

Pre-Conference Edition

March 2017



MACAC

Michigan Association for College Admission Counseling

Muse



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MACAC March Madness Week

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
26	27	28	29	30	31
Metro Detroit NACAC fair	Metro Detroit NACAC fair	Advocacy Day	MACAC Conference	MACAC Conference	
2:00—4:00 PM	8:30— 11:30 AM	8:30-1 AM	10:00 AM		
		West MI NACAC fair	registration opens		
		8:30-11:30 AM	4:30 Book Signing		
		6:00— 8:00 PM	6:45 Pub Crawl		



There are several proposed changes to the membership categories in MACAC’s Constitution, done to be in compliance with NACAC. You received an email with details about these changes. Please review them carefully so you are informed when you vote one week prior to the conference.

MARCH MADNESS

Hi MACAC:

The warm weather of President's Week has me day dreaming of spring...and MACAC March Madness of course! I am looking forward to catching up with many of you at both our Annual Conference and the National College Fairs. If you are looking for an opportunity to micro volunteer, NACAC's two Michigan college fairs would love to put you to work for an hour or two. It is a great networking opportunity! Just let Past-President Gretchen Parks (or me)

know. March Madness registration is in full swing on our website where you can find information the great content LaShaunta Hairston, President-Elect and Chrissy Shaw, Conference Committee Co-Chair, have created for us. I am especially excited about the keynote speakers!

MACAC continues to add fresh professional development options thanks to the tireless work of Nichole Veirs and Nick DeKoster. Dr. Patrick O'Connor recently hosted MACAC's half day of professional development for Macomb County counselors who were thrilled with the experience.

One counselor's email summary of the day:

"On behalf of all the Macomb County counselors I wanted to send a big THANK YOU to all of you and the rest of the presenters that put on such a wonderful mini conference yesterday! I cannot think of any other professional organization (other than MCAN!) that has ever offered free professional development for counselors. Plus you fed us as well. I am sure that everyone enjoyed time out of their buildings to learn, energize, and talk with fellow colleagues. I know that organizing an event takes time and energy and it also cost MACAC money to pay for the Panera coffee and all the other snacks. All of this is truly appreciated. This workshop also fell during National School Counselor week and it felt like a gift to me during a week that often goes unnoticed by many schools and administrators. Please share my email with all involved as I wanted everyone to know how much this was appreciated."

There are many MACAC professional development opportunities coming up in the next six months including the Urban Counselor Workshop at the University of Michigan Dearborn in April. Please check out our calendar on the website under "Events." The next opportunity is MACAC's Advocacy Day in Lansing the day before March Madness starts. (How easy to add to our schedules!) We will visit the Capitol to learn and advocate for issues both impacting post secondary access to education and school counselor education. Please see the website to register for MACAC's Advocacy Day.

The first week of March, I am off to Washington DC for NACAC's Leadership Development Institute. LaShaunta Hairston, President-Elect, will arrive a day early as she is a member of NACAC's Imagine Grant Committee. Sunday, we will do NACAC advocacy training with Dr. O'Connor to prepare to meet with our federal government Monday. If you have any suggestions for MACAC's or NACAC's Advocacy Days, please share them with Dr. O'Connor or Sarah Summerhill—Our MACAC Government Relation Chairs.

As I close my last MUSE President's letter, please accept my heartfelt thanks. Thank you to our members for questioning, volunteering, voicing opinions, suggesting new ideas, following through, supporting our goals, being engaged and taking professional risks by running for office. (Please look for ballots in your email box soon!) Thank you to our Executive Board for your tireless support. Thank you to Zay Reynolds for keeping the day to day of MACAC consistent as those she works with rotate each cycle.

I have an enormous sense of gratitude for being given the opportunity to serve as MACAC's president this year. Did we reach all of my goals for us? No. Did we increase membership, professional development programming, access for urban and rural counselors, and scholarship opportunities for counselors to attend our annual conference? Yes. Is there much more to do? Yes. Are we the organization to follow through on these and the goals envisioned by LaShaunta Hairston and you all? YES!

Thank you for a great year. I am so excited for LaShaunta to have the opportunity to work with our membership. She will have an amazing and productive year, thanks to each of you.

Best wishes to each of you:

Eva McGregor Dodds



2017 Spring Metro Detroit National College Fair

Suburban Collection Showplace
46100 Grand River
Novi, MI 48374

Sunday, March 26, 2016: 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Monday, March 27, 2016: 8:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Busing Requests

Please email or call Michelle mmpattis@svsu.edu / 810-772-6868 to let us know:

Your school name
Expected arrival time, and
The number of students you hope to bring

Call for Volunteers

Interested in a 1/2 Day Commitment assisting with *bussing arrivals and departures*? Please contact Brandon Scarber scarber@msu.edu

Interested in providing college *counseling advice* to parents and students? Please contact Gretchen Parks at gparks@ash.org

Meet and Greet Guidance Counselor and College Representative Social

Sunday March 26
4:30-6:30 PM
Hyatt Place

All are welcome! It will be a great chance to mingle and network with counselors and college representatives from across the country and State of Michigan

Details: Jason Whalen jwhalen@ndpma.org



NACAC 
**National
College Fairs**

TAKE A BIG STEP IN YOUR COLLEGE SEARCH

MEET FACE-TO-FACE
WITH COLLEGE REPS AT

NACAC 
**National
College Fairs**

JOIN US AT A FAIR
IN YOUR AREA:

WESTERN MICHIGAN

Tuesday, March 28, 2017
8:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.;
6 p.m. – 8 p.m.
DeVos Place
Conference Center,
Grand Rapids, MI

REGISTER
FREE

at [www.nacacfairs.org/
nacacstudentregistration](http://www.nacacfairs.org/nacacstudentregistration)
to receive fair details, avoid
lines onsite, and share your
contact information with your
choice schools.



FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC, NACAC NATIONAL COLLEGE FAIRS ARE A PROGRAM
OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR COLLEGE ADMISSION COUNSELING.

2017 Annual Conference Updates

Wednesday, March 29 and Thursday, March 30

Radisson Hotel, Lansing Michigan

Going once...going twice... Sold!! The MACAC Auction is accepting donations for the annual conference auction in Lansing this year. Proceeds from the auction benefit the Maggie Miller Scholarship Fund. Contact Kim Bryant with donations. kjbryant@umich.edu

Gift Baskets to look forward to include:

A money basket, Fitness Basket, Italian basket, Wine Basket, and Coffee basket just to name a few. Bring your wallet! You will want to take these items home!



The 2017 MACAC Maggie Miller Scholarship Application is now available. Two applications per school may be submitted. The deadline is April 1, 2017. Application materials can be found at www.macac.org

The Scholarship Selection meeting will be on April 19 at 9:00 AM. Email Kim Bryant if you are interested at kjbryant@umich.edu

Need to Know:

Register for the 2017 Conference at MACAC.org by *March 8* for the Early Bird Rates

Use group code MACAC3 for hotel conference rates

Join us on Wednesday for the First Timers Luncheon, the Pub Crawl Social (\$10) and the Keynote Speaker Book Signing

MEET THE CANDIDATES

Please visit our website to learn more about each candidate.



Holly Bennetts
Director of College Counseling
University of Detroit Jesuit High School
Running for: **President-Elect**



Lauren Fields Associate
Dean of College Counseling
Cranbrook Kingswood Upper School
Running for **Treasurer-Elect**



Cathy Longstreet
Head of Counseling
Hastings High School
Running for: **Secretary Elect**



Jesse Vance, Jr.
Assistant Director of Admissions
University of Detroit Mercy
Running for: **Secretary Elect**



Damon Bouwkamp
Associate Director of Admissions
Aquinas College
Running for: **NACAC Delegate**



Tyrone Collins
Coordinator of Multicultural Recruitment
Counselor
Ferris State University
Running for: **NACAC Delegate**



THERE IS A LOT TO LOVE ABOUT MACAC!



Become a **MACAC Ambassador** and help us spread the word!

Invite your colleagues who are not MACAC members to join today by completing the MACAC Membership application. Your name **MUST** be entered on the application as the referring member in order to be eligible for prize drawings.

During the months of February and March for each new member you recruit, you will gain one entry into a drawing for great prizes (like gift cards and even a free conference registration). A new member is defined as someone who has not been a member of MACAC the past 18 months.

Member renewals are not applicable.

Each time you recruit a member, **you help strengthen MACAC.**

Thanks for your participation.

We look forward to welcoming your colleagues!

Please contact us if you have any questions about the program.

Jen Foldvary and Colleen Moore

MACAC Membership Chairs

Attention High School Counselors:

If you have a graduate student interning at your high school, we will waive their MACAC membership for one year as a student member! We would love for them to start out their career in our fantastic organization. Please direct them to our website and have them go to the member log in page. Under the referral section, have them choose Graduate Student – Waiver.

Be sure to have your graduate interns join soon so that they can get the membership rate for the spring conference registration!

If you have any questions, please contact us

As always, thank for your support of MACAC!

We would like to welcome our newest MACAC Members:

ACT
EnACT Your Future, Inc.
University of Guelph (Canada)

If you would like to save time and renew your membership for multiple years, please contact Zay Reynolds at: admin@macac.org

**For more information on joining MACAC,
please contact:
Jen Foldvary or Colleen Moore**

**jfoldvary@smccmonroe.com
moorec@udmercy.edu**

MACAC Brings PD to Macomb County

National School Counseling Week gave MACAC an opportunity to create some history of its own, as our Professional Development Committee brought a half-day of college admissions updates to Macomb County on Tuesday, February 7. This is the first known professional development event MACAC has held in Macomb County, and the 75 participants arrived early and eager to learn.

The day started off with a keynote address from Detroit News columnist Neal Rubin, who encouraged participants to keep up the quality work of finding the right future for their students—whether or not that included four years of college. The rest of the day was divided into three breakout sessions, where participants chose among topics that addressed Financial Aid for Rural Students, Summer Melt, Data Interpretation, Early College, and more.

Wayne State University graciously held this event in its gorgeous Advanced Technology Education Center in Warren. This is the first



conference held in the facility, but it is likely not going to be the last, since participants left the event, wondering when MACAC would return. Given the success of the event, which was sponsored by College is Yours, the answer is: soon.

The Professional Development committee has many upcoming events for you to plan for. To register for Professional Development events please visit MACAC.org and click on the Professional Development Tab.

MACAC Gatherings:

- Marquette: Thursday, March 16, 5:30 pm at the Ore Dock— Pizza provided!
 - Sault Ste. Marie: Friday, March 31, 9-11:00AM Biggby Coffee—Coffee and Snacks provided!
- Stay tuned for meet and greet events before the NACAC fairs this spring.

Mentee and Mentor: Are you a new or new-ish high school counselor who would like some mentorship from a seasoned veteran? Join the MACAC Mentor/Mentee Program! We have several experienced counselors looking for a mentee. Sign up at the MACAC website under the Professional Development tab.

Current Mentor/Mentee pairs should continue to track your activity points to be considered for a year-end prize at the MACAC Annual Conference! Point totals are due by March 15. Contact Lauren Flanagan at ldflanag@mtu.edu with questions.

Women in Admissions one-day conference: We are excited to announce we will be hosting a Women in Admissions day conference at the Northwood Lansing campus at Lansing Community College on Tuesday, May 2. Join us from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. for this free event. Registration will be on the MACAC website.

School Counselor Summit: It's not too early to start making plans for the summer! Join us for the School Counselor Summit on Wednesday, August 2 on the beautiful campus of Northwestern Michigan College in Traverse City! Meet up with your fellow colleagues to discuss hot topics in college admission counseling and share ideas to make the 2017-2018 academic year the best yet. Stay tuned for registration information and additional details.

Other upcoming MACAC Programs:

Urban Counselor Workshop: Urban Counselor Workshop will take place on April 25 at University of Michigan Dearborn from 8:00-3:00pm. The event is free to attend if you register on the MACAC website. Participants must pay for their own sketch credits. For more information, contact Tyrone Collins at collinst@ferris.edu.

Camp College: Camp College will be held on May 11 at Central Michigan University. LEVEL UP and join us for a great day of student learning! If your school is interested in attending , please contact Adam Davis at adavis@msu.edu.

SAVE THE DATE



URBAN COUNSELORS WORKSHOP CONFERENCE

April 25, 2017 | 8:00am - 3:00pm

University of Michigan-Dearborn, Fairlane Center Campus, North Building

A continental breakfast & lunch will be served, concluding with a raffle.

Why attend this workshop:

The Urban Counselor Workshop

Workshop is designed to provide professional development for high school and middle school counselors in Michigan's metropolitan areas. It will focus on addressing the every changing issues for school counselors and college admissions working in culturally diverse communities.

Workshops will include:

Topics that inform and equip Middle School and High School counselors with the knowledge and tools to create great interactions and positive outcomes with diverse student learners.

Past sessions covered:

Social Media and the Law, Foster Care, DACA/Undocumented Students, Grief Counseling, Middle to High School Transitions, LGBTQA, and many others.



For more information, visit MACAC.ORG.

Anyone requiring accommodations under the provisions of the ADA should contact the Urban Counselor Workshop committee at 313-593-3576.



**Michigan Association
for College Admission Counseling**

PRESENTS...

LEVEL UP

CAMP COLLEGE 2017



Thursday, May 11, 2017

CENTRAL MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

9:00 AM - 2:00 PM

**JOIN US FOR OUR ANNUAL ONE DAY EVENT THAT
HELPS STUDENTS PREPARE FOR THEIR OWN
COLLEGE EXPERIENCE.**

FOR GRADES 9, 10, and 11.

GOT QUESTIONS? CONTACT ETHAN SCHMITT @ 734-763-6688



MACAC Advocacy Day scheduled for March 28

It wouldn't be March without the opportunity for MACAC members to talk to their legislators about the needs and goals of college admissions. That's why Advocacy Day is scheduled for Tuesday, March 28th, from 8:30-1, in the Mackinac Room of the House Anderson Building in Lansing. In addition to getting updates on the latest political trends and legislative issues, participants will hear from state legislators on how to effectively advocate for issues, bills, and budget items that matter to our profession.



MACAC is pleased to welcome MACRAO and MSFAA as partners in presenting this year's Advocacy Day, as we work together to consider the vital link between policy makers and college access. The day will close with a keynote speaker at lunch, which includes the famous Advocacy Day taco bar, and time to meet with individual legislators.

As an added incentive, five MACAC members who participate in Advocacy Day and meet individually with their legislator will get their Annual Conference fee paid for!

There's never a more important time than now to learn how to make sure our government hears us, and respond to us. Register for this free event [here](#), and send your questions about the event [here](#).

MACAC Advances Two Legislative Issues, and Lansing Pays Attention

It's no secret--high school counselors would like two things so they could better serve their students and families. One is more counselors. Michigan has one public school counselor for every 734 students. That ratio is fifth highest in the nation, and it makes doing our work difficult, if not impossible.

The other request is a chance to keep up with trends in college and career counseling. Principals are hesitant to let counselors out for professional development when you're the only counselor in the building, so unless you have to go, you don't get to go.

MACAC has made great strides in the last year to get the attention of policymakers in Lansing regarding these two important issues. Last year, MACAC brought in a speaker from the Colorado Department of Education to talk about how that state created new counseling positions that paid for themselves.

The presentation caught the eye and attention of legislators and the Michigan Department of Education, and is of great interest to many. Funding to bring this program to Michigan isn't in the proposed budget, but look for MACAC to continue to find a way to fund this request whenever and wherever possible.

Efforts to make sure counselors have easier access to professional development in college and career counseling have been the driving force behind several efforts in our Professional Development work, where MACAC has provided free professional development this year to over 200 school counselors. This effort continues with House Bill 4181, a bill designed to make sure school counselors get the college and career training they deserve. MACAC will keep you informed of this bill's progress in the current legislative term.

The changing fields of college and career counseling require school counselors to stay on top of trends, and that can only happen if they have the time and opportunity to do so. More counselors and more professional development opportunities can bring these goals to life. Follow MACAC's pursuit of these goals, and respond to our Calls for Action to help move our work forward.

The Joyce Ivy FOUNDATION

6th Annual

Counselors & Educators
Friday, May 5th

*Female HS Sophomores &
Juniors*
Saturday, May 6th

College Admissions Symposium

Workshops on highly selective admissions and financial aid

Representatives from

Dartmouth, Yale, Amherst, Stanford, Duke, Johns Hopkins, Wellesley & More

Register online

joyceivyfoundation.org

Participation
is FREE

Site: Washtenaw Community College in Ann Arbor

Dear MACAC members,

Last year, MACAC confirmed an ad-hoc international committee. In order to determine the best ways to serve you, the committee would like you to take a brief survey about you and your institution's international needs. (The survey was sent to your email.) Please complete and submit this survey by Friday, March 17. The data collected will be presented at the MACAC Annual Conference - March 29 & 30 in Lansing, Michigan – at the session “Taking Study Abroad a Bit Further.”



Thank you in advance for your participation!

Alana Stuart

MACAC Ad-Hoc International Committee Chair

Your State Legislature Needs to Hear From You

One state legislature wants to do away with school counselors completely.

Another state has made filing a FAFSA a graduation requirement.

Yet another is considering a bill requiring all students to submit a college application before finishing high school.



It's more than fair to say that many are responding to the changes in the national political structure by letting federal officials know just what constituents think, and what they want the government to do. The effect of this action is clear, as many federal policy efforts have been stalled, changed, or even reversed as a result of this participation—a clear reminder that democracy is a participatory system of government that only works when people truly participate.

The same impact can be achieved at the state level, and some would even argue it's easier to have your voice heard there. With fewer constituents to serve, it's easier for the folks back home to set up meetings, provide information, and set up town meetings of your own for elected officials to attend. With frequent contact, it isn't hard for anyone to become known to the staff members of a state official on a first name basis, and become a reliable source of information and opinion.

That's especially true when it comes to education, an area where a vast majority of the decisions are still made at the state level. That's even truer with the recent passage of the new Elementary and Secondary School Act (ESSA), where Congress gave powers long held at the national level back to the states. That's part of the reason some of these counseling-related bills are being taken up by state legislatures; they have a new sense of opportunity, and they plan to make the most of it.

Since they have more opportunity, so do you—but will you make the most of it? High caseloads and full work days sometimes make it challenging for counselors and college admissions officers to stay on top of legislation, but these simple steps can keep you in the loop, and make you the active participant you need to be:

Contact MACAC Government Relations Part of their task of our committee is to stay on top of legislation and policy changes that could affect your professional life. A quick email or monthly phone call is all you need to stay on top of essential issues—and if you persist, don't be surprised if we call you one day with updated news on an issue we'd like you to actively support.

Subscribe to meeting notification systems Many legislatures give members an opportunity to sign up for notifications of committee meetings. These notices are sent directly to your email, and include the bill numbers and topics the committee will discuss. Subscribing to notifications from all committees dealing with education—including budget committees—is another great way to stay informed.

Make a monthly visit to your district offices Nearly all states require their legislators to maintain some kind of office hours in the area they represent. While these are sometimes called coffee hours, they're designed to give you direct access to your elected officials and their staff. Going on a regular basis, even if you're there just to listen, can build a strong relationship with your legislators. Look for notifications of these office hours on their web page, and sign up for their monthly newsletter. These are great ways to stay informed.