

NCURA Region IV

M I D - A M E R I C A R E G I O N N E W S L E T T E R

Volume 14, Issue 2

Winter 2003

Sara Byrne Receives Region IV's Kevin Reed Outstanding Professional Award

The 2002 Kevin Reed Outstanding Professional Awardee is Sara Byrne. Sara received her award during a special presentation at the Region IV NCURA Meeting in Madison this past April. This award was established by Region IV in 1995, in honor of Kevin Reed, former senior administrator in the Sponsored Programs Office at the University of Kansas. The award recognizes those NCURA members who have less than five years experience as a research administrator and who have made outstanding contributions to the region by serving on national or regional committees and by actively participating in regional and national meetings as a presenter, panelist or moderator.

Sara is currently the Administrative Director for the Department of Preventive Medicine at Rush-Presbyterian-St. Luke's Medical Center in Chicago. She began her career as a research administrator at Northwestern University, where she served as a Department Assistant in the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs.



Kevin Reed Outstanding New Professional 2002 Awardee, Sara Byrne

Jerry Pogatshnik, Southern Illinois University Edwardsville

Sara became a Grant Specialist at Rush-Presbyterian St. Luke's Medical Center in 1998. In the Center's Section for Epidemiology, she worked with faculty to identify funding opportunities and prepare budgets and proposals for external grants. Sara has been extremely active in guiding new researchers through the grant process and helping them develop successful proposals. As a result of her outstanding service, she was promoted to Administrative Director in January 2002.

Aside from her outstanding performance as a research administrator, Sara has gone above and beyond the call of duty in support of NCURA. At the Region IV Meeting in Madison last April, Sara teamed up with Lori-Anne Williams of the University of Minnesota. Their presentation entitled "Educating Junior Faculty on Funding Opportunities" was based, in part, on her successful experiences at Rush-Presbyterian. She also gave a successful presentation and led a Roundtable Discussion at the Region IV meeting in Minneapolis.

Continued on page 3

Your Nominations Needed for Regional Awards

The Awards Committee invites your participation in recognizing members and programs within our region deserving of special recognition in one of the following three award categories:

- ~Distinguished Service Award
- ~The Kevin Reed Outstanding Professional Award
- ~Meritorious Contribution

We recognize that this task is not an easy one; our region has many qualified candidates. Please identify those you believe to be the most deserving. Note that in the past, members eligible for the Kevin Reed Award

were listed by name. The region has grown so much that we have not included a list for this year. If you believe that a person is eligible, please nominate and the committee will check with the national office for verification.

The full announcement and program guidelines are available on the Region IV Web site at <http://www.ncura.uc.edu>. Click on "Nominations." If you have questions, please feel free to contact the members of the Awards Committee.

The deadline for nominations is March 31, 2003.

Inside: Committee reports & a sneak preview of the Spring 2003 Region IV Meeting in Cincinnati.

A Call for Region IV Board and National Board of Director Nominations

NCURA Region IV is holding an election for membership on its Board of Directors and the Board of the national NCURA organization. Nominations are being accepted for the following positions:

Chair-elect

Description & Responsibilities: Chair the Program Committee for the spring regional meeting. Succeed to the office of Chair when the Chair's term expires. Serve a one-year term beginning immediately after the spring regional meeting and continuing through the conclusion of the next spring regional meeting. Assume the office of Chair, completing the remaining term if the Chair is unable to complete the term for any reason. After completing the term of a vacated Chair, the Chair-elect will serve a full term as Chair. The Past Chair will serve as chair of the Nominations Committee.

Treasurer

Description & Responsibilities: Maintain the financial records and accounts of Region IV. Report at least annually to the membership and the national NCURA office. Serve a two-year term beginning 90 days following adjournment of the spring regional meeting and ending 90 days after the conclusion of the second year's spring regional meeting. Serve as a member of the Region IV Site Selection Committee.

**Leadership and learning
are indispensable to each
other.**

~John F. Kennedy

Elected Members

Description & Responsibilities: Serve a two-year term. Participate in all Board meetings. Be eligible for nomination and election to successive terms without restriction.

The Region IV elected member to the national NCURA Board of Directors

Description & Responsibilities: Serve as a voting ex officio member of the Region IV Board of Directors, for a term coinciding with membership on the national NCURA Board of Directors. Represent the national membership of NCURA in his/her role on the national NCURA Board of Directors fulfilling responsibilities designated in the national bylaws. Report on the national NCURA Board of Directors meetings to the Region IV Board of Directors, preparing reports in consultation with other Region IV members who serve on the national Board.

Self-nominations are encouraged! If you have any questions regarding the nomination process or the offices in general, please contact any member of the Nominating Committee. For complete directions for submitting a nomination, and Nominating Committee contact information, please go to <http://www.ncura.uc.edu/>.

Nominations will be accepted through March 14, 2003.

Region IV Board of Directors

**Deborah Galloway, Chair
University of Cincinnati**

**Joanne Altieri, Chair Elect
University of Kansas**

**Byron Helms, Treasurer
University of Illinois at Chicago**

**William Sharp, Secretary
University of Kansas**

**Jim Maus, Past-Chair
Washington University**

**F. Edward Herran,
NCURA Board of Directors, Region IV
Indiana University Medical Center**

**Mary Laura Farnham
University of Nebraska at Omaha**

**Dola Haessig
University of Missouri-Columbia**

**Pamela Krauser
University of Notre Dame**

**David Lynch
Mayo Clinic**

**Have you filled out your Membership Profile on
the NCURA Web site?**

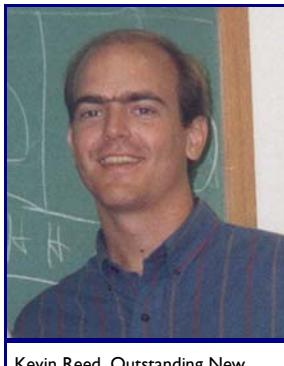
It is fast and easy! Go to: <http://www.ncura.edu/members/>. Enter your member ID and password (your member number is on the back of any NCURA publications mailed to you—OR just use the quick email service to get it) and spend 5-7 minutes updating your profile. Start taking advantage of opportunities you have as an NCURA member!

Sara Byrne Receives Region IV's Kevin Reed Award

Continued from page 1

Margo Quinn, a past recipient of the Outstanding Professional Award, noted, "I was immediately struck by Sara's energy, willingness to help, resourcefulness, and desire to learn about research administration as a career." Dr. Lynda Powell observed that "Sara has significantly enhanced the research atmosphere at the [Rush] Medical Center by helping young investigators to gain confidence in obtaining research funding... In my ten years in Preventive Medicine at Rush, I have not seen anyone else do so much good for so many faculty who are in such need."

Sara's performance exemplifies the highest standards of the Kevin Reed Outstanding Professional Award. On behalf of Region IV, we offer our congratulations and our thanks to Sara, and we look forward to her continued contributions to NCURA.



Kevin Reed, Outstanding New Professional Awardee, 1994

Award honors Kevin Reed

Kevin Reed was an active participant in NCURA, making major contributions to the 1991 and 1992 regional meetings. He served as chair of the Membership Committee, where he was responsible for numerous newcomer events, and as Secretary. In 1994 he received the Outstanding New Professional Award. One nomination letter described Kevin "as one who is committed, sincere, possesses a high code of ethics, exhibits a cooperative spirit, and is a genuine and warm human being." Kevin was a senior research administrator in the University of Kansas Office of Sponsored Programs at the time of his death in October 1995. To honor his memory and service to the region, the Outstanding New Professional Award was renamed the Kevin Reed Outstanding Professional Award in 1995.

For one of the few poems dedicated to research administration ever to hit even virtual print, see Kevin's poem, "Twas the Day Before Deadline" on page 4.

E-Gov, E-Grants, E-Gads! Spring Meeting Offers E-xciting Professional Development Opportunities

Region IV will convene in Cincinnati, Ohio for the annual Spring Meeting. National workshops begin Saturday, April 26, and the meeting adjourns on Tuesday, April 29.

With the regional workshops on Sunday and the concurrent sessions on Sunday, Monday and Tuesday, participants have the opportunity to design a schedule that fits their professional development needs. Customized program tracks serve to update participants in all facets of university research administration and include Compliance, Pre-Award, Post-Award, Professional Development, and, of course, Electronic Research Administration (eRA).

Additionally, Region IV will provide all registrants with copies of all session handouts formatted on an easy-to-carry-home CD-ROM. For those times when you are forced to choose between multiple equally-important sessions you'll still get the benefit of the handouts from those you can't attend. Look for more information about the meeting and host city in the spring issue of the Region IV Newsletter.

The meeting program, conference hotel, and other information is available at: <http://www.ncura.uc.edu/>.

Interested in assisting the Membership Committee?
With the spring meeting in "Cincy" fast approaching, we will need help from current NCURA members in promoting attendance from your institutions. If you are willing to be a Midwest encourager, advertiser, and promoter to those not currently involved in NCURA, please drop Heather Offhaus an email and she will keep you in the loop with announcements and information as we get closer to the spring meeting.
hmills@umich.edu



Cincinnati will host the Region IV Spring Meeting, April 26-29.

Are you known for your Outstanding Entertainment Qualities (OEQ)?

Volunteer to be a host(ess) in the Hospitality Suite during the spring meeting. We are always looking for folks to hang out, greet people, and spend some time in the Hospitality Suite. If you are interested in taking a shift just to say "Welcome," please email Heather Offhaus (hmills@umich.edu) and we'll get you scheduled!

'Twas the Day Before Deadline

By Kevin Reed, University of Kansas, 1993

'Twas the day before deadline, and all through the place
all the creatures were stirring, keeping up with the pace.

The proposals were stacked 'round the office with care,
in hopes that anyone would notice they were there.

The Assistants were all in their offices, worrying and
wailing.

The Director? God knows, where she was a-trailing.

A still and a hush fell over the gloom,
and we all raised a cry, for we knew we were doomed.

When out in the hall there rose such a clatter,
I sprang from my Kansas Wildlife and Parks contract,
with 0% IDC, an indemnification clause from
hell, and no publication rights,
to see what was the matter.

The waxy surface on the hallway floor
gave a speedy delivery of PIs through the door.

"Our proposals, our proposals, they're all due tomorrow.
Just sign them and send them," they all cried with great
sorrow.

The staff went to work, checking and reviewing,
looking things over, while the PIs were a-stewing.

The applications were checked and reviewed --
they looked fine.

The proposals were bundled and cover sheets
were signed.

"It's too late, it's too late," the PIs cried and sobbed.
"They'll never get there on time. We want to see Bob!"

Then what to our wondering eyes did appear,
but a very thin man, with a van and five (5) gears.

He went right to work, marking, tearing carbons,
sealing boxes with licks.

I knew right away that he must be Fed Ex.

He spoke not a word and ignored all the gloom.
He bundled his boxes, then leapt from the room.

But I heard him exclaim as he rushed down the hall,
"You cut it too close! One more time and that's all!"

Buddy Program Pilot Kick-Off

As any research administrator knows, you have to have sound pilot data before you can launch a full-blown project. So, in the interest of learning good research practices from our faculty, the Membership Committee will try out a pilot "Buddy Program" at the spring meeting. (We're also looking for a better name if you have suggestions!)

Region IV has always been known for *Welcoming* new members. This pilot program is intended to take that propensity one step further by providing a way for interested folks who are new to NCURA to be paired with "veteran" members to ask tips and hints on what to do at a meeting (where to go, what to wear), information on what an NCURA membership offers, or more lofty counsel like how to rise in the field of research administration. We'll be using the NCURA member profile as much as possible to pair people according to their areas of responsibility and expertise. The point of the program is to use existing members as resources for new folks who may want to know what they are getting into!

For the "Buddy Program" to work, we need those of you who are interested in participating as "veterans" to volunteer. Once you let us know you would be willing to participate, we'll match you with someone new and ask that you send an email or make a phone call to say "Welcome" and start the conversation ball rolling. You'll only be matched with someone who wants to be contacted, so chances of a "blow off" will hopefully be slim! Where it goes from there is up to you and your Buddy. The time commitment should be relatively low, but the benefit to the individuals involved as well as to Region IV should be very high!

So if you are interested in participating (or have a better program name to suggest!), please email Heather Offhaus (hmills@umich.edu) and let's see how this pilot works!

Communications Committee

Core Committee

Dola Haessig, Chair
Univ. of Missouri-Columbia

Deborah Vetter, Immediate Past
Chair *Univ. of Nebraska Medical Center*

Bill Sharp, Co-Chair
University of Kansas

Doug Hott, Webmaster
University of Cincinnati

Erica Reynolds, Editor
Univ. of Missouri-Kansas City

Working Group

Alice Bremer
Des Moines University

Tonya Cobb
University of Wisconsin-Madison

Nancy Kay Peterson
Winona State University

Jerry Pogatshnik
Southern Illinois Univ. Edwardsville

Petra Schroeder
University of Wisconsin-Madison