

NCURA Region IV

MID-AMERICA REGION NEWSLETTER

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Winter 2005

Dive In to Region IV's Spring Meeting!

It's time to *Dive In!* "Swim" with your Region IV friends and colleagues at the spring meeting to be held May 1-4 in the Chicago City Centre Holiday Inn. This year's meeting is a joint meeting with the Society of Research Administrators Midwest Section. The joint meeting will allow for some extra sessions, especially in the areas of clinical trials and contract negotiation, as well as other topics of interest to the Region IV crowd.

Registration fees are the same as last year: \$250 for early registration, \$275 for late registration, and \$300 for onsite registration. You can register online at <http://www.srainternational.org/newweb/meetings/sectionmeetings/index.cfm>. This meeting is an affordable complement to the national meeting and provides many of the same educational and networking opportunities.

The City Centre Holiday Inn room rate for our block is \$130 per night plus applicable taxes. At the time of this writing, rooms were still available for Monday through Thursday nights. An added block of rooms is available Saturday through Thursday at the Fairfield Inn & Suites for \$189 per night plus applicable taxes. The

room rate is available on a first-come, first-served basis. To ensure the room rate, attendees must indicate that they are with the SRA/NCURA Research Administration Meeting and reservations must be made by March 29, 2005. See the Region IV website for availability and additional information.



Meeting registration does not include workshops, which are \$60 per half-day session or \$115 for a full-day session. The workshops encompass the following topics: OMB Circulars, Clinical Trials, Leadership in the Future, and more.

The Robert H. Lurie Comprehensive Cancer Center of Northwestern University will host a reception Sunday evening in its research facility down the street. New member orientation will be offered afterwards back at the hosting hotel.

After breakfast on Monday, the meeting officially kicks off with a keynote speaker, Dr. Jeanette Tho-

mas, Ph.D., a marine biologist who will talk about how she (literally) dives into her research with marine mammals. "Human-generated noise in the ocean is of growing concern, and governments throughout the world are establishing guidelines for limiting noise exposure to whales, dolphins, seals, manatees, sea otters, diving birds, marine turtles, and fish," Thomas said. Since 1980, Thomas has received research grants from the Office of Naval Research, the National Science Foundation, the North Atlantic

Treaty Organization (NATO), National Marine Fisheries Service, the Department of the Interior Minerals Management Service, the Shedd Aquarium, and the Hubbs-Sea World Research.

Representatives from the national NCURA and SRA offices will speak at Monday's luncheon. Tying in with our theme, there will be a Tuesday night offsite event at the Shedd Aquarium. The meeting will adjourn at noon on Wednesday.

Concurrent sessions will be held all day on Monday and Tuesday, and until noon on Wednesday. These

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Dive In! (cont'd)

sessions will provide fantastic learning opportunities for research administrators at all levels of experience and will include sessions on compliance, eRA, departmental administration, intellectual property, sponsor updates, and more. In addition, our colleagues will be sharing their experiences with each other and providing excellent networking opportunities. The discussion groups will be held during Tuesday's lunch and are another opportunity to learn! The preliminary program can be accessed at http://146.163.5.85/ncura4/meetings/mtg_info/index.html. Vendors will be set up in multiple exhibit areas. Be sure to "paddle up" to their displays.

If you would like to volunteer to help at the meeting, please contact either Frances DeVos (devos@neuro.hfh.edu) or Heather Offhaus (hmills@umich.edu).

The City Centre Holiday Inn is just a few blocks from the Navy Pier and within easy walking distance of Michigan Avenue. The Navy Pier's outdoor features include a 150-foot ferris wheel that is open year round, a musical carousel, an 18-hole Chicago-themed miniature golf course, a cliff-climbing structure, and boat tours (from speed boats to dinner cruises). The Navy Pier offers a variety of shopping and dining experiences, plus the Smith Museum of Stained Glass Windows (free) and the Chicago Contemporary and Classic Art Fair (April 29 – May 2, 2005). The famous "Magnificent Mile" is eight blocks of Michigan Avenue that include four shopping centers, boutiques, and a wide variety of restaurants. Some of the stores include Bloomingdale's, Lord & Taylor, Neiman Marcus, Nordstrom, and Saks Fifth Avenue. During April and May, the Magnificent

Nominations Due Soon for Regional Awards

An exciting event during the upcoming Region IV Spring Meeting will be the presentation of awards honoring outstanding administrators from the region.

The Distinguished Service Award is given each year to individuals who have made continuing and long-term contributions (more than 5 years) to research administration, including service as an NCURA officer at the regional or national level, published articles in the field, and/or presentations at workshops or other institutions.

The Kevin Reed Outstanding Professional Award recognizes the contributions of newer members in

the region (less than 5 years) who have demonstrated commitment and enthusiasm for Region IV, including participation in annual or regional meetings, committee service, or service as an NCURA officer at the regional or national level.

The Meritorious Contribution Award goes to an individual or group of individuals who have developed and implemented an innovative program to enhance the research environment on their campus.

Please consider nominating your colleagues for these awards. Self-nominations are encouraged in the categories of Outstanding Professional and Meritorious Contributions.

Each awardee will receive a commemorative plaque and be publicly recognized at the May 2005 Awards Luncheon to be held during the Region IV Spring Meeting in Chicago.

Nominations are due by March 25, 2005. For more information and a nomination form, please visit the Region IV website at <http://graduate.siu.edu/ncura4/nominations.html> or contact Beth Seaton, Region IV Awards Committee Chair, at b-seaton@wiu.edu or (309) 298-1191.



Mile celebrates spring with Tulip Days. Tulips will decorate planters and medians from Oak Street to the Chicago River.

As you can "sea," there's a lot that can be done in addition to attending the great sessions and workshops and all of the networking opportunities. Stay tuned to the Region IV website for any updates on conference and hotel registration as well as information on ground transportation.

Diane Meyer
Iowa State University

Erin Nash
Ohio University



Images from the NCURA National Annual Meeting



Above: Monday evening dinner group at Buca di Beppo



Above: Late night at the NCURA Coffeeshouse



Left: Region IV Chair Pam Vargas, Air Force Institute of Technology, ponies up to Region IV's "Go Fish" booth at "Main Street USA."



Above: Region IV's Mark Sweet, University of Wisconsin-Madison, co-directing discussion on pre-award and proposal data systems



Below: Region IV Business Meeting

Nominations for Region IV Board Due by March 21

Region IV is looking for leaders! You can serve your colleagues as a member of the Region IV Board of Directors or as the Region IV member on the national NCURA board. Take a look at the following positions to see the best match for your talents. Position descriptions and a list of Nominating Committee members are detailed below.

- Chair-elect
- Treasurer
- Elected Members (2)
- Region IV elected member to the national NCURA Board of Directors

Nominations Deadline: March 21, 2005. We encourage self-nominations and appreciate your willingness to respond promptly.

Nominations Process

Step 1: Write a nomination letter addressed to the Nominations Committee Chair.

Step 2: Provide a current résumé or curriculum vitae formatted as follows (Header and Body limited to three pages):

Header

- Name and Title
- Institution Affiliation and Full Address
- Telephone Number and Fax
- Email Address

Body

- NCURA Activities
- Other Professional Accomplishments
- Professional Positions Held
- Education (optional)

Personal Statement

- Limited to one additional page single-spaced

- An opportunity to highlight your strengths and reasons for seeking a board position

Step 3: Fax or E-Mail (preferred) your nomination packet to Joanne Altieri, Chair, Nominations Committee.

Fax: (785) 864-5049

E-Mail: jaltieri@ku.edu



Position Descriptions and Responsibilities

Chair-Elect

- Chairs the Program Committee for the spring regional meeting.
- Succeeds to the office of chair when the chair's term expires.
- Serves a 1-year term beginning immediately after the spring regional meeting and continuing through the conclusion of the next spring regional meeting.
- Assumes 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.

Treasurer

- Maintains the financial records and accounts of Region IV, reporting at least annually to the membership and the national NCURA office.
- Serves a 2-year term beginning 90 days after adjournment of the spring regional meeting and ending 90 days after the conclusion of the second year's spring regional meeting.

- Serves as a member of the Region IV Site Selection Committee.

Elected Members

- Serve a 2-year term.
- Participate in all board meetings.
- Are eligible for nomination and election to successive terms without restriction.

Region IV Elected Member to the National Board of Directors

- Represents the national membership of NCURA in his/her role on the national NCURA Board of Directors, fulfilling responsibilities designated in the national bylaws.
- Serves a 2-year term beginning in the calendar year following the election.
- Attends all national NCURA Board of Directors meetings, which occur not less than twice annually. Reviews all minutes, reports, special studies, petitions, and other documents brought before or provided to the national board. Participates in special non-routine board working groups, as needed. Serves as liaison with board-appointed task forces as assigned. Designs, deliberates, and approves new policies and changes to existing policies, as appropriate for the mission of NCURA.
- For a detailed description of duties and requirements, see <http://www.ncura.edu/members/positions/default.asp?ID=22>

Region IV thrives on its strong leadership! We hope you will consider nominating a worthy colleague or yourself for one of these positions.

Joanne Altieri
University of Kansas

Region IV's Communications Committee

Come on In! The Water's Fine!

To be perfect is to have changed often.

John Henry Newman

The times they are a-changing.

Bob Dylan

The times they are a-chonging.

Steve Martin



As I prepare to step down as chair of the Region IV Communications Committee, I thought it would be a good opportunity to bring members up to date on the ch-ch-ch-changes the committee has undergone over the years, where things stand today, and where things might be heading tomorrow—with the help of some of you.

Perusing the Region IV archives (currently residing in a large box in the closet behind my desk), it is hard not to notice how much technology has changed in the regional communications over the years. There are regional secretaries' reports from the 1970s clearly typed on IBM Selectrics, and mimeograph machines were still being used. Everything is in black and white (or occasionally black on some really loud colored paper). The 1980s and early 1990s saw some very professional-looking issues of the regional newsletter, *Region IV News*, which, in addition to providing some professional development articles, served as the primary means of getting the word out about upcoming meetings, calls for nominations, and other essential regional news. By the 1990s, desktop publishing with a personal computer was a breeze. Alas, the fall 2000 newsletter, the first I worked on as editor, was the last hard-copy issue sent out to the membership (I remember that issue

well because the computer connected to the printer at the NCURA national office that was used to print the final copy evidently did not have the same fonts as the computer that the newsletter was composed on, and the result was that no apostrophes printed out in the entire newsletter. They were simply missing! We received several generous offers from Region IV members who took pity on us and offered to serve as proofreaders.) Although some may miss the hard-copy newsletter arriving in their mailboxes, *Region IV News* going electronic has saved the membership a good deal of money in printing and postage costs. Of course now it costs nothing extra to add a little color to an issue.

The addition of a regional website to Region IV's communications repertoire has contributed enormously to the ability of the regional board and committees to get the word out about regional matters quickly, inexpensively, and, at times, even with panache. Launched initially under the direction of Bradley Fitch at the University of Detroit Mercy, carried on by Doug Hott at the University of Cincinnati, and currently in the capable hands of Jerry Pogatschnik at Southern Illinois University—Edwardsville, the website is now your best bet for finding current information about all that is Region IV.

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New RMR Editor Solicits Articles

Have you looked at *Research Management Review (RMR)* lately? (You can find it online at <http://www.ncura.edu/rmr/>.) As you doubtless already know, *RMR* is NCURA's scholarly journal in electronic form. Outgoing *RMR* Editor, Region IV's own James Casey, Executive Director of Sponsored Programs at Cardinal Stritch University, and the *RMR* Editorial Review Board have done a great job over the past 3 years of putting together a series of issues with topics ranging from university patent portfolios, to assessing the needs of a changing faculty, to best and worst practices in research administration, to industry perspectives on intellectual property from sponsored research. Articles in *RMR* are in depth, well researched, and well documented.

As I begin my own tenure as editor of *RMR*, I would like to invite you to consider submitting an article or article idea of your own. Perhaps you know of someone who is well versed in a particular topic who could contribute to our understanding of some aspect of this complex field of research administration. Please share your thoughts with him or with her (and with me!). Ours is a field where we learn the most about our profession from one another. *RMR* serves as one of the ripest arenas for that education to take place. Author instructions can be found on the *RMR* website. Articles (or ideas for articles) can be submitted to me at wsharp@ku.edu. I look forward to hearing from you!

Bill Sharp
University of Kansas

Communications Committee (cont'd.)

A few years ago, in order to ensure that *Region IV News* was produced and sent out to the membership in a timely fashion, former Communications Committee Chairs Deborah Vetter and Dola Haessig devised a straightforward but effective order of succession with regard to committee member duties: As a chair steps down, she or he continues to participate in the committee as past chair. The former co-chair of the committee then becomes chair, the newsletter editor becomes co-chair, and a new newsletter editor is then named. This arrangement allows for a good bit of continuity and helps ensure that the new chair is not too overwhelmed when taking on the position.

Which brings me to the here and now: Since I am stepping down to

assume the new (and more stately) role of past chair, Erin Nash, the committee's current co-chair, is poised to take over as chair. Karen Spear, the current newsletter editor, will become co-chair. The new newsletter editor will be <insert your name here>. Well, could be! Please think about it! This is a golden opportunity to put your layout and/or editing skills to good use. It is also a good first step toward learning the ropes of the committee with an eye toward assuming a leadership role down the road.

If you are not ready to make such a commitment yet, please consider joining the committee as a "working group" member. Working group members write short pieces for the newsletter or collaborate with non-committee members to produce

timely pieces. The workload is not bad—honestly! And it's a modest way to lend a hand as well as to get to know some of your fellow Region IV members from other institutions.

One of the strengths of our region is its newsletter. If either of the above volunteer opportunities appeals to you, contact Erin Nash, Communications Committee Chair (as of this point in this article), at (740) 593-9750 or nashe@ohio.edu. Please consider this particular issue of the newsletter to be, in effect, "without apostrophes" and do consider lending us a hand!

Thanks to all of the members of the committee, listed below, for all of their contributions during the past year!

*Bill Sharp
University of Kansas*



Chicago City Centre Holiday Inn--Site of the Region IV NCURA/Midwest SRA Spring Meeting

Communications Committee

Core Committee:

Chair: Bill Sharp, U of Kansas
Co-chair: Erin Nash, Ohio University
Past chair: Dola Haessig, University of Missouri - Columbia
Newsletter editor: Karen Spear, Methodist Research Institute at Clarian Health Partners
Webmaster: Jerry Pogatshnik, Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville

Working Group:

Alice Breemer, Des Moines U
Tayna Cobb, U of Wisconsin-Madison
Jennie Lovett, Washington U
Diane Meyer, Iowa State U
Nancy Kay Peterson, Winona State U
Petra Schroeder, U of Wisconsin-Madison