

2005-
2025

Washington Association
of Collegiate Registrars &
Admissions Officers

Annual Conference



20th Anniversary

August 7, 2025

University of Washington Bothell



WaACRAO Mission Statement

To provide for the dissemination of information and the exchange of ideas related to statewide issues of mutual interest to member institutions.

To foster a better understanding of the activities of member institutions and to develop a spirit of cooperation, collaboration, and unity in addressing issues of mutual concern.

To promote the development of individual participants in areas that will enhance their performance as student services professionals.

To enhance communication amongst existing established groups within the state of Washington (private schools, public schools, etc.)

2025 WaACRAO Executive Committee Members

President: Megan Banford, *University of Washington Seattle*

Vice President: Alex Tadio, *Washington State University Everett*

Past President: Arturo Torres, *Central Washington University*

Secretary: Kara Simon, *DigiPen Institute of Technology*

Treasurer: Karen Malella, *Central Washington University*

Registration Coordinator: Leigh Miller, *University of Washington Seattle*

Communications Coordinator: vacant

Web Coordinator: Elizabeth Haden, *Central Washington University*

On-Site Coordinator: Pamela Lundquist and Dennis Gagaoi, *University of Washington Bothell*

Hospitality Coordinator: Barry Polin, *University of Washington Bothell*

Vendor Coordinator: Rose Spodobalski-Brower, *Central Washington University*

Sessions Coordinator: Raquel Odom, *University of Washington Seattle*

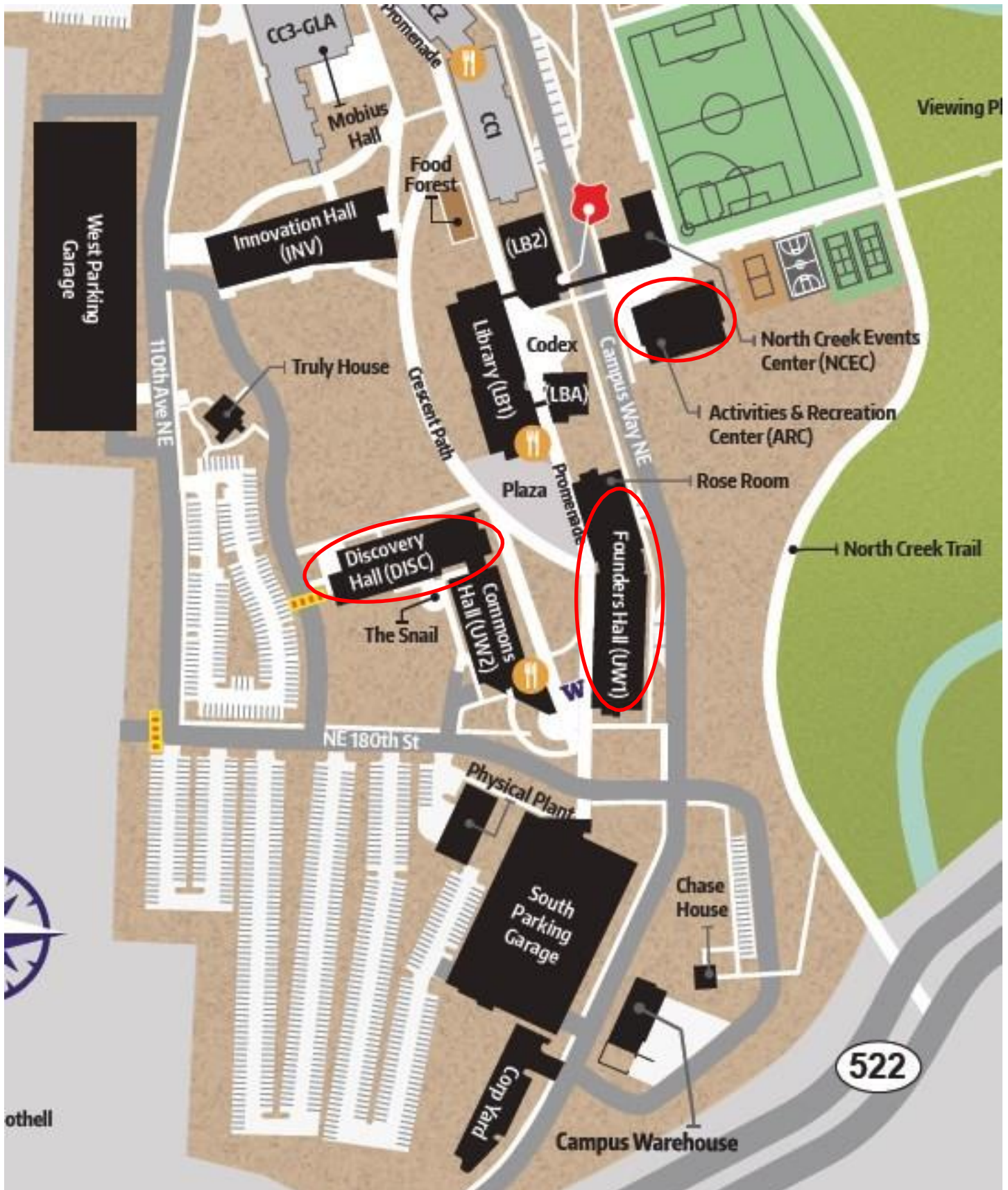
Conference Program Coordinator: Kay Dodge, *University of Washington Seattle*

Assessment Coordinator: Steve Downing, *Bellevue College*





University of Washington Bothell Map



WaACRAO 2025 Conference Program

- 7:15 - 8:15** **Conference check-in: The ARC**—Activities & Recreation Center
- 8:15 - 9:00** **Opening Remarks: The ARC**, Megan Banford, *WaACRAO Board President*
Welcome: UW Bothell, Scott James, *Vice Chancellor for Enrollment Management & Student Affairs*
Keynote: Dr. Tafona Ervin, *CEO at Foundation for Tacoma Students*
- 9:00 - 9:15** **WaACRAO Updates:** Megan Banford, *WaACRAO Board President*
- 9:30 - 10:20** **SESSION ONE**

SESSION TITLE	PRESENTER	ROOM
Add/Drop It Like It's Hot	Eli-Gandour-Rood , University of Puget Sound	Founders Hall UW1 050
"What Are We Doing Here?!?": Surviving Management	Anna Blick , Bellingham Technical College & Keith Kelley , Bellingham Technical College	Discovery 162
Spinning Straw into Gold: Leveraging Resources You Already Have	Leigh Miller , UW Seattle & Tina Miller , UW Seattle	Discovery 252

10:30 - 11:20 SESSION TWO

SESSION TITLE	PRESENTER	ROOM
Transfer or Bust: An Analysis and Discussion of UW Bothell Transfer Practices	Riley Fern , UW Bothell	Discovery 252
Slate-It's Not Just for Admissions!	Andrea Coker-Anderson , UW Tacoma & BethAnn Hoover , UW Tacoma	Founders Hall UW1 050
Innovations with Transfer: Credit Mobility and Place-Bound Pathways	Alex Tadio , WSU Everett & Anna McLeod , WSU Everett	Discovery 162

WaACRAO 2025 Conference Program

11:30 - 12:00 Vendor Session

SESSION TITLE	PRESENTER	ROOM
Parchment Does That Too? Streamlining Admin Workflows from Admissions to Credentials	Melissa Frey, Parchment & Emelie Bauer, Parchment	ARC
Harnessing Analytics to Drive Student-Centric Operations	Veronica Nune, Coursedog & Kate Weissman, Coursedog	Discovery 252
Emerging Trends Reshaping Academic Operations: Challenges, Solutions, & Campus Insights	Carolyn Hollowell, Courseleaf	Discovery 162
Learn how Tacoma Community College uses Motivation Science to Support Enrollment and Retention	Haley Johnson, Motomatic	Founders Hall UW 1 050

12:00 - 1:10 Lunch: ARC

12:30 Wetlands Tour

1:15 - 2:05 SESSION THREE

SESSION TITLE	PRESENTER	ROOM
Building Resilience, Finding Dual Enrollment Support	Nancy Potter, Ed.D, Cambridge University Press	Founders Hall UW1 050
What's New at Independent Colleges of Washington	Michael Pastore, University of Puget Sound & Sheila Steiner, Independent Colleges of Washington	Discovery 162
Resiliently Managing Your Career for Success in Work and in Life	Kristen Labrecque, UW Bothell	Discovery 252
Let's talk about HS Dual Enrollment Programs in the state of Washington	Arturo Torres, Central Washington University	ARC

WaACRAO 2025 Conference Program

2:15 - 3:05 **SESSION FOUR**

SESSION TITLE	PRESENTER	ROOM
Residency Rodeo Roundtable	Helen B Garrett , Ed.D, UW Seattle	Founders Hall UW1 050
Let's talk about Love! (The Love Languages)	Garick Sherburn , UW Bothell	Discovery 162
Onboarding From Afar: Remote Training for Short-Term Staff	Megan Banford , UW Seattle & Raquel Odom , UW Seattle	Discovery 252

3:15 - 3:30 Break and Raffle: The ARC

3:30- 4:00 AACRAO Update: The ARC William (Bill) Gil, *Senior Director, Government Relations*

4:15- 4:30 Closing Remarks: The ARC Megan Banford, *WaACRAO Board President* & Alex Tadio, *WaACRAO Board Vice President/2026 Bord President*

4:30 - 6:30 Happy Hour: North Creek Events Center

WaACRAO 2025

Sessions



SESSION ONE

Add/Drop It Like It's Hot

Eli Gandour-Rood

Do students require instructor permission to add a class, or advisor permission, or neither? Is your add/drop period one week or two weeks? Does your add period match your drop period? If you could change ONE THING about how your institution handles the add/drop period, what would it be? This roundtable style session will focus on add/drop period policies and will give participants the opportunity to share best practices, commiserate about difficult situations, and offer advice about process improvements. Come find out how everyone else is doing it, and share stories of your own.

"What Are We Doing Here?!?": Surviving Management

Anna Blick & Keith Kelley

In this presentation, we will use our lived experience as managers and registrars within a department undergoing post-pandemic adjustment, a conversion to a new student information system, and a change in leadership to frame our lessons learned in change management. Themes and pain points discussed will include employee burn-out, absenteeism, technology change, trust-building, behavioral accountability, and team welfare. Participants will be invited to engage in management scenarios and offer their reflections and ideas. All are welcome—management experience not required!

Spinning Straw Into Gold: Leveraging Resources you Already Have

Leigh Miller & Tina Miller

It's your first day in a new job. You walk into 8,500 degree applications that need to be cleared by hand by 3 people in a 3-week timeframe. What do you do?

This session covers how two gutsy Associate Registrars took a new look at old operations and tools to revise a process on the fly and make the impossible possible. By using a mindset of progress not perfection, and considering what was there versus what was missing, a new process was created that drastically reduced the time needed to review and clear degrees. Come learn how we separate the straw from the grain, spun it, and emerged with gold.

Sessions



SESSION TWO

Transfer or Bust: An Analysis and Discussion of UW Bothell Transfer Practices

Riley Fern

An honest assessment of UW Bothell transfer processes. What do we do well and where do we still have barriers in place for transfer students? Formal presentation on the process by the presenter to be followed by group discussion about other institution's practices.

Slate-It's not just for Admissions!

Andrea Coker-Anderson & BethAnn Hoover

Maybe you have heard of Slate? These days it is a common customer relationship management tool (CRM) most often used by Admissions offices at colleges and universities. Slate for Student Success extends the use of this powerful tool into the realm of enrolled students for mass communication messages/texts, coordination of advising appointments/automation of confirmation messages, capture of student meeting notes, and the ability for students to submit forms to offices involving workflows that maintain records in a coordinated way... AND MORE!

Join the University of Washington Tacoma Slate for Student Success team for insights on their project implementation (and a demo). Beyond the technology, through this project we have come to realize that this tool has the potential to transform campus culture and create strong, collaborative partnerships across student affairs and academic divisions.

Innovations with Transfer Credit: Mobility and Place-Bound Pathways

Alex Tadio & Anna McLeod

Transfer students in Washington face longstanding challenges navigating the path between institutions. While the state has made progress through transfer degrees, many students still encounter barriers such as credit loss, prolonged time to graduation, and increased tuition costs. A key contributor is the siloed nature of transfer processes and effectiveness across institutions.

This session will highlight how Washington State University Everett is working to break down those silos by collaborating with institutional partners through Degree Pathways Programming and to launch Transfer Explorer, a new national tool designed to increase credit transparency and mobility.

We will share both the successes and challenges from these efforts, offering practical insights for institutions seeking to improve transfer outcomes. Session participants will also see student enrollment and success data that assert how innovative, student-centered approaches are improving transfer pathways in real time.

Sessions



VENDOR SESSIONS

Parchment

Parchment Does That Too? Streamlining Admin Workflows from Admissions to Credentials

Melissa (Mel) Frey & Emelie Bauer

Tired of juggling disconnected tools and outdated processes? In this session, explore how forward-thinking institutions across Washington are using Parchment beyond transcripts. From streamlining staff workflows to supporting learner mobility, see how one comprehensive platform and trusted partner can help you connect your Admissions, Registrar, and professional learning initiatives in more efficient, learner-centered ways, including:

- Automating transcript processing for admissions
- Empowering faster transfer admissions using machine learning through Data Automation
- Expanding learner success with alternative credentials and Comprehensive Learner Records (CLRs)
- Supporting learners with workforce-aligned skills communications through certificates, and digital transcripts and diplomas

Coursedog

Harnessing Analytics to Drive Student-Centric Operations

Carla Beltran

Traditionally, academic processes such as scheduling, curriculum management, the catalog, and assessment lived in isolation, making it difficult to access valuable data. Today, new solutions bring these disparate processes and associated data together. Discover how unified data in academic operations can unlock fresh insights and analytics that drive student retention and strengthen the financial stability of your institution.

Learning Outcomes:

- Discover how analytics can forecast student demand and determine the ideal number of course sections.
- Explore strategies for integrating academic operations to gain access to new data.
- Understand the impact of streamlined academic operations on student success and satisfaction.

Sessions



VENDOR SESSIONS

Courseleaf

Emerging Trends Reshaping Academic Operations: Challenges, Solutions & Campus Insights

Carolyn Hollowell

As higher education continues to adapt to shifting student expectations, regulatory demands, and workforce needs, academic operations leaders are being called to rethink long-standing processes. In this interactive session, we'll explore the most impactful trends institutions are navigating today - from curriculum agility and analytics to compliance with evolving mandates. Our experts will share the most common challenges and solution requests they're hearing from campuses nationwide. You'll gain practical insights into how technology is supporting these trends and have the opportunity to share your own experiences and strategies with peers facing similar challenges.

Learning Outcomes:

By the end of this session, participants will be able to:

- Identify three major trends currently influencing academic operations in higher education.
- Learn how peer institutions are responding to these trends through process and technology.
- Evaluate opportunities to apply new strategies or tools within their own institution to improve academic planning, governance, or compliance.

Motomatic

Learn how Tacoma Community College uses motivation science to support enrollment and retention

Patrick Brown & Haley Johnson

The list of stop-outs were growing and the Marketing team decided to take a new approach. Over the past 2 years TCC has used social media backed by behavioral science to drive re-enrollment. When calls, emails, and text messages may not be enough, meeting students where they are across 7 social media networks helped bring back students. With the support of Enrollment, Student Affairs and Marketing they were able to move the needle and not spend more than 3 hours per term on this initiative. Learn how TCC is now focusing on their current students year-round with this same approach.

Sessions



SESSION THREE

Building Resilience, Finding Dual Enrollment Support

Nancy Potter

Join an interactive discussion exploring how, together, we can foster resilience to face the demands placed upon us not only from our already complex jobs but also from federal and state regulations. This session investigates dual enrollment programs in our state, including a close look at a 2+2 possibility with proven success.

Learn about Cambridge International Education, although a relative newcomer to America's K-12 schools, is the world's largest provider of international education and part of the Washington State Board of Education's pathway RCW 28B.10.054.

Find out how Cambridge not only prepares students to excel in college but also improves on-time graduation rates across demographics. We'll cover college-level Cambridge Advanced (International AS & A Level) courses and exams, ACE credit recommendations for over 25 AS & A Level exams, and the easy online way to receive official Cambridge transcripts. Hear authentic student voices, see research, and have questions answered. Find out why the UW and WWU joined over 100 colleges around the world supporting Global Perspectives and Research. Come away with a tool kit mapping directions to an invigorating tomorrow.

What's New at the Independent Colleges of Washington

Michael Pastore & Sheila Steiner

Founded in 1953, the Independent Colleges of Washington (ICW) serves nine not-for-profit campuses across the state. ICW engages with the federal and state governments and agencies, as well as regional businesses and non-profit organizations, to support students enrolled at our member campuses. Our campuses collectively confer more than 8,000 bachelor's and graduate degrees each year. We strongly believe in the importance of options in higher education to ensure students have diversity of alternatives. Students need to be able to find their best fit – academically, developmentally, and socially – here at home. Nearly half of ICW students identify as a student of color. One-fifth are the first in their families to pursue a degree, and more than a quarter are over the age of 25. More than 40% of ICW students come from families living on low incomes, and 90% of our students receive financial aid directly from their college or university. In this interactive session, we'll explore who ICW students are, and focus on what ICW campuses are doing to support students from underserved backgrounds and those who transfer.

Sessions



SESSION THREE

Resiliently Managing Your Career for Success in Work and Life

Kristen Labrecque

Let's talk about best practices for managing your career, including the inevitable - change - in order to strive for a balanced environment in which you can thrive. From identifying the right fit during a job search, to managing your career once you're in a job you enjoy, you can strive for work/life harmony.

In this session, we'll:

- * Use the Define Your Career worksheet to identify what you need in an environment to thrive.
- * Use LinkedIn to build a network that expands your reach to foster growth - both your own and others'.
- * Identify strategies to manage your career and self-advocate for your continued growth and development, so you can be resilient and bounce back from just about anything that life throws your way.
- * Share best practices and learn from each other so we can all thrive!

Let's Talk About HS Dual Enrollment Programs in the state of Washington

Arturo Torres

Round table discussion - We will discuss processes, operations, expectation at your institution, what works and what may not be working and anything you wish to contribute to the conversation. We can also be of support to each other as College in the High school programs continue to be a thing across the nation.

Sessions



SESSION FOUR

Residency Rodeo Roundtable

Helen B Garrett

Whether you manage residency for tuition purposes on your campus or you are residency curious, we invite you to join the Residency Rodeo and join us at this roundtable. We will share best practices when determining residency and delve into some of our tough residency decision scenarios. All are welcome to attend!

Let's talk about Love! (The Love Languages)

Garick Sherburn

Understanding the Love Languages offers fascinating insights into what truly fills our individual cups, both personally and professionally. In this engaging session, you'll have the opportunity to complete a brief survey to uncover your primary love language. We'll then explore practical strategies for integrating this knowledge into our daily work lives. By gaining a deeper understanding of our own identity and professional goals, we can become even more effective advisors, fostering positive, professional, and engaging connections with our students!

Onboarding from Afar: Remote Training for Short-Term Staff

Megan Banford & Raquel Odom

Hiring, onboarding, and training large groups of temporary employees in a compressed timeline. UW receives 70,000+ applications during peak processing. This roundtable to discuss the challenges, successes, and ideas for future.

COMPLETE YOUR SESSION ASSESSMENTS!

We'd love to hear your feedback on sessions so we can continue to improve each year. Please be sure to complete our assessment after each session. It should take no more than 2-5 minutes to complete! Assessment link will be emailed and available on our website to registered attendees.

Your submissions will also count toward raffle prizes! You must attend the session(s) and complete the assessment(s) to be entered in for the raffle. Each session attended is a chance to win for that session's raffle drawing. (That's FIVE chances to win!) There will be two winners drawn for each session (1-4) and four winners drawn for the vendor session. One prize per winner. Winners will be announced post-conference by email and on our website.

Meet Your Presenters

Eli Gandour-Rood

Eli Gandour-Rood is the Associate Registrar for Operations and Curriculum at the University of Puget Sound, where he has worked since 2013.



Tina Miller

Tina Miller is the Senior Associate Registrar at the University of Washington, Seattle. Having worked in a registrar's office for 25+ years, she's seen it all and is willing to talk about it.



Anna Blick

Anna Blick is the Executive Director of Enrollment Services at Bellingham Technical College, where she supports the team responsible for admissions and registration. She previously served in several roles at Western Washington University. Anna holds a Master of Education in Student Affairs Administration from WWU, and a Doctor of Education in Educational Leadership with a focus on Developmental Education Administration from Sam Houston State University. Anna lives in beautiful Bellingham, WA, where most of all she prefers to be out in the woods and the foothills moving her body and enjoying nature, either despite or because of the weather.



Leigh Miller

Leigh Miller is the Associate Registrar at the University of Washington, Seattle. Having worked at all levels of degree clearance in her 14-year career, she was ready for this challenge.



Riley Fern

Riley Fern is the Assistant Director of Transfer Recruitment at UW Bothell since 2022, oversees the overall Transfer Process from initial outreach to application review and the team's efforts thereof.



Keith Kelley

Keith Kelley is the Associate Director of Enrollment Services at Bellingham Technical College, where he oversees the team responsible for admissions and registration. Prior to this role, he served as the Director of Continuing Education at Western Washington University. Keith holds a Master of Business Administration from WWU. He lives in Bellingham, WA, and enjoys lifting weights, playing golf, and spending time with his family.



BethAnn Hoover

BethAnn Hoover is UW Tacoma's Director of Academic Advising. She has been at UWT for five years, and is new to this role. Her background includes working in career services, academic advising, and teaching at three other public institutions prior to UWT. A favorite part of BethAnn's job is collaborating whenever possible with the Registrar and Admissions teams. Over the last two years, she has co-led the Slate for Student Success implementation with UWT's Registrar, Andrea Coker-Anderson.



Meet Your Presenters

Andrea Coker-Anderson

Andrea Coker-Anderson begins her 37th year in higher education – 24 years at The Evergreen State College and most currently 13 years at UW Tacoma where she is the Registrar and Director of Financial Aid. Throughout her career, Andrea has sought opportunities to improve the student experience and collaborate with campus stakeholders, particularly involving technological systems. The latest project for Andrea is a Slate for Student Success implementation that partners Enrollment Services with Academic Affairs. Mentoring and supporting new professionals in our field is Andrea's favorite part of her role at this point in her career. Andrea is a long-time WaACRAO supporter, board member and held the role of WaACRAO President in 2018.



Alex Tadio

Alex Tadio is the Director of Admissions at Washington State University Everett, where he leads recruitment and enrollment with a focus on transfer student success. With over seven years in higher education, he has implemented large-scale programs to reduce barriers to access. A former transfer student, Alex is passionate about equity in education. He holds a master's in educational leadership from Eastern Washington University, a bachelor's in environmental science from Western Washington University, and began at Everett Community College with a DTA. Alex serves as Vice President of WaACRAO and sits on the Board of the Washington Technology Student Association.



Anna McLeod

Anna McLeod is the Director of Student Services at Washington State University Everett, where she oversees all aspects of student support, student affairs, and academic advising. With a strong commitment to student success and equity, she leads initiatives that enhance the student experience and promote retention. Anna holds a Master's in Education and is completing a Doctorate in Educational Leadership, with research focused on organizational culture and advising leadership within multi-campus university systems.



Nancy Potter

Nancy Potter, a lifelong learner, serves Cambridge University Press & Assessment as the US Higher Education Implementation Manager. She enjoys assisting colleges in their work. A nationally known educator, in addition to serving as adjunct professor and student teacher supervisor at Seattle Pacific University, she worked as an English teacher and administrator in five diverse Washington state public school districts. Nancy has her Ed.D. in Educational Leadership from the University of Washington, an MBA from Eastern Washington University, a Master of Arts in teaching from Whitworth, and a bachelor's degree from the UW, Editorial Journalism Phi Beta Kappa, Magna Cum Laude.



Michael Pastore

Michael is the University Registrar for the University of Puget Sound. He is the current PACRAO Local Arrangements Chair and previously served as WaACRAO President and Chair of the Private Registrars of Washington.



Meet Your Presenters

Sheila Steiner

Sheila Steiner has worked in higher education for nearly three decades. Trained in experimental psychology, she has taught and advised students, led academic departments, and served in general education, assessment, accreditation, and institutional effectiveness positions. She currently serves as Independent Colleges of Washington's Senior Director for Policy and Community Engagement, where she works with campus colleagues and statewide groups in support of Washington's 70% postsecondary credential attainment goal.



a master's degree in public administration with an emphasis in Non-Profit Management. His academic background equips him with the strategic and political insight necessary to navigate partnerships with state and federal agencies, university leadership, and the broader public. Arturo is driven by a deep commitment to public service and continuous improvement in higher education systems.

Helen B Garrett

Helen B. Garrett, Ed.D., became UW's inaugural University Registrar and Chief Officer of Enrollment Information Services in February 2016. She has an extensive background in admissions, registration, student affairs, and enrollment management systems from Lane Community College (OR), University of Oregon, Whittier College, University of Southern California, and Michigan State University. Garrett has served as president of the Pacific Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers, and has held additional leadership positions in state, regional, and national professional organizations. She is a national trainer on FERPA and presents at conferences on issues related to professional development. Helen also treasures her peer mentoring practice and was awarded the AACRAO Outstanding Mentor Award in 2024. She holds a B.A. in business administration and a M.A. in college and university administration from Michigan State University, and a doctorate in education from Oregon State University's Community College Leadership Program.



Kristen Labrecque

Kristen serves as Health Professions & Natural Science Pathways Manager at UW Bothell. Supporting the development of tomorrow's workforce, especially in healthcare, is a privilege. Capacity for this role is bolstered by decades of experience in admissions, registrar, and advising. Impacting the capacity for resilience among those doing this work is an honor.



Arturo Torres

Arturo Torres is the University Registrar at Central Washington University, bringing over 18 years of experience in higher education. His expertise lies in change management, team building, faculty collaboration, and student-centered initiatives. Arturo has a strong foundation in policy review, interpretation, and implementation, and is deeply committed to enhancing access and the overall student experience in higher education.



As a first-generation, non-traditional student himself, Arturo brings a unique perspective and passion to his work. He holds a bachelor's degree in public administration with a focus on Law Enforcement, and

Garick Sherburn

Garick is currently the Assistant Director of Academic Advising at UW Bothell, bringing experience from his previous role as the Assistant Director for First-Year Recruitment in Admissions. Garick has presented previously at other conferences including NCORE (National Conference on Race and Ethnicity in American Higher Education) in 2024 and WaACRAO in 2023. Beyond his work, Garick is a competitive bowler in his weekly league and a dedicated anime enthusiast – Solo Leveling, anyone?



Meet Your Presenters

Megan Banford

Megan is the Assistant Director for First Year Processing in the Office of Admissions at the UW Seattle. She has six years of admissions experience and has served on the WaACRAO board as Assessment Coordinator, Vice President, and President. She is also actively involved with the PACRAO Local Arrangements Committee. A proud first-generation college student, Megan earned her BA from Simon Fraser University and MA in Forensic Psychology from John Jay College of Criminal Justice. Outside of work, she enjoys playing rugby and competitive dodgeball in Seattle.



Raquel Odom

Raquel Odom is the Associate Director for International Operations at the University of Washington, Seattle. She holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Communications with a minor in Business from the University of Kansas and a Master of Science in Information Management from the University of Washington.



Raquel has over 15 years of experience in higher education; 13 of those years have been focused on international credential evaluation. Raquel oversees international application processing for over 10,000 international freshman, transfer, and postbaccalaureate applicants each year for UW's undergraduate Admissions Office.

INTERESTED IN BEING A PRESENTER?

WaACRAO strives to promote best practices, provide legislative updates, information exchange about innovative trends in technology and many more! We are always looking for presenters to share their knowledge/insight with the WaACRAO members. This is an amazing opportunity to not only share your knowledge with your fellow colleagues but add this experience to your list of accomplishments!

We kindly invite you to participate in our next annual WaACRAO conference next August, as a presenter! We hope you will join us!

The History of WACCRAO/WACRAO/WaACRAO

In 1968, the first official meeting of the Washington State Community College Registrars and Admissions Officers (WACCRAO) met. It included representatives from all of Washington's community colleges.

By 1976, the term "Association" had been added to the group's official title.

In 1992, in response to the addition of the technical colleges to the state's community college system, the name was once again changed to the Washington Council of Registrars and Admissions Officers (WACRAO).

Perhaps as a result of the World Wide Web, and the increased ability to freely communicate, confusion developed over the WACRAO acronym. Constituents from across the nation incorrectly assumed the acronym belonged to Washington Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers, a state subsidiary of AACRAO and PACRAO that most certainly included all higher education institutions within the state.

Examples of such state subsidiaries associated with PACRAO/AACRAO are: AzACRAO-Arizona; BCRA-British Columbia; CACCRAO-California; OrACRAO-Oregon; UACRA-Utah; WARUCC-Western Canada

Other admissions and registration groups that formed independently of WACRAO within Washington's higher education system include:

- ICORA: Comprised of all Washington public baccalaureate institutions
- PROW: Comprised of Washington private baccalaureate institutions

And still other related Washington statewide groups, both formal and informal, include:

- Credentials Evaluator group
- AWISA: Association of Washington International Student Affairs
- A yearly Residency workshop group

In fall of 2002, the topic of a need to change the WACRAO acronym was introduced under the leadership of that year's president. Discussion continued during both the winter and spring 2003 meetings. At the Spring 2003 meeting, the group decided to officially vote on whether to pursue a new name and acronym. As a result, in the fall of 2003, the succeeding WACRAO president finalized the name change and bylaws amendment process.

In winter of 2004, WACRAO was officially changed to ARC, Admissions and Registration Council (ARC).

Over the next several academic years, ARC continued its discussions of partnering with its 4-year public and private constituents to create a true WACRAO organization. This possibility was presented to both constituents mentioned above and was consistently met with positive responses.

A grassroots steering committee was formed and came together on September 12, 2005 to discuss the possibility of a Washington ACRAO endeavor. Additional members were solicited to add balance and representation from each constituent group.

The suggestion for the WaACRAO acronym was to avoid confusion with Wisconsin's version, which already bears the WACRAO acronym.

20 Years of WaACRAO



The first WaACRAO Conference was lead by WaACRAO’s first governing body, known in 2005 as the “Steering Committee”.

Steering Committee Members:

Betsy Abts – North Seattle Community College
 Machele Allman – Highline Community College
 Steve Ashpole – Bates Technical College
 Becky Bitter – Washington State University
 Virjean Edwards – University of Washington
 Kathy Gaer-Carlton – Central Washington University
 Kenda Gatlin – Seattle Pacific University
 Chris Masterson – Bastyr University
 Chris Melton – Shoreline Community College
 Janelle Miner – Whatcom Community College
 Joe St. Hilaire – Western Washington University

Year	Conference Location	WaACRAO President
2005-2006	Big Bend Community College	WaACRAO Steering Committee
2006-2007	Cascadia College	Betsy Abts
2007-2008	Walla Walla Community College	Virjean Edwards
2008-2009		Andrew Anderson
2009-2010	UW Seattle	Tina Miller
2010-2011	Conference Cancelled	Matt Czisze
2011-2012	Conference Cancelled	
2012-2013	Big Bend Community College	Betsy Abts
2013-2014	Central Washington University	Karen Bade
2014-2015	Bellingham Technical College	Colman Joyce
2015-2016	UW Tacoma	David Sundine
2016-2017	Tacoma Community College	Kathy Rhodes
2017-2018	Central Washington University	Andrea Coker-Anderson
2018-2019	Evergreen State College	Michael Pastore
2019-2020	Online	Jenny Wheeler
2020-2021	Online	Karen Khuu
2021-2022	Pierce College-Puyallup	Amanda Breslin
2022-2023	Central Washington University	Steve Downing
2023-2024	University Puget Sound	Arturo Torres
2024-2025	UW Bothell	Megan Banford

WaACRAO THANKS OUR 2025 CONFERENCE PARTNERS!

The WaACRAO leadership is dedicated to continually developing the relationships we have with our partners. Our partners play a vital role in supporting our association so we can provide professional development training and information for the WaACRAO members at the annual state conference.

To our sponsors: We kindly invite you to participate in our next annual WaACRAO conference. Early August, date coming soon! We hope you will join us!

PREMIUM LEVEL PARTNERS:

The logo for Motumatic is written in a dark blue, cursive script. The word 'Motumatic' is stylized with a long, horizontal underline extending from the 'M'. Above the 't' and the 'i' in 'matic', there are decorative starburst or spark-like symbols.

WaACRAO THANKS OUR 2025 CONFERENCE PARTNERS!

PREMIUM LEVEL PARTNERS:



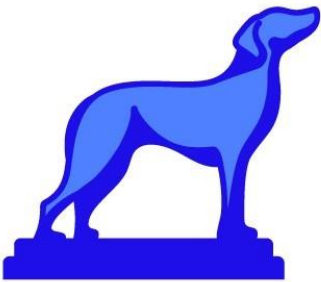
WaACRAO THANKS OUR 2025 CONFERENCE PARTNERS!

PREMIUM LEVEL PARTNERS:



WaACRAO THANKS OUR 2025 CONFERENCE PARTNERS!

PREMIUM LEVEL PARTNERS:



Coursedog

WaACRAO THANKS OUR 2025 CONFERENCE PARTNERS!

BASIC LEVEL PARTNERS:

