Finally! Summer is here! However, is the summer getting shorter and shorter or is it just me? August is right around the corner and soon students will be filling our campuses. I hope all of you are able to rest and recuperate as you gear up for another academic term. The Executive Committee has been busy in the last few months working on a number of important items for the upcoming year.

The Executive Committee held our annual summer meeting at the Wintergreen Resort on June 11 and 12. Wintergreen is the site of the Annual Conference in December and we hope we will see all of you there. During the meeting, we were able to tour the facility and finalize a few plans for the annual conference. In addition, we used this valuable time together to bond and strategize ways we can enhance our organization and improve the experience of our members.

By the time this newsletter reaches you, our summer workshops will be in full swing. I want to encourage all of you (and others in your office) to take full advantage of these opportunities. Our summer line-up of workshops is designed to provide an avenue of professional development for VACRAO members and will give you a good chance to further connect with colleagues.

Whitney Gershowitz and I were able to represent VACRAO this past year at SACRAO (San Antonio) and were joined by Hope Parks at AACRAO (San Francisco). Words cannot express how enriching these experiences were. On a very large scale, these meetings are a wealth of information and networking opportunities. Not only did we bring back ideas for VACRAO, each of us were able to garner ideas that help the day-to-day operations of our individual offices. With that said, I urge all VACRAO members to pay special attention to the Professional Development Scholarship we offer. As a fun note, I have included a picture of Whitney with the AACRAO Keynote Speaker, Marlee Matlin (see page 2).

Continued on Page 2
President’s Message, Continued

Finally, I hope you have noticed a number of new and exciting initiatives put forth by the Executive Committee. From the automation of the Virginia Fall Tour, the audio/visual informational emails, the Professional Development Scholarships, to the upcoming improvements we hope to make to the website, we are working hard to make the VACRAO experience a good one.

As I look forward to the rest of the summer, I hope you all take time to renew your passion for our profession— even with the trials and tribulations we face, we are in a great field and work with some great people. Best wishes and I look forward to seeing all of you “on the road” this fall and at the Conference in December.

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Editor’s Note

Kerri Bond, Newsletter Editor

Summer is already flying by and we’ll be back on the road before you know it! The Executive Committee has been hard at work making VACRAO better than ever before, and I hope this newsletter highlights all of the work we’re doing together.

As always, if you have any suggestions for future articles, please let me know! Stay cool out there, and see you on the road!
Professional Development Scholarship Awards
Hope Parks, Immediate Past-President

Well, I hope everyone is surviving the wet summer weather we are having! Exciting things are happening in VACRAO this summer. As we are offering summer workshops, the Fall Tour is being finalized, Whitney Gershowitz is planning our annual conference, and the VACRAO website is under renovation.

With that being said, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the 2013 applicants who took the time to participate in VACRAO’s first Annual Professional Development Scholarship. The Executive Committee reviewed all of the applicants during our June meeting... and it is time to announce our winners!

Please join me in congratulating our two recipients: Patrice Gwynn and Patrick Rowe.

The recipient of the Professional Development Scholarship to attend the 2013 SACRAO conference in Raleigh, NC in February is Patrice Gwynn, Registrar at the Apprentice School -- Newport News Shipbuilding. Patrice has been a Registrar for almost seven years, and has also been involved with WISE (Women in Shipbuilding Enterprise), the National Association of Student Personal Administrators, as well as the American Society of Training and Development. Patrice is excited to attend SACRAO’s Annual Conference. She hopes to connect with fellow Registrars to gain a better knowledge of hot topics in higher education. Congratulations, Patrice! We hope to hear from you during VACRAO’s annual conference in 2014.

The recipient of the Professional Development Scholarship to attend the 2013 AACRAO conference in Denver, CO in March is Patrick Rowe, Assistant Dean of Admissions, Hampden-Sydney College. Patrick has been in the Admissions profession for four years and stays busy with recruiting, counseling, and creating innovative marketing techniques that entice students to attend Hampden-Sydney. Patrick has also been an active member of PCACAC, as well as being involved with CICV. Congratulations, Patrick! Your enthusiasm for VACRAO is contagious and we are excited to watch your leadership skills prosper in this organization.

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Professional Development, continued

If you were not able to complete an application this spring, I would strongly encourage you to participate in next year’s application process. As you know, VACRAO’s leadership is constantly shifting, and this scholarship provides you the opportunity to enhance your leadership skills, as well as gain greater exposure to regional and national conferences.

On a separate note, I would like to remind you that we are beginning our call for nominations of VACRAO awards that are given out annually. The Awards and Resolutions Committee is now accepting nominations for the following awards:

**Honorary Membership**
Reserved for individuals who have been long-term and valued members of VACRAO and who are no longer eligible for voting or associate membership in the association. They should have a significant record of contributions to the admissions and records profession or must have taken a leadership role in VACRAO.

**Certificate of Appreciation.**
Recognizes an individual for a major direct or indirect contribution to VACRAO showing initiative and dedication in working with a specific VACRAO project. Their commitment and efforts exceed expectations or official responsibilities and have a positive impact on the organization.

**New Professional Award**
Reserved for individuals with one to five years of experience in the profession. Nominees must exhibit professionalism and expertise in their field at their institution. Their interest in and significant contributions to VACRAO are key considerations, along with their potential for leadership in VACRAO and other related professional associations.

**Distinguished Service Award**
The highly selective, “lifetime achievement” award is reserved for individuals whose service to VACRAO has been so extraordinary as to warrant special consideration while still active or for individuals retiring from or leaving the profession whose contributions warrant special respect.

If you wish to submit a nomination for any of these awards, please visit the VACRAO website at [www.vacrao.org/resources](http://www.vacrao.org/resources) and look for the “Awards” section. I can also provide you with a nomination form.

**All forms should be submitted to me at hvparks@carilionclinic.org by Friday, November 1, 2013. If you want any additional information on criteria for these awards, please let me know.**

Please take a moment to honor those hard-working VACRAOans who have made a significant contribution and helped make our organization so great!

**Important Dates to Remember**
- August 5-6: New Counselor Workshop, Hollins University
- September 16th: First day of Fall Tour (Southwest Virginia, Week 1A/1B)
- December 12-13: VACRAO Annual Meeting, Wintergreen Resort
2013 Annual Meeting Update

Whitney Gershowitz, President-Elect

Happy summer, VACRAO! I hope all of you are enjoying some much needed rest and relaxation and getting some time out of the office to soak up the summer sunshine! While you are toasting on the beach or by the pool, don’t forget that December will be here before you know it and it will be time to trade in T-shirts and flip flops for Halloween costumes... Yes, you heard me correctly. For those of you who missed the Spring newsletter, the annual meeting on Thursday, December and Friday, December 13th, will look much more like Halloween than holidays! VACRAO the 13th will be one annual meeting (and Halloween party) you do not want to miss!

I am happy to share that sessions for the annual meeting are already in the works and there will definitely be something for everyone! Both SACRAO and AACRAO representatives (Mike Turner from The College of William and Mary and Dr. Stan DeMerritt from Wayland Baptist University, respectively) are eager to discuss the happenings at regional and national levels. AACRAO Senior Fellow and FERPA expert, LeRoy Rooker, will be joining us again this year to share the updates and changes to FERPA. We received wonderful feedback regarding his session at last year’s meeting and Mr. Rooker has agreed to join us again this year! For anyone who missed the summer Domicile workshop, Lee Andes from SCHEV will be joining us as well to share the legislative updates that affect domicile. I am also working with VASFAA (the Virginia Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators) to have a representative join us to share the changes to the federal financial aid regulations and how it relates to our work. These are just a few of the exciting learning opportunities but I am very interested to hear about the topics you would like to see discussed or what presentations would be most valuable to you, so please do not hesitate to contact me with any ideas you have for sessions.

I will continue to send updates as details unfold but please plan to join us in December for a fun-filled and informative meeting! I hope you all have a wonderful summer and I look forward to seeing you in December!

2013 Fall Tour

Ashley Woodard, VP for Admissions and Enrollment

The School and College Relations Committee is currently working to finalize the Fall 2013 Tour. We are hoping to open online registration within the next few weeks. The Tour will commence in Southwest Virginia on Monday, September 16th.

Institutions will have the option of purchasing scanners for weeks 5 (Northern Virginia #1), 6 (Northern Virginia #2), and 7 (Tidewater). Please keep in mind that the fairs at Fair Oaks Mall and Hayfield Secondary School already provide admissions representatives with scanners as the additional cost of scanners are built into the registration fee for those two fairs. To purchase a scanner for the weeks listed above, please visit http://www.gotocollegefairs.com/. Colleges are NOT required to purchase a scanner to attend any fairs.
New Counselor Workshop
Dara Logan, VP for Professional Development

The New Counselor Workshop will be held at Hollins University on August 5-6th. The registration cost will be $75 per person. Nikki Williams is chair of the New Counselor Workshop Committee and can be contacted with any questions (nwilliams@hollins.edu). A postcard for the New Counselor Workshop will be mailed to all member institutions soon.

VACRAO Gives Back
Whitney Gershowitz, President-Elect

As you may know, each year VACRAO participates in a Give-Back project where we support a local educational organization by donating supplies, funds, and other items to give back to the educational community. VACRAO members, our corporate partners, and all other conference attendees have rallied in previous years to make valuable contributions to the selected organization and I know I can count on everyone to do the same this year! Those of you who know me know that supporting special education is very important to me and I am thrilled to announce that this year’s recipient will be the Amherst County Education Foundation and all proceeds will go towards supporting the county’s special education program. The organization is excited to work with us and delighted that we will be supporting their special education program!

From the Treasurer’s Desk
Berkeley Leonard, Treasurer

As you might recall from the Spring update, our banking accounts are in transition as we move our funds from the SunTrust account to Bank of America. As of the statement ending May 31, 2013, the SunTrust checking account has a total of $21,272.68. As of June 7, 2013, the Bank of America checking account has $53,599.90. Our total checking balance is $74,872.58. Also as of June 7, 2013, the Vanguard account has a balance of $70,344.57.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me. I look forward to seeing you all again in the near future!

Workshops and Tour Registration Update
Mallory Griffith, VP for Records and Registration

Happy summer to each of you! I have been hard at work navigating the Cvent registration site to accommodate the summer workshops and the Fall Tour. I expect the registration for the New Counselor Workshop to up and running in the early part of July. Registration for the Fall Tour should be live mid-July. As with last year, VACRAO members will be able to register in a straightforward format though Cvent; additionally, you will be able to commit to fairs individually as you would like.

I am happy to field any questions regarding registration, payment, or other concerns for any of these events—feel free to reach out!