



# The Anchor

Potomac and Chesapeake Association for College Admission Counseling

## Montgomery County's Longest-Serving Guidance Counselor Feted

### Table of Contents

*Lifetime of Service . . . . . 1*

*President's Corner . . . . . 2*

*PCACAC Elections . . . . . 6*

*Families, Counselors and  
Community Together . . . . . 11*

*Living History Project . . . . . 12*

*Bylaw Revisions . . . . . 15*

**Two Montgomery  
County Council  
members were students  
of longtime Einstein  
staffer.**

For his final proclamation as Montgomery County Council president, Councilman Phil Andrews (D-Dist. 3) recognized a man who knew him back when he wanted to be a politician but was still a tennis star: Joseph Monte, his high school counselor.

For thousands of students, Monte needs no introduction. He began teaching at Albert Einstein High School in 1962 — the year it opened — and became a counselor two years later. More than four decades into a career in the office that rendered counselors “sort of minor league doctors on call,” Monte started to think so long as he maintains the current level of health and support he enjoys from his wife Mary Catherine, he “might as well go for 50.”

That’s just two more years to go for a half century of work at Einstein.

The County Council issued a proclamation recognizing and thanking Monte for his accomplishments at a ceremony Dec. 1. Two of Monte’s former students, Andrews of Gaithersburg, and Councilman Marc Elrich (D-At Large) of Takoma Park, are on the County Council.

“[Andrews] was going to do this on one of two occasions, either when I retired or I died,” Monte joked. “But he saved it for his last proclamation.”



*Joseph Monte (center), a counselor at Albert Einstein High School in Kensington, received a proclamation in recognition of his achievements as the longest serving guidance counselor in the Montgomery County school system last week from the County Council.*

Andrews wanted to honor Monte for his accomplishments, which include being the English teacher and mentor to the novelist Pat Conroy at a previous job at Gonzaga High School in Washington, D.C., serving as president of the National Association for College Admission Counseling, and founding the Potomac and Chesapeake Association for College Admissions Counseling.

“I thought it was a nice way to end the year,” Andrews said. “He’s one of the people I admire most. I’ve now had a chance to work with a lot of people over the years

and see a lot of people in action and someone like Joseph Monte who has worked for 50 years to help and inspire students is at the top of my list.”

Monte said over the years, challenges of counseling have changed as drugs came onto the scene in the late 1960s and a school that once had mostly complete families now has “probably 50 percent” single parents, and the challenges brought with that. The difference in the high school environment is

*Continued on Page 4.*

# The President's Corner

*Jeffery E. Smith, President, PCACAC; St. Mary's College of Maryland*



It's hard to believe that the year is almost over. I can still remember getting a call from Susan Rexford, who asked if I would run for PCACAC President. I can remember sitting in the Kaiser Office (picking up my wife's prescription) for close to an hour discussing with Susan the position and why I should run. Then the ride home from Kaiser (which seemed a little longer than normal) and thinking to myself, why should I run. Then getting home and talking to the boss (my wife Marlene) about running. Even though it seems that it was a nerve-racking, painstaking decision, it wasn't.

I thought back to my first PCACAC conference in Baltimore, Maryland in the spring of 1987. I had just finished my first travel season with Goldey-Beacom College and the College President, William Baldt, telling me about this counseling organization that he was a Past-President of and that I should (would) join. And in my 20+ years of professional work, I can say that the most benefit (professionally and personally), has been my involvement with PCACAC. So I knew that it was an easy decision to run for President.

But to be a good leader, you first need to be a good follower. I feel that my time with this association has given me the time to look at those who have gone before me as leaders and have given me the knowledge and skills to assume this position. There are too many to name, and I don't want to forget any of them, so I will just say thank you to all of you who have given me a chance to follow them, and learn from them.

If I could sum up the year in review, I keep going back to the term, "It was the Best of Times, It was the Worst of Times." Now let me explain.

Obviously the highlight of the year was the fact that we hosted over 5000 people who came to Baltimore as part of the NACAC annual conference. We rolled out the red carpet (or purple in case of the social at M&T Bank Stadium, home of the Ravens).

**In my 20+ years of professional work I can say that the most benefit has been my involvement with PCACAC.**

Thank you again to over the 300 volunteers who made our guests feel at home. Susan Rexford and Lisa Hill did a wonderful job of being co-chairs for the NACAC 2009 committee. NACAC was so impressed with us, there is talk about coming back to PCACAC as soon as possible for the annual national conference. The next 4 or 5 national sites are locked up, but who knows, maybe around 2015 or 2016 they all could be back. And we would be up for the challenge again.

We are excited that Jim Jump, a three-time PCACAC President, is our current NACAC President. We can also be excited that we had an excellent candidate, Jenifer (JB) Blair run for the NACAC Board of Directors. Even though she did not win a position, she ran a top-notch campaign and showed everyone that PCACAC has an excellent pool of candidates who are ready to set up a lead on a national scale. We can also be proud of

the many PCACAC members who have and are currently serving on a national scale. National committee members such as Carl Ahlgren, Richard Edgar, Jennifer Evans, and Susan Rexford. PCACAC members have also sat on the NACAC Board of Directors and have served as Vice-Presidents and Presidents of the National association. To paraphrase Paul Feakins, we should never be ashamed of the quality of the people we have in this region who can and do serve on a national level. This goes to show that this is a special affiliate.

With the uncertainty of the national economy, we have all had to do more with less. Higher education institutions, secondary schools, local communities have all felt the hit of shrinking budgets and uncertain futures. Through all of this we have still done the work that needs to be done to help students realize their futures even though sometimes we did not even know ours. And right before we were to roll out the online conference registration, our Web site host server was hacked into, which led to a shutting down of the PCACAC home page for an extended amount of time. We have been able to work through this and now have a new host and [www.pcacac.org](http://www.pcacac.org) is up and running again.

With all that has happened throughout the year, I can say that this has been a very rewarding experience for me and I hope that I have served you well as your President. I could not have done it without those who also serve of the Executive Board, plus the membership of this association that has entrusted me with opportunity to lead.

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**The Anchor** newsletter is produced quarterly for PCACAC members.

Editor: Joe Manning

We welcome your submissions. Material for the next issue is due May 15 for a July 1 publication. Articles, announcements and high-resolution photos may be sent to [manninjp@jmu.edu](mailto:manninjp@jmu.edu).

PCACAC

Attn: Mary Layman  
College Advisor  
The Covenant School  
Post Office Box 8308  
Charlottesville, VA 22906

First, I would like to thank Paul Feakins and Mike Oligmueller, who as Past-President and Treasurer respectively, have given us a sound financial association. The job of bean-counter may not be glamorous, but it is a job that needs to be done and they have done a fine job in making sure that our financial house is in order. And that I can pass a sound financial association over to Jayne Fonash, who will replace me as President, over the summer. Jayne, I hope that I have given you a pathway that is clear and that any advice that I have given has helped you plan for a wonderful conference in Dover and to take the reins of this association this summer. I know you'll do fine!

To the Executive Board and Committee Chairs, thank you for your service. To the NACAC Assembly Delegates; sometimes it can be a confusing and tedious job, but one that needs to be completed. Thank You! Wray Blair, Bob Gambarelli, Betty Jones, and Kathleen Martin come off the board and we welcome the new elected delegates this summer.

Through our Admissions Practices Committee (Greg Roberts and Dal Holmes) we have had a smooth run as members are heeding the SPGP and are working

with students in a very ethical manner. To my knowledge, there are no outstanding cases in the region. We are very excited to welcome Prince George's County, Maryland as our new NACAC National College Fair site. This additional college fair in our region, not only gives us an additional source of revenue that we get hosting a national fair in our region, but it should give students in the county various options for them as they look to explore colleges and universities to attend. The aforementioned Jenifer Blair serves as our Credentials Chair and makes sure that we are up-to-date as far as our association's Bylaws and seeing that they are compliant to NACAC.

Some of our newer standing committees are the Current Trends and Future Issues, under the leadership of Bob Herr, is tasked with looking for ways to better serve our students and our profession, our brand new committee which is called "Value-Added Membership," chaired by Kelly Farmer, has been created to connect with the membership to make sure that we are giving you benefit from your membership in PCACAC. I hope that you are taking advantage of the opportunities that are available

through your membership, and it is Kelly's tasks to make sure that your needs are being met. A permanent committee, the Past President's Committee led by Susan Rexford, is giving us the added benefit of former leaders of PCACAC who lend a hand and give sound advice, are well on their way to planning our 50th anniversary celebration as an association. New chairs include Tervera Stith, who chairs the Human Relations Committee to oversee underrepresented student populations, Heather O'Toole, who serves as our Meeting & Conference Coordinator, and Amy Jarich, who we welcome back as Technology Chair.

Special thanks also go out to the Membership Committee and co-chairs Sherryl Fletcher and Carolyn Doyle. We can now say that we have a "clean" and update membership roster of over 600 strong. In years past, our membership numbers have varied as much as the temperature, but we can now be certain of our numbers and renewal through more streamlined process. Jake Talmage and Don Birmingham have chaired the Professional Development Committee and have revamped

**NACAC was so impressed with us, there is talk about coming back to PCACAC as soon as possible for the annual national conference.**

*Continued on Page 4.*

## **Movers and Shakers**

Congratulations **Robby** and **Danielle Knight** on the birth of their new baby boy. Robby serves our association as Web master and works with the Technology Committee and Executive Assistant.

You've made us proud to be your colleagues **Joe Monte!** Congratulations on your long career and the recognition received from the Montgomery County Council.

Norfolk State University has named **Kevin M. Holmes**, a Hampton Roads native, as its new Director of Recruitment and Admissions. Welcome back home to Hampton, Kevin. Your colleagues in PCACAC wish you the best at NSU!

## Guidance Counselor

*Continued from Page 1.*

great, he said; lunches didn't even used to be supervised.

"The truth to all of life is that your failures probably outnumber your victories because you're dealing with family circumstances that are fairly difficult," Monte said, recalling his career, but the successes keep him going. He especially takes pride in his individually-crafted college recommendation letters, which once even reversed the non-admission of a student to Georgetown University to a full scholarship.

Recently, while out to dinner celebrating the proclamation from the council, Monte and his wife ran into the father of a student named Juan, for whom Monte had written a letter of recommendation that garnered a full-ride scholarship to the University of Maryland. To a family in which

the father worked at a restaurant and the mother cleaned houses, the scholarship was a godsend, and the father immediately called Juan, who came to the restaurant.

"I could have retired 20 years ago if I just got one of those (experiences) every five years, but I get those things fairly frequently," Monte said.

Farida Uddin, the senior class president at Einstein, said Monte is "very motivating."

"If I come in for a schedule change, he's going to try to put me in the most rigorous classes," Uddin, 18, of Silver Spring, said.

And he has a way with students, she said, that helps him get the message across.

"He's very friendly, he's never in a bad mood, he seems to want to be here — not all the teachers want to be here — he's very old

and he's still here," Uddin said. "I know I'm in good hands, he knows what he's doing. Just to have his signature on my recommendation means a lot."

Monte said when he writes his recommendations he looks for the students' "personhood," an activity he enjoys through all of counseling.

"One of the, I would say, dividends of being a counselor is in a few lives being there in the right moment is like the grace of God because not a week goes by where there isn't a moment of truth," Monte said.

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## President's Corner

*Continued from Page 3.*

the Drive-In Workshops and the Summer Institute. We use these events as other opportunities for professional development for members. Thanks to the work of Peg Cothren and the Government Relations Committee, Delegate Eleanor Holmes Norton, (DC), is a co-sponsor of the Pathways to College Act. This bill will serve as a way to increase opportunities for higher education for more students. Increases in PELL grant funding and a streamlined FAFSA form are ways that the federal government have focused more on increasing the percentage of Americans that will have a college degree, something that President Obama has addressed in numerous speeches. We can feel confident that the federal government has more of an interest in education, thanks in part by the work of the NACAC & PCACAC

Government Relations team. The fact that you are reading through this report is thanks to Joe Manning and the Publications Committee, which has moved *The Anchor* to the web, saving the association printing costs, but through a pdf file, can still being printed out if necessary as a way to attract new members.

Our ad hoc committees continue to work hard on aspects such as the Ann Powell Mentoring program, with a dedicated funding source through our spring conference silent auction and raffle and the Fund Development Committee, led by Carl Ahlgren, which is tasked to find new avenues of funding for us.

My time is coming to an end as your President. I have valued the opportunity to lead this association through the ups and downs of the year. I remember toward

the end of the Williamsburg spring conference, after I had been elected to be your President-Elect, thinking "what did I get myself into?" Have I been a good leader? I'm sure that's a matter of your own individual opinion. Has the association been a positive force for change over the past year? I hope so. Have I learned something in this time? I always knew that education is a special calling and that we do good work as counselors, teachers, coaches, mentors, advocates. But this year we were able to show a lot more people the good work that we do and I was very proud to lead this association in that regard. Thank you for letting me lead, but also thank you for giving me the opportunity to follow some great people before me.



## Opinions and Advice Wanted!

Our school policy has always been to send fall semester grades to all colleges our students have applied. Last month, for the first time, a senior checked with his colleges and asked us to send his fall grades to some of his colleges (those that required them) and withhold grades to the colleges that did not require mid-year grades. We did not have the mechanics in place to offer this to all seniors so we did not honor his request.

**Colleagues at secondary schools, are you sending mid-year grades to all or some colleges?**

**College colleagues, are your policies changing about requesting senior grades? Comments please ...**

Please share your views and advice to Carolyn Doyle, Director of Guidance and College Counseling at Archmere Academy [cdoyle@archmereacademy.com](mailto:cdoyle@archmereacademy.com)

## Invite a Friend to Join PCACAC

*Sherryl Fletcher, Johns Hopkins University and Carolyn Doyle, Archmere Academy, Co-Chairs, Membership Committee*

Membership in Potomac and Chesapeake ACAC is a great professional opportunity for your colleagues. Visit the PCACAC Web site at [www.pcacac.org](http://www.pcacac.org) to print off a membership form or a membership flyer to take with you to your Spring or Summer meetings and conferences. Invite a friend to join you as a PCACAC member.

## The Anchor Deadlines

<b>Summer</b>	Submission Deadline: May 15 Online Publication Date: July 1
<b>Early Fall</b>	Submission Deadline: July 15 Online Publication Date: Sept. 1
<b>Late Fall</b>	Submission Deadline: Oct. 15 Online Publication Date: Dec. 1
<b>Spring</b>	Submission Deadline: Jan. 15 Online Publication Date: Mar. 1

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## PCACAC Election of Officers 2010

Vote at [www.pcacac.org](http://www.pcacac.org)

**President-Elect:** Ali Gauch, University of Mary Washington (VA)

**Treasurer:** Mike Oligmueller, Connolly School of the Holy Child (MD)

### High School Delegates (for three positions):

Michael Carter – St. Stephens & St. Agnes School (VA)

Judy Hingle – Fairfax County Public Schools (VA)

David J. Hamilton – St Mary's Ryken High School (MD)

Jake Talmage – St. Paul's School for Boys (MD)

### College Delegates (for two positions):

Anthony Ambrogi – Randolph Macon College (VA)

Angela Baumler – College of Notre Dame of Maryland (MD)

Gina King – McDaniel College (MD)

Senem Kudat Ward – University of Virginia (VA)

## Meet the Candidates

### President-Elect

**Ali Gauch**, University of Mary Washington



Suddenly I'm feeling a bit like a high school senior starting her college essay. From the blank screen my reflection searches for inspiration. Am I prepared to serve this association that I hold in such high esteem? I'm still a kid — well that's how I feel anyway. Like rings in a tree stump each admissions cycle reveals my twenty-plus-year career in college admissions.

Directly after earning a Master's degree in Education, I was hired as the Assistant Dean for Transfer Admission at James Madison University and attended my first PCACAC meeting that spring. It was memorable to say the least; learning the Electric Slide from Audrey Hill and seeing everyone in their pajamas during a fire alarm in the middle of the night. I don't remember a single session

from that year, but I do remember all the wonderful people in the organization.

My focus on transfer admission propelled me to serve as co-chair of the State Committee on Transfer. The committee was charged with the implementation of the newly developed State Transfer Policy. My interest in areas of transfer credit evaluation and the college recruitment circuit led me to become active in VACRAO. After a year, I was named to the School and College Relations Committee and planned Week Three of the Virginia Tour. The following year I was selected as the organization's Outstanding New Professional. Starting in the role of School and College Relations Chair, I began a five year run serving on the Executive Board of VACRAO, culminating in the role of President.

By this time I'd taken a lateral position at then Mary Washington College. I continued to oversee the transfer admissions process but spent more time with traditional first-year admission. After nearly seventeen years at Mary Washington, I've managed many areas of responsibility. I currently lead our department's recruitment efforts and oversee customer service. I've learned that I'm most excited in my role when I'm mentoring and bringing the exceptional talents of our team to new levels of achievement. I believe this

trait, in particular, will serve PCACAC well.

I highly value the role PCACAC plays in our profession. As I think back over my twenty years of membership I clearly see how the connections made through this organization have inspired me. In addition to serving on the nominating committee, I've served as a presenter at annual conferences and participated on the conference program and social committee. From 2005-07, I served our region as a delegate to NACAC and as a member of our executive board. Assisting the professional development committee in 2007, I provided a successful Counseling 101 workshop, hosted by the University of Mary Washington. I would be honored to return to the executive board as President-Elect. I am committed to continuing to provide a highly worthwhile annual conference. In addition, I am interested in promoting members' efforts to provide opportunity and access to higher education. As a regional organization I believe there is more we can do to connect resources with those for whom a college education isn't even a dream.

Now after writing the professional equivalent of a college admissions essay, I hope the PCACAC nominating committee and the whole membership body will look favorably upon my nomination.

## Treasurer

**Mike Oligmueller,**  
Connolly School of the Holy Child



I have been working in college admission since graduating from the University of South Dakota in 1984. My first job was at Wabash College, and I've also worked as an admission officer at Lake Superior State University, Purdue University, Earlham College, and the University of Southern Indiana. Before taking my current job as Director of College Counseling at Connolly School of the Holy Child in 2002, I was a college counselor at Charlotte Latin School in North Carolina for four years. Throughout all those different jobs, I've been involved with and attended the conferences of NACAC, as well as been a member of a number of other professional organizations: Indiana ACAC, Indiana ACRAO, NAFSA: Association of International Educators, Michigan ACAC, Michigan ACRAO, the College Board, and Southern ACAC. I began my involvement with PCACAC soon after starting my current position, and I have been happy to serve the organization as a member of the Human Relations and Finance Committees, Co-Chair of the Human Relations Committee, and occasionally as Secretary. I've enjoyed (Yes, I really mean that.) being Treasurer for the last two years, and I'm looking forward to continuing to serve PCACAC in that capacity for another two years.

## High School Delegates

**David J. Hamilton,**  
St Mary's Ryken High School



In my previous tour as a high school delegate, I learned about the inner workings of a regional and national organization as they tackled current college admission issues. I am motivated once again to pursue this position given the dynamic changes impacting higher education. From technology to demographics to money, there are many trends at work impacting our profession.

Currently, I am the Director of College Advising at St. Mary's Ryken High School. To further enhance my professional development, I have become a Certified Educational Planner as well. Over the past decade, I have visited over 165 different colleges and universities in the United States and abroad. Through these experiences, I have seen that there is a school for every student and a student for every school.

I will bring my knowledge and experience as a contributor to PCACAC to not only help solve pressing regional concerns but to help address larger national matters through NACAC as well. Regardless of our location or job title, we are in this calling together to help students successfully chart and navigate their educational endeavors. I seek to work with my colleagues in any way possible to help re-establish this focal point of our profession.

**Michael Carter,**  
St. Stephen's & St. Agnes School



Helping students succeed in a complex and changing world by supporting them at the entry point of the college process is a truly wonderful job. I have had the good fortune of working as a college counselor at St. Stephen's & St. Agnes School in Alexandria, Virginia for the past nine years. My own personal educational journey has taken place entirely within the Potomac and Chesapeake region (bachelor's degree from Washington and Lee University, and graduate degrees from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County and West Virginia University). Unlike my college process so many years ago, the excitement of planning for a college education today is tainted with a huge amount of apprehension and anxiety spurred on by the media's hype and obsession with the college process. Combined with the very real factors of economic crisis and shifting demographics, the stress on our students and their parents at this critical juncture is tremendous. As the college counseling representative on the Virginia Association of Independent Schools Conference Planning Committee, I hear the increasingly difficult dilemmas confronting counselors in Virginia. Similarly, as a member of the Coordinating Committee for the Washington Area Independent School College Fair, I am in the heart of

*Continued on Page 8.*

## High School Delegates

*Continued from Page 7.*

the maelstrom of college application pressure. Amidst the current landscape, PCACAC has been an incredible resource for my professional development. The shared wisdom, insights and collegiality I have gained in our organization have been essential to making me a better college counselor. My involvement with the Ann Powell Mentoring Program as a mentor and committee member has been a terrific chance to share my experience while continuing my professional growth. PCACAC in its many forms (annual conference, summer institute, mentoring, etc.) is an outstanding organization. It is vital that we use the strength of our collective knowledge at both the regional and national levels to keep the focus on the best interests of the students. As a delegate, I would be honored to represent our region and speak candidly of the many challenges that face high school counselors.



## High School Delegates

Vote for three

## College Delegates

Vote for two

**Jake Talmage**, St Paul's School for Boys



After enjoying my experience as an undergraduate intern in admissions at William and Mary in 1992, I decided to enter the field full-time as a professional after graduation. From 1992-1995, I worked as an Assistant Director at the University of Vermont where I also pursued my graduate studies in Public Administration. In 1995, I returned "home" to the Potomac and Chesapeake region when I moved to the Johns Hopkins Admission Office. Although my recruitment areas included the west coast and New England during five years at JHU, I became active in the region by attending and presenting at the regional conference.

In 1995, realizing that my love for the college admission process included working more closely with students, I moved to the "other side of the desk" by accepting a college counseling position at Pine Crest School in Ft. Lauderdale, FL. While in Florida, I was active in SACAC including serving on the faculty of SACAC's Dry Run Program for two years, presenting at annual conferences and serving on local conference committees. I returned to the PCACAC region in 2005 to be the Director of College Counseling at St. Paul's School outside Baltimore. Since returning, I have been active in PCACAC serving on various panels at the Annual Conference and as a faculty member at the 2006 – 2009 Summer Institutes. I coordinated the 2007 Summer Institute held at Goucher College and currently serve on the Executive Board as the Co-chair of Professional Development (2008-present) through which I coordinate the region's Drive-In Workshops.

Throughout my career, I have believed in the importance of relationships. These relationships exist between students, families, counselors, admission officers, professionals and institutions. Being a Delegate will allow me to help foster these relationships as well as to represent all who are involved in the college search and selection process. Thanks to my background in working with and at various types of institutions, I believe that I have the ability to view issues holistically, an important trait for a Delegate. I would be honored to represent the PCACAC membership in this capacity.

**Judy Hingle**, Fairfax County Public Schools



Judy Hingle is the Career Connections Specialist for Fairfax County Public Schools, Virginia. Working in the division School Counseling Office, her priority is providing resources and tools for postsecondary educational planning for K-12 school counselors and career center specialists.

She has also worked at the national level, serving as Director of Professional Development at NACAC. At the local level, Judy worked at Mount Vernon High School as Career Center Specialist. Judy is an active member in PCACAC, NACAC, ASCA, VCDA, NCDA and VSCA.

Judy earned a B.A. in Political Science from Elizabethtown College, PA and a Master's in Education in Student Personnel Services from Virginia Tech. After attending 11 different schools on the way to high school graduation, and tours in Florida, California and Norfolk, she and her family settled in Alexandria.



## College Delegates

**Anthony Ambrogi,**  
Randolph Macon College



I attended my first PCACAC conference in 1998 as a rookie college counselor at Benedictine High School. I had no idea what I was doing — I didn't even know what PCACAC was — but by the end of the conference, I was hooked on the profession and on this organization. I was motivated by the colleagues I met, their willingness to help, and their passion for helping students. Fast forward a few years, and I found myself a rookie again, this time as an admissions counselor at Randolph-Macon College. Once again, I looked to my PCACAC friends for help and guidance, and they were there for me. Now, nine years and a few job titles later, it's time for me to return the favor.

I am currently Director of Admissions and Enrollment Research at Randolph-Macon College. It makes for some long nights, but it also gives me an interesting vantage point, not only of my institution but also of the

broader college admission landscape. I am inspired by the pervasive professionalism in our field and encouraged by the relationships that span both sides of the admissions world. I also know that there are more challenges ahead and there is more work to be done. I am excited at the prospect of helping our regional and national organizations face those challenges as a NACAC delegate, and using my experiences and expertise from both sides of the desk to do so.

I am proud to be an active member of both PCACAC and NACAC. I have enjoyed presenting multiple times at both the PCACAC annual conference and Summer Institute, on topics ranging from the college search process to working with parents to office morale (and no, I didn't require my staff to attend that one ... but I thought about it). I was also very excited to lead Randolph-Macon's effort in hosting the 2009 Summer Institute. After nearly two years of planning, it was very rewarding to welcome the attendees to a successful and productive conference on our campus last August. (If you didn't come, you missed a great dinner!)

These previous opportunities have made me seek to become more involved in our organization as a NACAC delegate. I look forward to representing PCACAC at the national level to advocate for our members, and ultimately for our students. After over a decade of involvement, I'm ready to become a rookie again.

**Angela Baumler,**  
College of Notre Dame of Maryland



Born and raised in Lancaster, Pennsylvania, I attended Villanova University where I received a B.A. in history. Upon completion of my degree, I joined a volunteer teaching program with the Sisters of the Holy Child Jesus of Rosemont College. I taught in an inner-city elementary school in Philadelphia for a year and fell in love with education. After three more years of teaching at the elementary and middle-school levels, I left the classroom for higher education. I joined the Admissions team at College of Notre Dame of Maryland in 2005 and subsequently joined PCACAC at the same time. Within my job, I work with many first-generation college students and their family and find joy in helping them through the admissions and financial aid process, but more-so helping them better their situations and realize their full-potential. During this time I have also been completing my M.A. in Management and anticipate graduating in December 2010.

My PCACAC involvement has included attending annual conferences, co-chairing a conference planning committees in 2009 and being selected as an interim-delegate for the NACAC Assembly at last year's National Conference in Baltimore. The Assembly experience in Baltimore this past fall opened my eyes to the true relevance of the work that Potomac & Chesapeake does and how much of an impact we can have on NACAC and higher-education as a whole. I hope to bring a fresh perspective and look forward to stepping into a leadership role within the organization.

### Advertise in *The Anchor*

Want to reach the PCACAC membership? Consider purchasing advertising space in a future issue of *The Anchor*. High-resolution, 300 dpi PDF, TIFF or JPEG ads that are in keeping with the PCACAC philosophy can be submitted to Joe Manning, [manningjp@jmu.edu](mailto:manningjp@jmu.edu).

Full Page	7.5" x 9"	\$200
Half Page	7.5" x 4.5"	\$100
Quarter Page	3.75" x 4.5"	\$75



## High School Delegates

Vote for three

## College Delegates

Vote for two

## College Delegates

*Continued from Page 9.*

**Gina King**, McDaniel College



I started in the field of college counseling in the fall of 2001 as an Admissions Counselor for McDaniel College and now serve as the Director of Admissions. Over the last 8 years, I have enjoyed the many changes my institution has experienced, including a name change and branding campaign, and have also relished the many changes in the world of college admission. I continue to be energized by the challenges everyday and the number of conundrums, both moral and logistical that I face and this is why I find the profession so intriguing and rewarding. Every student we serve is different in so many ways, and I try to keep my “counselor” role at the core of what we do so that students and families will always be the center of focus in all of our decisions.

I have taken advantage of attending National Conferences and other professional development opportunities throughout my tenure in the profession. I cherish the relationships I am able to foster with my colleagues on both sides of the desk, and enjoy listening to different perspectives when cultivating admission practices for my own institution. It would be both an honor and rewarding opportunity to serve PCACAC in developing future college admission and counseling practices as a College Delegate.

**Senem Kudat Ward**, University of Virginia



I have been Assistant Dean of Admission at U.Va. since 2005 and in addition to general admission duties I also manage all of our office publications (including viewbook, profile, newsletters, statistical reporting, etc.) and work as the Nursing school liaison. I really enjoy travel planning so for the past two years I have planned and managed the budget for our sizable joint travel programs with Harvard and Princeton in Southern California. I joined the PCACAC team this past summer in order to help with conference coordinating and event planning and I am looking forward to our meeting in April. While I just recently became an active participant in PCACAC I am very committed to our profession and hope that I will be able to compliment the ongoing work and also present some fresh ideas for the future. In addition to publications and event planning I also am involved with sustainability initiatives at U.Va. I would like to become a NACAC delegate so that I can be actively involved with our professional organizations and assist my colleagues in ongoing and future projects.

I have a B.A. in History from The University of Virginia, and a MSc in Urban Economics and Planning from the London School of Economics and Political Science. I live in Charlottesville with my husband and three daughters. Thank you for considering my candidacy.

# NACAC & PCACAC Host Professional Development Workshop for Counselors

*Jeffery E. Smith, President, PCACAC; St. Mary's College of Maryland*

NACAC's Families, Counselors and Community Together – Early College Awareness Program was the focus of a day-long professional development training program in our region, at the University of Richmond, on Saturday, February 20, 2010. Rescheduled from late January because of the big Mid-Atlantic snowstorm, I was able to be a “fly on the wall,” and to see first-hand how counselors view the revamped program. FCCT is a redesign of the old Parents And Counselors Together program that got the word out about college awareness and preparation to underrepresented populations. The second “C” in FCCT, Communities was a much needed addition, knowing that the whole community can now help students plan for college and that it just doesn't start in high school. Among the participants, were folks from middle schools and local community educational advocates, who also help prepare students for the transition from high school to college by showing them what they need to do in 8th grades. By beginning to enroll in a college prep curriculum such as Algebra I and foreign language classes our students become better prepared. Our communities include places that have just as much an impact on student success as the home or high school.

Patty Montague, NACAC Human Relations Committee Chair, and Evelyn Boyd White, NACAC former Board Member & PCACAC Past-President, presented at the workshop which discussed the FCCT training and the five “essentials” that are a part of the program. The essentials give counselors tips on how to connect



*Jeffery Smith, PCACAC President and Evelyn Boyd White, PCACAC Past-President, with Patty Montague, NACAC Human Relations Chair welcome professional development workshop participants.*

with student and parents about building a positive foundation for success, helping students dream about their future, helping to plan their high school coursework and experience, the college search process and financing their education. And with their day-long training, the attendees are now able to go into their communities and present these aspects to others. Participants were very excited about the workshop and the opportunity to follow up with students, parents, other colleagues at their schools and their local community educational leaders. Resources and materials were provided to the participants to use as handouts and follow up information.

Part of my being a fly on the wall was to welcome the counselors to the workshop and to promote the value of NACAC

and PCACAC. Our professional development resources and networking opportunities are benefits the participants and our members enjoy. A lot of times they might get the sense that they are the only ones out there going through a certain type of situation. I was there to tell them that they are not alone and that they have the resources of NACAC and PCACAC to help. They were also given PCACAC information, including the Web site address and upcoming events in our region.

Additional thanks go to Shanda Ivory, NACAC Director of Communications, Maura Artman, NACAC Director of Development, who help put together the workshop. Funding for the workshop was provided by a grant from TG.

**I was there to tell them that they are not alone and that they have the resources of NACAC and PCACAC to help.**



PCACAC

50 years

## Living History Project

*Susan Rexford, Chair, Past Presidents' Committee; Charles E. Smith Jewish Day School (MD)*

As part of the build-up and celebration of the 50th anniversary of PCACAC, we are beginning work on an exciting new project that will hopefully have long range and historical significance to our association. Dal Holmes, retired member, has graciously agreed to chair this new venture which will be one of the cornerstones of our 50th annual spring conference in 2015 — yes, that is a long way into the future; however, the scope and magnitude of the

We hope to be able to share with our current membership the rich history of PCACAC and its members as well as preserve our past.

Living History Project is such that it will take years to fully develop and display.

The objective of the Living History Project is to document our PCACAC history through interviews with some of our longest serving members and bring that historical record right up to the present with newer members of PCACAC. Once this is compiled, it is our plan to showcase

all the components — video clips, audio clips, photographs, slide shows, written interviews, etc. — on our Web site for all to see, learn from, and enjoy. We hope to be able to share with our current membership the rich history of PCACAC and its members as well as preserve our past.

How can you help? There are many ways to become involved in the Living History Project. If you have institutional memory of any events, activities, or evolution of PCACAC and would be willing to be interviewed, please contact Dal Holmes ([jmholmes@dmv.com](mailto:jmholmes@dmv.com) 410-778-4988), Mary Layman ([mLAYMAN@pcacac.org](mailto:mLAYMAN@pcacac.org)), or Susan Rexford ([srexford@cesjds.org](mailto:srexford@cesjds.org)) and we can make arrangements for an interview with one of the committee members. The interviews can be brief, covering one specific instance, or they can be longer and provide valuable background and historical context for our oral history. We are also searching for photographs from as far back as we can get them. If you know that you have photos that could provide a valuable perspective of our association, conferences, or workshops over the past 45

years, please share them with the committee. If you would like to serve as part of the Living History Project in any capacity, we would love to have you join the group. There is much work to be done and we can use you. We need members to conduct interviews, scan documents and photographs, do video and audio editing and much more.

Some of the initial interviews and questionnaires will be started at the 2010 Spring Conference in Dover, Delaware. If you are planning to attend and would like to be interviewed then or at another time, please do contact us so we can arrange a suitable time for the interview. This is a project that can benefit us all, but also needs input from as many members as possible to be successful.

We have five years in which to attempt to fully capture the fifty fantastic years of PCACAC. Join us in this exciting endeavor so that our 50th annual spring conference will have extra special meaning in the long and storied history of PCACAC.

**If you have institutional memory of any events, activities, or evolution of PCACAC and would be willing to be interviewed,** please contact Dal Holmes ([jmholmes@dmv.com](mailto:jmholmes@dmv.com), 410-778-4988), Mary Layman ([mLAYMAN@pcacac.org](mailto:mLAYMAN@pcacac.org)), or Susan Rexford ([srexford@cesjds.org](mailto:srexford@cesjds.org)).



# *This I Believe*

Kathleen Martin;  
The Wilmington Friends School (DE)

*I believe in the spirit and resilience  
of high school seniors.*

Knowing that elite college admissions was a game with confounding and contradictory rules, you still chose to apply, risking potential disappointment for a shimmering dream. While describing why you were a perfect match, listing your favorite word, identifying your academic passion, and writing about what you would share with a campus, you displayed an impressive level of reflection and insight. Academically, you have dedicated yourself to not just memorization, but to true learning. You have shared your time and talents with your school and your community, not to impress colleges, but because you possess a deep well of compassion and dedication to others.

You have danced until your feet bled, you have lost people you love, you have faced intimidating opponents in playoff games, and you have pushed yourself beyond your comfort zone. Literally and figuratively, you have taken risks. You have grown personally and intellectually, mastering the art of friendships along with advanced calculus and the nuances of the Cold War. You have celebrated success with joy, and you have faced loss with dignity, maturity, and grace. It is likely that you will respond to this outcome as you have other setbacks — possibly with legitimate anger and frustration, potentially with large bowls of ice cream, and undoubtedly surrounded by those who believe in you. You will still have moments of self-doubt, but will find some comfort in the knowledge that you did your best.

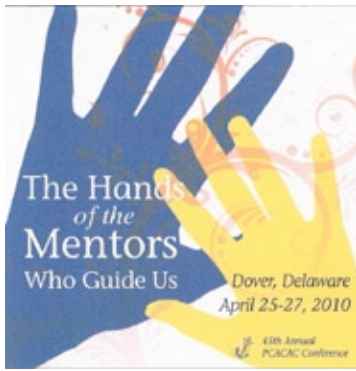
As athletes and artists and actors, you know that while you might not always win a championship game or take first prize or have the lead role, it is still an honor to participate at an elite level. Unfortunately, competitive college admission is often capricious, biased, unpredictable, an inexact science at best and, at times, cruel. You have learned how to lose graciously in the face of a formidable opponent, but it may be harder to wrap your mind around a completely arbitrary process.

I believe, however, that clichés are often repeated because they hold truth: this too shall pass; in ten years, this will be a faded memory; you will end up exactly where you're meant to be; everything happens for a reason; and my mother's favorite, you're too good for that place anyway.

I firmly believe, deep in my heart, that you are exceptional people who will transform our world and leave it a better place than you found it. I believe that you will find great success and happiness, no matter which college you choose to attend. I imagine that this experience will give you even greater empathy in the times when life simply isn't fair, when justice seems elusive, and when choices seem to be limited. I have faith that you will navigate this disappointment and that you will come out the other side, no matter how bleak it may feel right now because ... I believe in the spirit and resilience of high school seniors.







## 45th Annual PCACAC Spring Conference *The Hands of the Mentors Who Guide Us* Dover Downs Hotel April 25-27, 2010

### WHAT'S NEW THIS SPRING AT PCACAC?

#### Preparing Our Students for the 21st Century

In a world where new jobs and career paths are created every day, what do college admissions professionals need to know to guide our students college going decisions? Four guests panelists from secondary and post-secondary institutions will discuss this hot topic at the Plenary Session on Monday.

#### IN 500 WORDS OR LESS...

You have a front row for a screening of *In 500 Words or Less* as four students and their families navigate the college admissions process. This double-blocked session on Monday includes a screening of the film to be followed by Q&A and discussion.

#### BOOK CLUB SESSION:

##### *Three Cups of Tea*

Greg Mortenson's quest to build schools in the most remote villages of Pakistan and Afghanistan is proof that one ordinary person, with the right combination of character and determination, really can change the face of education. Spend spring break reading and join this discussion!

### What else is happening at the PCACAC Spring Conference?

Trinity Washington University's President Patricia McGuire, who has led Trinity's transformation from a small college to a highly diverse, vibrant, multifaceted university, has accepted our invitation to be the Keynote Speaker for the 45<sup>th</sup> Annual PCACAC Spring Conference. President McGuire will join us as our luncheon speaker on Monday, April 26<sup>th</sup> to share with us the dynamic energy of the Trinity community.

PCACAC and DSCA (Delaware School Counselors Association) will co-sponsor a pre-conference event for the greater Dover community on Sunday April 25<sup>th</sup> from 1:00 to 3:00 PM at the Dover Downs Hotel. Members of these two great organizations combine resources for this service project and will present a college admissions program for students and parents including sessions on financial aid college readiness.

As PCACAC ramps up to the Fiftieth Anniversary Conference in 2015, the Past-President's Committee has tasked Dal Holmes and his committee to launch an official oral history of PCACAC, beginning with recorded audio and video interviews of a number of senior members of our organization. Be sure to check the program for their location at the conference so that you can stop by and add your experiences to our collective history as an organization.

Questions? Contact Mary Layman: [mLAYMAN@pcacac.org](mailto:mLAYMAN@pcacac.org)

Jayne Fonash: [jayne.fonash@loudoun.k12.va.us](mailto:jayne.fonash@loudoun.k12.va.us)

Still need to register? Go to [www.pcacac.org](http://www.pcacac.org)



# Students Serving Students – Access U.Va.

*Julie Roa, Access U.Va. Coordinator; University of Virginia (VA)*

Serving students regardless of their economic background is important to all educators. Socio-economic diversity in an institution of higher education is a powerful factor that enhances student academic and social development, both inside and outside the classroom.

At the University of Virginia, a team of students is devoting much time and energy into reaching out to various communities to inform potential applicants about the accessibility of institutions like U.Va. The group originally formed as an advisory board to the Office of Undergraduate Admission in 2007. Since then, they spun into a student-led organization in 2008. Their name is 'Hoos for Open Access.

Through their time as an independent organization, 'Hoos for Open Access has been an advocate for affordability in higher education. They have met with key members of U.Va.'s administration to offer their support and insights, as well as to learn about how they can help. To reach out to prospective students, they have helped the Office of Admission coordinate visits from College Access groups and have served as panelists, callers, overnight hosts and chat participants.

They also began a blog, where members post thoughts about their experiences at U.Va. and answer readers' questions. To make use of this resource, see [hoosforopenaccess.blogspot.com](http://hoosforopenaccess.blogspot.com). In addition, this group of students seeks to



**Groups like 'Hoos for Open Access make it a joy to work in higher education.**

foster a welcoming environment for Cavaliers of all and any socioeconomic background. They have organized events that welcome first-year and transfer students, celebrate U.Va. graduates, and inform current students about salient topics in financial literacy, such as working as a full-time student, understanding credit reports, and living frugally on a college budget.

Access U.Va. is also the philosophy of U.Va.'s Financial Aid Office. Admitted students who demonstrate financial need and are

either U.S. citizens or permanent residents get 100% of their need covered. Students with high need are given mainly grant assistance up to the Costs of Attendance. Students with lower need are protected from excessive debt by a loan cap. When families accumulate need-based loans up to the loan cap, their loans are replaced by grants for the rest of their time as undergraduates at U.Va.

Groups like 'Hoos for Open Access make it a joy to work in higher education. They reach back to their communities to encourage and inform younger students, they make allies internally with the rest of the student body as well as administrators and faculty, and they are available to high school counselors, teachers and college access groups. They also provide others with stories about their own experiences, especially with examples of academic success in an environment that welcomes diversity in all of its forms. Through their efforts, they hope that Access U.Va. remains a strong priority for the institution in the future, and that U.Va. presents an enriching environment for all of its students.

## PCACAC Bylaws Review and Update

*Jenifer L. Blair, Chair, Credentials Committee; The Boys' Latin School of Maryland (MD)*

It is that time of year again! The PCACAC Executive Board has reviewed and approved the Bylaw changes summarized below and detailed on the following pages. Members will be asked to vote on these changes at the Membership Meeting at our conference in April, 2010. Changes to be voted upon include:

**Membership:** minor revisions to the language in the bylaws and one edit (Article III, 6.c.2.) to reflect a change approved by the NACAC Assembly in September 2009.

**Executive Board:** Add the Executive Assistant to the membership of the board, and add a new article with a brief description of the role of this position in the association.

**Elections:** Modify language to reflect the use of electronic balloting, when available, and confirm that only PCACAC members who are also NACAC members may vote on delegates to the Assembly.

All articles will be renumbered as needed.

On the Bylaws chart, the left column is current language, the right column is the proposed language. New language is **BOLDED** and deleted language has been marked through. Changes are also noted in **RED**.

Please review the changes on the following pages prior to our conference; if you have any questions in advance, I can be reached at (410) 377-5192 x1112 or [jblair@boyslatinmd.com](mailto:jblair@boyslatinmd.com). For your reference, a current copy of the PCACAC Bylaws is on the PCACAC Web site: [www.pcacac.org](http://www.pcacac.org)

**Current Bylaws:**

**Article III**

Membership

5. Voting membership in PCACAC shall be limited to those in our region, which includes the states of Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia and the District of Columbia, and shall include:

a. Educational Institutions

2) Primary and secondary schools listed in resources approved by the Executive Committee.

6. Associate non-voting members shall include the following:

c. Individuals

2) Persons who are employed, or have been employed within the past year, by institutions or organizations that have not joined PCACAC but are eligible for voting membership.

8. Special Recognition Members shall include the following:

a. Emeritus Members

1) Persons who have retired from full-time professional responsibilities and have been highly visible for an extended period of time within PCACAC and have rendered significant contributions/ leadership in support of the Association's programs and activities.

**Article VIII**

**Duties of the Officers**

2. The President shall:

f. Make an annual report of PCACAC to Executive Board of NACAC.

**Revised Bylaws Proposed:**

**Article III**

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**Article VIII**

**Duties of the Officers**

2. The President shall:

**f. Make an annual report to NACAC.**



## Article IX

### **Executive Board**

1. There will be an Executive Board of PCACAC consisting of the following:

## Article XIV

### **Elections**

2. The elections shall be conducted as follows:

d. The chairperson of the Nominating Committee will distribute the ballot to each member who is in good standing two weeks prior to the opening date of the spring meeting.

e. The procedure for returning and validating the ballots will be determined by the chairman of the Nominating Committee.

f. A candidate receiving a majority of the ballots cast for the office for which he/she is a candidate shall be elected. The president will announce the election results and immediately notify the Executive Director of NACAC.

## Article IX

### **Executive Board**

1. There will be an Executive Board of PCACAC consisting of the following:

**i. executive assistant (ex-officio, non-voting)**

## Article X (NEW)

### **Executive Assistant**

The executive assistant shall be engaged part-time by the Executive Board to conduct the business of PCACAC in accordance with policies and procedures established by the Executive Board. The executive assistant's employment or dismissal and all matters related thereto shall require a majority vote of the Finance Committee. The executive assistant shall serve as an ex-officio, non-voting member of the Executive Board, and will report directly to the President of PCACAC.

## Article XV

### **Elections**

2. The elections shall be conducted as follows:

d. The chairperson of the Nominating Committee will **insure ballots are made available** ~~distribute the ballot~~ to each member who is in good standing at least two weeks prior to the opening date of the spring meeting.

**e. Only PCACAC members who are also current NACAC members will be allowed to vote for Delegates to the Assembly.**

f. The procedure for **submitting** ~~returning~~ and validating the ballots will be determined by the chairman of the Nominating Committee.

g. A candidate receiving a majority of the ballots cast for the office for which he/she is a candidate shall be elected. The President will announce the election results and immediately notify the **Chief Executive Officer** ~~Executive Director~~ of NACAC.