



OACRAO'S

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(Name the Newsletter. Keep Reading for Details)

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS UPDATE

The OACRAO Board of Directors was happy to have three new members elected at the Annual Meeting: Deb Benton from Ohio University is the new President Elect, Chris Dorsten from Cincinnati State is your Vice President for Programs, and Molly McDermott from the University of Cincinnati is going to make her mark as Vice President for Membership Development. On the flip side, our thanks go out to Janet Duber from Baldwin Wallace and Sue Shepherd from Aultman for their service over the past two years. We also thank Mel Severns of MVNU for his service in the presidential roles. He is celebrating his freedom from Board responsibilities with a bicycle trip down the coast of California. You can see some great pictures on his twitter account @MelSeverns

Since the annual meeting, the Board met via conference call in November for a brief planning session. We then gathered on the coldest weekend in 20 years at Ohio Northern University's Metzger Center. It may have been frigid outside, but we heated things up inside with lots of great discussion and planning to set our agenda for the year. One of the first projects to be implemented is this new format for the "newsletter". See the related article by David Schneider for more details. We discussed our goals and plans for the upcoming annual meeting. At the February Board Meeting we are going to take a "deep dive" into the format of the annual meeting. To help us with that, we want to hear from you: What parts of the annual conference work for you, what parts would you change? Do we have the right balance of activities, sessions, meetings, discussion formats, and opportunities for networking? Are the start and end times appropriate? How about the length of the conference? We've kept the same meeting format for a long time and we don't want to change it just to change it. However, we did think it was time to look at the schedule with a critical eye and the more eyes the better, so let us know what you think. You can contact any Board member with your thoughts.

On a side note, we may need to start a collection for Molly. It appears the only clothes she owns are "UC" We know that it is the #HottestCollegeinAmerica, but that's all she wore at the retreat! And when you have a chance, ask David about his first experience with the game "Farkel". It was so entertaining the Board wanted to call the new newsletter "First Friday Farkel"

We hope you enjoy the new format for this newsletter. Give us your feedback. In fact, we welcome feedback from members on any topic.

DAVE AND DAN AT THE RETREAT



FEBRUARY FEATURE

Hello OACRAO Friends,

On behalf of the [OACRAO Board of Directors](#), I'm excited to welcome you to the new format for the OACRAO newsletter. The Board recently held its annual retreat at [Ohio Northern University's Metzger Nature Center](#) near Stone Creek, OH. A primary topic that was up for discussion during the retreat was how our organization communicates with its membership, and how we could improve those communications with the goal of keeping you more connected to the organization's activities and benefits. One of the most significant recommendations that stemmed from those conversations was a new format for the traditional OACRAO newsletter. Our hope is that a reorganized and reenergized newsletter will not only provide interesting content for reading, but also strengthen and encourage your engagement with the organization. The Board has envisioned a newsletter that is both steadier in publication and shorter in length. The newsletter will feature content that is timely, fun, and relevant for you as a professional. We sincerely hope that you enjoy the new format and are interested in your thoughts and suggestions as we move forward. Do you have topics or ideas for newsletter articles? Are you interested in contributing content? All thoughts, comments, and suggestions are welcomed at my e-mail address below. Also welcomed are suggestions for an official title for our new newsletter. To incentivize your brainstorming, the member who submits the chosen title for our new newsletter will receive a stylish new apple green OACRAO tumbler cup! Please e-mail me your ideas before the end of February.

Thanks!

David Schneider

OACRAO Treasurer, schneider.260@osu.edu

LOCAL ARRANGEMENTS COMMITTEE

Your Local Arrangements Committee met this month to begin planning the annual OACRAO conference to be held October 8-10 at Salt Fork State Park Resort. This is Ohio's largest state park on beautiful heavily forested rolling hills in eastern Ohio. Hopefully the fall foliage will be peaking and brilliant. For those who wish to arrive early, there will be golf on Tuesday the 7th, and for non-golfers there likely will be touring activities or nature talks led by park rangers. In the next newsletter we hope to provide some program specifics which will be developed at the conference program planning meeting to be held on February 14. If you have suggestions for Salt Fork, feel free to email them to either of the LAC Co-Chairs:

Sue Shepherd (ssheperd@aultman.com)

Don Foster (dfoster@otterbein.edu).

Mark your calendars!!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Upcoming Events: Friday, February 14 - Planning Meeting and Board of Directors Meeting, Mount Carmel College of Nursing.

CAMPUS BEAUTY SHOT



Share your campus beauty shots. Submit photos to Barb Arilson by the 20th of each month.

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