024 OACRAO Conference and, to be honest, the first question I had was why weren't there more people from my office there! What a great opportunity to network and learn more about what universities are doing. I am lucky that I was there with Carol Jones and that she was able to give me so much background and context to the organization. At times I felt like a little brother tagging after an older sister and being able to hang out with the cool kids, but then I realized that pretty much everyone there was cool and I enjoyed the conversations I had. Session-wise, the one I took the most notes in was the one on FERPA that Ohio University presented. As the new FERPA manager for Miami, I was really interested in hearing what they're doing.

Outside of work, what do you like to do?

Travel. Read. Cook. Go to museums. Fix/up-cycle things.