



Arkansas Association of Collegiate
Registrars and Admissions Officers

ArkACRAO Annual Business Meeting
Hotel Hot Springs
Hot Springs, Arkansas
Thursday, October 2, 2025

Membership:

Kyanna Beard, President
Heath Riddle-Sims, President-Elect
Whitney Hall, Past-President
Allie Taylor, Secretary
Linda Holland, Treasurer
Vacant, Vice President for Admissions and Administration
Caysie Martin, Vice President for School Relations
Alexis Scrimshire, Vice President for Technology
Marissa Grippo, Vice President for Records
Connie Herring, Vice President for Registration
Kaitlin Davis, Legislative Liaison
Stephanie Gibson, Publications/Publicity Chair
Vacant, Historian Chair

All current executive committee members were present except Secretary Taylor, VP Grippo, and Treasurer Holland.

Call to Order: President Kyanna Beard called the meeting to order at 12:34 pm.

President Beard asked Brandi Tripp (ATU) to serve as the Associations Parliamentarian for the meeting. Brandi Tripp responded in the affirmative.

Roll Call: President Beard stated: Each member institution in attendance at the annual meeting may select two people to cast votes on behalf of their institutions concerning election of officers and constitutional amendments. One voting delegate is from school relations and /or admissions administration and one voting delegate is from registration and/or records. Votes are cast according to member institution roll call. Any other business may be conducted by simple majority vote. President Beard announced that in lieu of Secretary Allie Taylor's absence today, Vice President for Technology Scrimshire will reprise her role of Secretary. VP Scrimshire conducted the roll call of ArkACRAO Members for 2025-26. 30 members answered the roll call, representing 20 institutions. A copy of the roll call is included in the Fall Conference folder of the ArkACRAO 2025-2026 Digital Secretary's Notebook.

Approval of Minutes from Business Meeting, October 3, 2024: President Beard (UAPTC) called for the reading of the minutes of the October 3, 2024, Business Meeting. Tammy Weaver (ATU) moved to suspend the reading of the minutes. Brandi Tripp (ATU) second. Motion passed. President Beard asked for any corrections to the minutes. Hearing none the minutes are declared approved and will be stored in the ArkACRAO 2025-2026 Digital Secretary Notebook.



A. Treasurer's Finance Report, Linda Holland

Due to Treasurer Holland's absence, President Beard gave the following report:

Treasurer Linda Holland was unable to attend this year's annual meeting due to unforeseen health circumstances. Once the report is provided, it will be shared with the membership via email. Do note that no action or motion will be required to approve or adopt the treasurer's report, as it is simply filed for auditing purposes and will be recorded properly in the minutes following the session. Additionally, the Annual Financial Review Committee will present their report once the financial documents are available for review.

B. Annual Financial Review Committee

President Beard announced the Annual Financial Review Committee will present their report once the financial documents are available for review.

C. OFFICERS AND EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORTS

President, Kyanna Beard: President Beard (UAPTC) gave the following report:

Well, this has truly been an interesting journey. Honestly, I didn't even know what ArkACRAO was until my former supervisor, Ron Hudson, asked if we had ever attended an ArkACRAO conference. At that time, my entire admissions team and I had no idea what he was even talking about.

Fortunately, that year the conference was in North Little Rock, so we were all able to attend. I came in completely green but soaked everything up. Ron seemed to know everyone and made sure to introduce me to his many admissions and registrar friends, which made me feel instantly connected.

After that first conference, I can't say I was very involved. I'd attend my college fair, chat with recruiters, and then head back to PTC—now UA-PTC. But then, I was asked to serve as the Articulation Workshop Chair. At first, I was hesitant, but eventually I said *yes!* I served in that role for two years—two unforgettable years—2020 and 2021. I was so grateful for Brandi, Chad, Joey, and the rest of the Executive Team as we navigated those uncertain waters together. Somehow, we made it through.

Then came another ask: to serve on the Executive Committee as VP for Admissions Administration. My first thought was, "Do they really think I know what I'm doing?" And then, before I knew it, I was President of ArkACRAO. Who would have thought? Certainly not me. The imposter syndrome was real—very real.



But I wasn't alone. I am so grateful for Whitney, who was such a resource and wealth of knowledge, and for Heath, who is truly the world's best conference planner—he had every detail down to the tee. To Alexis, Connie, Casey, Allie, Marisa, Linda, Kaitlyn, and Stephanie—thank you for your dedication and hard work this past year. I'll be honest, we didn't accomplish as much as I had originally hoped, but what we *did* accomplish was truly meaningful. I am also thankful for all the committee chairs and their teams—so much of the behind-the-scenes work that keeps us moving wouldn't have been possible without them.

I also want to thank my UA-PTC family. You keep me going, especially when I'm having one of "those moments." And, of course, a very special thank you to my husband and my girls for supporting me through all the things I do—both at UA-PTC and with this amazing organization.

Most importantly, I want to thank each of you. It's because of this community that we can gather, share, learn, and grow—not just as professionals, but as leaders. And ultimately, that makes us better for the students we serve each and every day.

Even though I still don't quite know how I ended up here, I am so glad I was given this opportunity.

Thank you.

President-Elect, Heath Riddle-Sims: President Elect Riddle-Sims (Hendrix) gave the following report:

This past year has truly flown by. Most of my time has been spent researching, planning, and re-planning these three days together. I'll save the details for my second report this afternoon so I don't sound like a broken record.

Back in February, I had the chance to attend SACRAO in Lubbock, TX, where I supported President Beard in cultivating the corporate partners we have this week and found new inspiration for our own conference. Over the summer, I worked with Caysie Martin from NPC to host Bootcamp at Hendrix. It was a joy welcoming so many new professionals into our ArkACRAO family, and I hope those who attended are finding joy in the important work you're doing. As a reminder I know several of you have some karaoke numbers to perform this evening in hospitality. Looking you you Remington, I believe it was defying gravity, both parts?

This fall, I traveled with many of you for the 2025 articulation workshops. Being the son of two Arkansas educators, those sessions mean a lot to me. They remind me of the bridge we build between secondary educators and our campuses, and how important it is that we continue working as one team to help students navigate what we lovingly call "travel season."

I want to take a moment to thank our Executive Council and committee chairs. The amount of talent and heart you bring to this organization is incredible, and it deserves to be recognized.



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Of this group, three specific people deserve a moment in the spotlight. Alexis Scrimshire has been a steady and innovative presence as VP of Technology, leading far beyond the basics of systems and passwords. She has strengthened our processes, guided our communications, and provided leadership to an outstanding tech team that supports this conference. If she has ever questioned herself in this role, I hope this year has proven her more than capable. I am so proud of the role you've played this past year!

President Beard has continued to model for me the power of grace, positivity, and empathy in leadership. Her energy is infectious, her encouragement unshakable, and her ability to lead by lifting others is something I aspire to emulate in the coming year. For the times when my eyebrows may have said more than my words, she has been a voice of reason and a source of strength. Thank you for being in my front row and helping me recognize my own potential.

And finally, Past President Hall. Whitney—you are the reason I'm standing here today. My first ArkACRAO conference was Texarkana 2015. The keynote that year said this career is either two years or twenty. I was sure I was on the two-year track. A decade later, and HGTV still hasn't greenlit my pilot! It was at that conference that I attended an I'm available session, filled out the...wait for the tech people cringe...paper form, and then got the call. ArkACRAO needed a publicity chair, and my name was there. From there, I got the call that VP of Technology was voluntelling my name. It was Whitney who played the role of scratch record, making sure I filled out that availability form.

At first, I assumed it was just what she'd been instructed to do with new members. It only took one year to realize that wasn't the case. It was that you can see the strengths around you and connect them to a path of success. Whitney, you have inspired and pushed me to be a better professional. This organization and in my campus roles. Your service to ArkACRAO over the years are nothing short of amazing. You have encouraged and coached so many, myself included, and I cannot tell you how much I appreciate you. For anyone who has not had the chance to have a conversation and allow Whitney to share her light with you, connect you with a new friend, or just listen to make you feel heard and welcome, I encourage you to do so. She is an inspiration to us all for the heart she has for her institution, this organization, and the role we each play in helping mold the lives of young adults. Whit, I hope you truly know the impact you leave on so many, and I still cannot believe you do so with such high, coffee-free, energy!

Past President, Whitney Hall: Past President Hall (SAU) gave the following report:

As I conclude my executive tenure, I extend my deepest appreciation to the sitting Executive Council, for this leadership team truly leaned into one another. From our inaugural meeting together last fall, they fully supported my difficult request to move forward in the past president's role from an advisory stance, knowing full well it would mean more work, more decisions, and more weight on their shoulders. Their willingness to step up – not just to fill the gaps, but to work together with grace and purpose – speaks volumes about their character and commitment to ArkACRAO. I am especially grateful for this safe space where I can still contribute meaningfully, even from the sidelines.



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To President Beard and President Elect Riddle-Sims, pass the tissues. We three have endured many conversations, projects, laughs, raised eyebrows, and incredible memories over the years. Your ability to navigate challenges with clarity and a forward-thinking spirit has been nothing short of inspiring, and I am extremely humbled to work alongside you over this presidential tenure. The association will continue to thrive with them at the forefront, as they continue to seek inclusiveness within the membership while encouraging opportunities for innovation and growth.

Again, thank you for allowing me to serve in a manner that honored my devotion to this association, as well as the new responsibilities within my university. I remain deeply invested in ArkACRAO's future and our shared mission, for it has been one of the most meaningful chapters of my professional life. Although I now remain one of your biggest cheerleaders, I look forward to coming home to my ArkACRAO family whenever I can.

Secretary, Allie Taylor: In lieu of Secretary Taylor's absence VP Scrimshire gave the following report:

Secretary Taylor is currently home on bed rest with baby Maverik cooking away.

She sent the following report:

Hi everyone! I am so sad that I was not able to make it to the conference this year and I am so thankful for a wonderful EC who has made sure that my duties were taken care of. The doctor thought it would be wise not to attend a conference days before having a baby and I guess I agree! I just wanted to say thank you so much for the opportunity to serve as your secretary for the last 2 years. After last years conference and all the motions and amendments and more motions made, I can honestly say that I will still miss this position! I am so thankful to have been a part of such a great executive committee. I hope you all grasp the opportunity to be part of such a wonderful experience by becoming either a committee chair, serving on EC or even just being on a committee. It is absolutely worth it! I look forward to what ArkACRAO has for me in the future. Thank you again for this amazing and fun opportunity! I hope you all have the best time at conference this year! Enjoy some hospitality for me!

We want to commend her dedication to ensuring the success of today's meeting. While she was not able to join us in person, she has kept a continuous stream of updates and data flowing to us

Vice President for Admissions and Administration, Vacant:

The previous VP of Admissions and Administration, Sydney Welch had to resign from her position prior to the Business Meeting due to accepting a new role at the University of Alabama. But sent the following report, which was presented by President Beard:



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Unfortunately, Vice President for Admission Administration Welch had to step away from this ArkACRAO leadership position after accepting a new role at another institution in Alabama. For those not reading this, yes, VP Welch wrote every word that I am about to say. Whereas VP Welch is not in control of signaling when to cry, she is thankful for President Elect Riddle Sims' preparation for any tears I may shed. Here are the tissues for proof. We can't have another napkin situation like the 2024 conference, right Past President Hall? In the past two years, I am proud of the work I accomplished in my roles. From shortening institutional updates, to switching college fair scanning systems, bringing back the Resolutions Committee, and instituting Town Hall Meetings, it has been a joy to help grow and evolve ArkACRAO for the better. Unfortunately I left before working to minimize rogue college fairs and creating an official demerit system for college planning programs. I make a motion to have the next Vice President of Admissions and Administration work to accomplish these items. The main item to report from the past year was our work with StriveScan to evaluate how our first year went and see where our strengths, weaknesses and opportunities were in Arkansas and within this new partnership. Of course, after I left, Arkansas decided to be "Bell To Bell, No Cell" so that changed tactics a bit. Aside from that, I have no other report. I want to say how much ArkACRAO means to me. From the people I have met to the skills I have gained, this organization has molded me into the professional I am today. I am thankful for being voluntold by Past President Whitney Hall to be the 2023 Articulation Workshop Chair, then six months later becoming the VP of Admissions and Administration. Membership, when you're nominated, or volun-told, to serve, do it! It will open so many doors for you. To the Executive Councils and my three committee chairs from the past two years, thank you for being the family I needed. You have taught me so many skills, challenged me to be the best version of me both at work and in life, and supported me during the hardest season of my life when I lost my dad

New professionals in this room, look around. Go ahead, look. Who do you see that could mentor you? What new skills do you want to learn? Find someone to become your teacher. If you are in Registrar, meet someone in Admissions and vice-versa. The most growth I had was learning and networking with people not from my university and not in the same skillset as me. My two rules at conferences were this: don't sit with people from my university and present at least one session every year. While you are learning from the seasoned professionals in the room, be sure to share your own skills and findings with others. Apply for the SACRAO Scholarship ArkACRAO offers. I'm sure Chad Cox has or will talk about SACRAO, but take it from me, it's an amazing opportunity and helped get me to where I am now. Literally, I networked with many people from the state of Alabama... clearly a little too much.

Thank you for allowing me to represent myself, the University of Central Arkansas ... President Beard, please hold up a bear claw... thank you, as well as ArkACRAO the past two years. Don't worry, I'll still be around! I'll see most of you next week! Luke, have fun with this position next year!

Vice President for Records, Marissa Grippo: Vice President Grippo (SAU) gave the following report:



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Vice President for Registration, Connie Herring: Vice President Herring (ATU) gave the following report:

Registrar's Therapy was held at Comfort Inn & Suites in Russellville on July 16th and 17th. Registration for the event was \$60, and we had about 25 members in attendance. The room rate for those who chose to book a room was \$105. Sessions included an ADHE update, safety tips, self-care, and FERPA/social media. For the ones that wanted to join, we went to Point Remove and enjoyed a fun night of music bingo. The feedback for the event was positive.

Vice President for School Relations, Caysie Martin: Vice President Martin (NPC) gave the following report:

ArkACRAO Bootcamp 2025 was held on Friday, August 1, on the beautiful campus of Hendrix College. Many new recruiters are entering their first travel season, and this was the perfect opportunity to learn the ins and outs of ArkACRAO and get to know their fellow travelers attending the College Planning Programs this year. Topics included financial aid updates from ADHE, travel health and safety, strategies to connect with counselors, and more. It was a fun-filled day to collaborate and prepare before Admissions Representatives hit the road. Thank you to Hendrix for providing the spaces, the EC, and presenters from Hendrix, U of A Pulaski Technical College, Arkansas Tech University, National Park College, and U of A Community College Morrilton.

Bootcamp Attendance	
Registrations	26
On-site Registrations	2
No Show	1
Total Attendance	28

Vice President for Information Technology, Alexis Scrimshire: Vice President Scrimshire (ATU) gave the following report:

First of all, I want to thank you all for your patience with me as I have been learning this new role. I have tried to answer your HelpTickets in a timely manner.



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We implemented a great thought from President-Elect Sims this year to revamp our “I am available” form. We are now asking you to share your talents and interests with us so we can help put your talents to use within the organization. If you have ever wanted to complete the form, but didn’t know which committee to serve on, we hope that you find this new form helpful.

I want to charge all of the key contacts in the room to verify your organization's members on the university profile. Make sure when registration is completed for events, if a registrant is a member of ArkACRAO you do not register them as a guest - as this creates duplicate profiles. Memberclicks is now charging us for the number of profiles we use. We know that the cost this year was inflated as a result of duplicate or old profiles.

Legislative Liaison, Kaitlin Davis:

Liaison Davis gave the following report: Disclaimer: I am not a lawyer, and this summary is my interpretation of complex legislation—not legal advice. Due to the government shutdown, the whole report is uncertain. She will provide a report once the government shutdown is over.

Publications/Publicity Chair, Stephanie Gibson: Chairperson Gibson (ASU) gave the following report:

The Quickbook was published and delivered before the Articulation Workshops this year in September. They were \$672 for 400 books printed by the Arkansas Department of Corrections.

Historian Chair, Vacant: no report.

GENERAL STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Constitutional Review, Chairperson: Erin Anders, (UofA): following report:

The ArkACRAO Constitutional Review Committee would like to discuss a formal outline of what constitutes membership renewal as it pertains to dues in hands vs PO numbers. This revision will be discussed and voted on at the conference business meeting. The suggested content of this revision is as follows:

**Proposed Revision – Article I, Section 5
Section 5. Membership Renewal and Active Status**



1. Membership renewal requires both (a) submission of the annual renewal form by or for the institution and (b) receipt of full payment of annual dues. For purposes of these bylaws, *paid in full* is defined as payment received by ArkACRAO in hand (whether by check or another form of payment accepted by the Association). Dues are billed on June 1 and must be received in full no later than July 31 each year. Only institutions that have submitted the renewal form and whose payment has been received in hand by the deadline will be considered renewed and eligible to be included in ArkACRAO publications (including, but not limited to, the ArkACRAO Directory) and to participate in ArkACRAO-sponsored events such as Articulation Workshops and the Annual Meeting.
2. Institutions that fail to submit the renewal form or to remit full payment in hand by July 31 shall be considered inactive. Such inactive institutions may be reinstated only upon submission of the renewal form and receipt of full dues in hand, provided the institution has been inactive for less than two (2) consecutive years.
3. Institutions inactive for two (2) or more consecutive years must petition for membership and be approved by a majority vote of the general membership before regaining active status.

Past President Beard stated: According to Article IV, Section I of the Constitutional Amendments section, amendments and revisions of the constitution require a two-thirds majority vote, while the bylaws section requires only a majority vote. These changes presented will impact the first section of the bylaws. Is there a motion on the floor? Ashley Henry-Saorrone (UAPTC) made a motion to approve the changes, but charged the EC to add an escape clause at the EC's discretion. John Proctor (SEARK) seconded. President Beard called the vote and in unanimously passed.

Nominations and Elections: In lieu of Past-President Whitney Hall, VP Scrimshire gave the following report:

In relation to the ArkACRAO Constitution, Article III, Section 1 states that association officers shall be elected in the business session of the annual meeting. A slate of nominees shall have been presented by the Nominations and Election Committee to the membership at least thirty (30) days before the annual meeting, and eligibility for an Executive Committee role of any capacity includes serving as a chairperson or committee member prior to nomination.

According to Section 3, the presidency of the association should alternate each year between the Admissions/School Relations-related area and the Records/Registration related area, with equal consideration given to individuals whose professional responsibility is for both areas.

In the event an election is needed outside of the annual meeting, the process shall be conducted in accordance with the organization's established voting protocols listed under Section 4 of the Constitution.



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Members of the Nominations and Election Committee consisted of outgoing vice presidents and other appointed individuals from membership. Given Past President Hall's transition into a new institutional role and based upon the recommendations from the sitting Membership Chair and Past President during executive session, we intentionally refrained from deliberations with her. Past President Hall remained available only in an advisory capacity to support and provide any historical context while respecting the integrity of the organization. With that stated, no formal recommendations were made on my behalf.

Without further ado, I am pleased to announce the following qualified slate of nominees for membership consideration, as submitted in accordance with the ArkACRAO Constitution on September 2, 2025:

- President-Elect – Connie Herring, ATU (Registrar)
- Secretary – Vilma Espinoza, SAU (Admissions)
- Treasurer – Ashley Henry-Saoronno, UA-PTC (Registrar)
- VP for Admissions Administration – Luke Kordsmeier, UACCM (Admissions)
- VP for Registration – Vicky Summers, UCA (Registrar)

Additional nominations may be made from the floor at this time...Hearing none, I ask for a motion to accept the slate of nominees as presented, followed by a membership roll call vote.

Malloree Murdock (UofA) made a motion to suspend the roll call vote and approve the slate of officers as presented.

Brandi Tripp (ATU) seconded.

Charla Jennings (NorthArk) motion to suspend the roll call.

Tammy Weaver (ATU) seconded. Motion carried.

Thank you and congratulations to those who have answered the call to serve. Welcome to the Executive Council!

As a result of the approval, Treasurer Holland, will need to be removed from the accounts at Arkansas Federal Credit Union. New appointed treasurer Ashley Henry-Saoronno and President Heath Riddle-Sims should be added to the accounts.

Annual Meeting Program, Chairperson Heath Riddle-Sims: President Elect Sims gave the following report:



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We have **116** attendees this year, including special guests, corporate partners, and even a few last-minute registrations.

First, I want to express my sincere thanks to our conference host, The Hotel Hot Springs, for their outstanding hospitality. Barrie Kiger, Terri Burkett, the catering team, our technology crew, and the entire hotel staff — thank you for helping this event run so smoothly, from early planning through our closing session tomorrow.

With Past President Hall stepping into a new role at Southern Arkansas University, President Beard has taken the lead in organizing our corporate partnerships for this year's conference. I'm excited to share that we have eight corporate partner sponsorships represented this year:

Gold Level Partners: Cambridge International Education, Element 451, Grooper, Parchment by Instructure, and Strive Scan.

Silver Level Partners: Coursedog and Ellucian.

Bronze Level Partners: Nelnet and ReUp Education.

I also want to give special recognition to former ArkACRAO member Tyler Bittle of Built by Bittle for creating our new ArkACRAO Ironing Board Bar. This custom piece will have a permanent home in our hospitality suites and serve as a fun reminder of the creative solutions of 2023 — an ironing board turned bar — that showcased our members' resourcefulness and ingenuity.

We are truly grateful for the support and commitment of our corporate partners. Their contributions not only provide valuable resources for ArkACRAO, but also create opportunities that benefit our members and their institutions. Please take time during the conference to visit each of the eight booths and learn more about the tools and services they offer.

This year, we introduced a new partnership pricing structure with à la carte add-ons, which generated \$2,800 more than the previous model — an exciting step forward for our organization.

Another new addition this year is the ArkACRAO Annual Meeting Collectible Pin. After the difficult decision to remove conference t-shirts from the budget, we wanted to provide a meaningful keepsake. These pins are designed to be saved and worn with pride at future conferences, representing not only the number of annual meetings you've attended but also the many cities where we will gather.

We also launched a conference app to enhance the attendee experience and reduce our paper footprint. I hope you've found it helpful for exploring the schedule, connecting with colleagues, participating in the photo challenge, and supporting our charitable efforts.

This week has been many months in the making, and it would not have been possible without a dedicated team. I want to thank President Beard, Past President Hall, VP Scrimshire, Secretary Taylor, Treasurer Holland, Past President Finch, Chairperson Straw, the Hendrix Admission and HEAT Teams, and the many friends, family, and colleagues who have supported and listened to me think, rethink, and replan our three days together.

Hospitality and Charity, Chairperson Amy Cabera (UAPTC): Chairperson Cabera gave the following report we hope you've been in touch with sponsors and working on collecting the



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ArkACRAO funds! We have numerous great prizes on the auction floor, ready to be bid on! From \$50 Buff City Spa boxes to Razorback Tickets for the game on Oct. 18th. You can view our prizes on the table and see them in person at the hospitality tonight! Additionally, any donation made to Immigration Inc. will count towards your total of ArkACRAO money, which can be used for a bid. Bidding will open tomorrow at 7:30 AM and will close at the start of the closing session. Winners will be announced at the end!

Hospitality Night 1 was a great success. We got to see many of your lovely faces and see your contagious energy. Karaoke was packed and busy, and I can see that we need to have a nice concert for the next concert with some of you wonderful folks, I mean you guys, UCA. We hope you guys enjoyed the night! As of last night, we have collected many tabs for the Ronald McDonald House (YAY!), and we are currently sitting at \$150 in donations for immigration Inc. We are still collecting donations through Cash App, Venmo, PayPal, Apple Pay, Zelle, cash, or check with me, the hospitality committee. You can identify us by our orange tags, or me by my bright smile and pink hair.

Our scavenger hunt has been great, and we have seen that both Team ATU and Team H & B are in the running for the prize. If you would like to participate, you can still do so! Be sure to check out the app and explore the great recommendations for places to hang out or eat! Hospitality Night 2 will be tonight, and we hope to see a lot more of you in line for Karaoke, ring and hook game, UNO (I need a rematch, Jevon), Spoons, and more! As a reminder, for those who would like a quiet place, we have a puzzle and some quiet sections at the end of the hall.

Donations currently sit at \$150. I challenge you all to see this number grow!

Site Selection, Chairperson Tracy Kendrick (UACCM): President Beard gave the following report as Tracy makes her way forth, allow me to share words of caution when deliberating on the 2027 gathering site. Costs for hosting our annual meeting continue to rise, and with that includes the need to reevaluate the planning for hospitality, conference registration fees, etc. Our Site Selection Committee continues to explore avenues to be mindful of costs, but it is ultimately up to our membership on where we land. Please hold your discussion questions until the conclusion of the presentation once a motion has been made, as well as a seconded. This order of business simply requires a majority vote.

Tracy will be available to answer questions at that time. I will now share our 2027 considerations.

Fairfield Bay Conference Center
Bentonville DoubleTree.

Tammy Weaver (ATU) for Fairfield Bay. Tracy Finch (ASU) seconded. Motion passed for Fairfield Bay.



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Membership, Chairperson Chris Riggins (UAPB): Chairperson Riggins gave the following report:

The following schools has requested membership:

Renewal of Phillips Community College membership as it had lapped.

Associate Membership for:
Delta Sate University
Jefferson Regional School of Nursing

Educational Membership for:
Pulaski Academy
Saint Louis University
University of Missouri (Mizzou)

Corporate Partnership for:
Ellucian

Ashley Henry-Saorrone (UAPTC) made a motion to approve. John Proctor (SEARK) seconded. Motion carried.

He awarded lifetime membership to Tammy Weaver (ATU). He awarded honorary membership to Alisa Waniewski (ATU).

Recognition, Chairperson Caitlin Straw:

As we recognize the incredible work done by our members this year, I'd like to share a quick overview of our awards and recognitions. Please note that we will present these awards tomorrow during the closing session.

That said, this year, we received 10 nominations for our Specialty Awards, highlighting the outstanding contributions made across our organization. From those nominations, 6 certificates will be awarded to honor exceptional individuals.

Plaques for our outgoing executive council were purchased from Billy's Awards in Conway, Arkansas, at a total cost of \$163.12.



Each of these awards represents not just recognition, but our deep appreciation for the time, energy, and commitment that help drive our mission forward. Thank you all for making this year such a success. I look forward to giving you your flowers tomorrow and hope you choose to water them.

Professional Access and Equity, Chairperson Emily Mendiola: No report.

Admissions Administration and School Relations Standing Committees:

I. Articulation Workshops, Chairperson Rebecca Willems:

On behalf of Chairperson Willems, President-Elect made the following report:
Chairperson Willem would like us to share.

2025 Host Sites:

- East – Arkansas State University – Jonesboro
- South – South Arkansas College – El Dorado
- North – University of the Ozarks – Clarksville
- Central – National Park College – Hot Springs
- New Changes:
 - I recommend having East start with check-in at 10 am instead of 1 pm. It will be more beneficial and have the high school representatives attend the entire event. This year we noticed that they were starting to leave and go to the information exchange right at about 3:30, which is the end of their school day.
 - College presentation rotations went in favor of their host sites.
 - Articulation Chair created a Save the Date and asked the host sites email it out to their feeder schools to help drive attendance numbers and it seemed to work in our favor. The PDF was sent after we visited the sites during the summer.
 - Articulation Chair sent a QR Code and asked the host sites to create a 1-slide PowerPoint “welcome” slide to help capture attendees who may not have registered at the check in table.
 - Created a deadline for registrations this year. The deadline was set for Sunday, August 31, 2025, that way the Articulation Chair could send out final numbers on Monday for high school and college representatives to prepare.
 - Included in the communication emails what high school representatives should bring. This year we did take photos of what it looks like with and without a buggie. This will



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- potentially give high school representatives a better understanding on what to expect, especially if they are new.
- Changing the labels for registration really did help clear up the confusion on registration.
- Registration for workshops should open up by the 2nd week of July to help start getting an idea on numbers for host locations.
- **Final Numbers:**
 - East:
 - College Reps: 61
 - High School Reps: 68
 - South:
 - College Reps: 49
 - High School Reps: 30
 - North:
 - College Reps: 57
 - High School Reps: 100
 - Central:
 - College Reps: 58
 - High School Reps: 98
 - Total Numbers:
 - College Reps: 225
 - High School Reps: 296
- **2026 Articulation Workshops – September 8-11:**
 - Tuesday, September 8, 2026
 - East – Crowley’s Ridge
 - Wednesday, September 9, 2026
 - South – University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff
 - Thursday, September 10, 2026
 - North – Northwest Arkansas Community College
 - Friday, September 11, 2026
 - Central – University of Central Arkansas

II. College Planning Programs, Chairperson Mary Whiting: President Beard gave the following report on behalf of Mary Whiting (UA Monticello):

In lieu of Chairperson Whiting, Fairs were scheduled by regions with minimal issues—the same ones as usual. Counselors stay in touch with me throughout the year. Complaints only from recruiters—too much time between fairs, fairs too long, driving too much, food wasn’t good—which I can’t help! The only way I can schedule is by working with schools/principals. Much juggling goes on. Too many rogue fairs happening and will continue. I’ve actually been told “I



don't care what you say." The association needs to discuss these. Career coaches and some counselors want their principals to recognize them for having them. Only one school contacted me early to get on the calendar. At least two schools have already asked for certain dates for next year. I told both that recruiters were not in those regions at that time. One said they didn't care! I have talked to two others in states where they schedule. One just lets them schedule whenever. The other said that they don't support them unless they must because of being neighboring schools.

III. College Fair Automation, Chairperson Rebecca Castillo: Chairperson Rebecca Castillo (Hendrix) gave the following report:

ArkACRAO worked with StriveScan for a second year for their College Planning Programs StriveScan worked with President Beard and President Elect Riddle-Sims to plan outreach to high school counselors to increase the use of StriveScan at ArkACRAO College Planning Programs

StriveScan held two trainings via zoom in early August, as well as offering one-on-one training as needed

Trainings included how to use StriveScan, pre-registering students, and most importantly, highlighted ways in which to combat the new statewide cell phone ban

StriveScan joined ArkACRAO for the Articulation Workshops in September

There was an increased usage of StriveScan in the first two weeks of ArkACRAO College Planning Programs. We are excited to continue this partnership.

President Beard thanked you to each one of you for your dedication to the association. These reports are crucial when conducting ArkACRAO affairs; we simply could not function efficiently or expand members' experiences without you. Is there a motion on the floor to approve the presented reports? A second? Brandi Tripp(ATU) made the motion. Scott Post (NPC) seconded. Motion carried.

Approval of the Office and Executive Committee Reports:

President Beard thanked you to each one of you for your dedication to the association. These reports are crucial when conducting ArkACRAO affairs; we simply could not function efficiently or expand members' experiences without you. Is there a motion on the floor to approve the presented reports? A second? Brandi Tripp(ATU) made the motion. Scott Post (NPC) seconded. Motion carried.

D. OLD BUSINESS

I. Statement of Good Practice and Disciplinary Actions



President Beard said no further discussion has been made about this.

II. SACRAO SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Traditionally, a SACRAO Scholarship is in place to cover \$250 toward the early bird registration fee for one member of ArkACRAO. Amongst the applicants was Ava Coleman – Assistant Director of Student Enrollment, College of Nursing – University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences who was selected by the Executive Committee and represented the association in Lubbock, Texas, in February 2025.

E. NEW BUSINESS

President Beard asked there any new business that needs to be addressed?

VP Scrimshire asked for a vote for approve site selection to have the ability to inquire about multiple year contract for site selection for two years in a row for cost efficiency. Malloree Murdock (UARK) made a motion to approve with giving the committee the right to investigate a two year option. John Proctor (SEARK) second. Motion carried.

F. FUTURE ARKACRAO MEETINGS

Annual Conference/Business Meeting in El Dorado, Arkansas at the El Dorado Convention Center on October 7-9, 2026.

G. OTHER BUSINESS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

President Beard announced President-Elect Heath Riddle-Sims as the new ArkACRAO president and officially passed the gavel.

Next Meeting: ArkACRAO Annual Business Meeting on October 2nd, 2025

Adjourn: Brandi Tripp (ATU) motioned to adjourn the meeting. Stephanie Gibson (ASU) seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 2:33 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



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A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Alexis Scrimshire'.

Alexis Scrimshire, VP of Technology 2024-2026

Heath Riddle-Sims, President 2025-2026