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## Spring 2011

TENNESSEE ASSOCIATION OF COLLEGIATE REGISTRAR'S AND ADMISSIONS OFFICERS

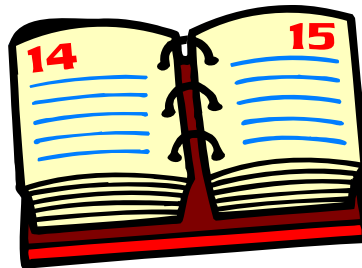
## Spring has arrived...finally!

Now that we are finally finishing up spring travel, it's that time of the year to start planning much needed vacation and relax. We all expect fall to be heavy travel but for some of us even the spring is just as jam packed. Fall is usually the busiest recruitment season for all of us, but for some, the spring is just as jammed packed. While planning these much needed vaca-

tions this summer make sure that attending the TACRAO summer workshop is part of your plan. While this may not be your typical beach vacation, it will be a time we can share and hopefully learn a few things with all our TACRAO family. See you in Nashville!

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## Save the Date!

Save the Date to attend the 2011 TACRAO Summer Admissions Workshop in middle TN. This year's summer workshop will take place on July 14 and 15<sup>th</sup> and will include exciting sessions about current topics in the admissions field and a Nashville Sounds baseball game! This workshop is a great

opportunity to become more acquainted with fellow admissions counselors while learning about upcoming topics in admissions. Be watching your inbox for more info!

*Kim Stephens*  
Assistant Director of  
Admissions  
Cumberland University

## East Side, West Side, and the Man in the Middle

For many of us on the road we know that each part of our great state is completely different from the other. East, Middle and West all have their own great qualities.

To better explain why they feel like their part of the state is the best, some of our favorite counselors were asked to tell why they love being in each part of the state.

Memphis!! Recruiting in West Tennessee is a tremendous opportunity for universities to reach out to a large diverse population of academically gifted students. The college fairs offered in Memphis also attract some of the most prestigious University from across the country. In addition, the high school counselors in all of West Tennessee are the best! All are very accommodating and more than willing to help us out in any way they can. We are a big family in West Tennessee. It is also the only place in the state you can kill time between fairs by either going to a casino or eating the best bbq in the country!

*Betsey Loe  
Admissions Counselor  
The University of Memphis*

Middle Tennessee 'ROCKS' because there are a variety of High Schools in this area of Tennessee. I can visit from Clarksville to Loretto and from the Tennessee River to Cookeville, giving me an opportunity to visit small to large high schools. I truly enjoy meeting with students from different educational backgrounds and engaging them regarding higher education. An additional plus for me is to interact with the great college recruiters in the Middle Tennessee area. Recruiting students in this area also means that I sleep in my own bed (Franklin, Tn.) after a fun filled night college fair.

*Don Watson  
Enrollment  
Services Counselor  
Belmont University*

The East Tennessee area is a great place to live and also travel to. This area offers a lot different activities and options for a very diverse population. One thing that I love about working in East Tennessee is the beautiful mountain views and the culture of people here. In this area we have the rare opportunity to drive to work every day to a view of the different mountain scenes with the colors of the sky or clouds setting down on them. This view is priceless and very rare. The area also comes with a lot of appreciated history and uniqueness.

Storytelling, Bluegrass, and anything that has to do with nature is big in this region. I do enjoy having access to the "best of both worlds!" If I want the excitement and perks of a bigger city, there are many within a 100 mile radius of Johnson City. If you are from a metropolitan area it is a great break to come to a small town atmosphere of a place like Johnson City. ETSU along with the East Tennessee region offer several college fairs and programs during the Fall and Spring that gives the opportunity for several colleges and universities to come from across the map. The high school students and counselors are always excited during those times. Even with all the advantages of East Tennessee there is still a major emphasis on educating the students of the region.

*Carshonda Harris  
Admissions Counselor  
East Tennessee State University*



## Could you please at least act professional.

**Professional development in the work place is something we can all benefit from whether it is something small on campus or a week long conference. The piece below talks about the importance of this for the entire office.**

It is important for admission professionals to take advantage of professional development opportunities for a number of reasons. As universities evolve, it is important to have admission professionals on staff knowledgeable of the issues and trends impacting the students we recruit and enroll. Also, professional development can teach admission professionals about best practices taking place throughout the country. The conversations which take place during the many professional development opportunities between admissions professionals and their colleagues at other institutions can provide a

sounding board for ideas under consideration at their home campus. When meeting with colleagues at other institutions, or school counselors, financial aid officers, researchers, and even students, there becomes the realization of the important work that takes place in the admissions profession.

Vern Granger  
*President-Elect*  
*Southern Association for College Admission Counseling (SACAC)*  
 Assistant Dean of Enrollment Services and Director of Admissions  
 University of Tennessee

“Individuals may participate in professional development because of an interest in lifelong learning, a sense of moral obligation, to maintain and improve professional competence..”



Spring 2011

## Let me transfer you to financial aid...

Working in world of admissions we all know that  
it doesn't just stop at getting them in the door.

We all also work part time in financial aid, or at least the parents think we do.  
Here are some things that we need to know about the financial aid process at this time  
of the year.

With the school year winding down, you may encounter students who are starting the college process late. They haven't done anything. What should they do? Well, from an admissions perspective, you have that covered. However, you may not know what they should do to receive financial aid. Scholarship deadlines have passed; TSAA (state grant) money has been depleted; what to do?

Well, the student should still fill out the FAFSA ASAP. The sooner they do so, the more time they have to make a more informed decision. If the student is HOPE eligible, they would receive the HOPE scholarship and other supplements if they qualify. There is not a deadline for the Pell Grant, so if they are Pell eligible, the student would receive that funding as well. Of course, the Direct Loans would be another option, but I would encourage the student to use this as a last resort. Remind the student this is a loan and it will have to be paid back, so only borrow what you need.

One other financial option students don't think about is going to a community college first, and then transferring to a 4yr college or university. Most students think of this just as an option to slowly transition to a university, but it is also a more cost effective way for students to get an education. Since colleges and universities will accept most basic credits from community colleges, the student can take their basic classes at a lower cost.

If you have further questions about potential financial aid possibilities, contact your campus financial aid office. If you have HOPE scholarship or TSAA questions, feel free to contact me at [eric.farmer@tn.gov](mailto:eric.farmer@tn.gov), 423-326-7198, or call the TSAC offices at 800-342-1663.

Eric Farmer  
South East Outreach Specialist  
TSAC

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