

## 2005 IACAC/ISCA 5th Annual Counselor Conference a Success

By Erick Danielson

The Iowa Association for College Admission Counseling (IACAC) and Iowa School Counselors Association (ISCA) sponsored their fifth annual School Counselor Conference on October 10 and 11 at the Memorial Union on the Iowa State University campus. Over 280 counselors, exhibitors, presenters and IACAC professional development committee members attended the first day of the conference.

The opening keynote speech was titled "Why Try? Overcoming Poverty, Violence & Failure" by Christian Moore. School counselors were able to attend four different breakout sessions on the first day. Session topics for high school counselors

included: "Making the Most of a Campus Visit," "What's New at Community Colleges," and "Iowa Learning Online." Other breakout sessions focused on topics for elementary and middle school counselors.

A counselor college fair was held before lunch on the first day. Forty colleges attended and distributed brochures, catalogs, t-shirts, pennants and other promotional items. Thank you to all the colleges that attended the college fair for supporting the conference!

The College Planning Center sponsored a luncheon on the first day and the Iowa State University Office of

Admissions & College of Human Sciences sponsored a reception that evening. Thank you to all the sponsors and exhibitors for your generous support!

Thank you also to the professional development committee of IACAC for lining up speakers, registering participants and directing traffic. Big thanks to Kristin Chapman of Iowa State University for all her work with the on-site preparations.

Mark your calendars for next year's IACAC/ISCA School Counselor Conference which will be held on October 30 and 31 at the Four Points Sheraton Hotel in Des Moines.

## Iowa's Director of the Department of Education to Speak at Visit the Hill Event in February



Judy Jeffrey is the Director for the Department of Education. She had served as administrator in the state's Early Childhood, Elementary and Secondary Education Division since 1996. Her teaching and administrative career began in Goldfield after graduating from the University of Northern Iowa. Previous to the position at the Department of Education she had been in the Council Bluffs Community School District and earned her master's degree from Creighton University.

Upon her appointment, first as interim director, Governor Tom Vilsak said, "In addition to her experience as a classroom teacher and administrator at the local level and program leadership at the state level, she is a recognized leader at the national level. She has a proven track record in recognizing the needs for quality education, and has demonstrated a strong ability to lead the cooperation and collaboration at local, state, and national levels that is so necessary as we strive to meet those needs."

Jeffrey will discuss financial aid and school counselor issues important to students making the transition from high school to college at Visit the Hill on Wednesday, February 8, 2006.

## Visit the Hill Event Scheduled for February

By Anne Stansbury

Visit the Hill will be held on Wednesday, February 8, 2006, at the State Historical Building in Des Moines. The day will include morning informational sessions and a luncheon with available legislators.

Judy Jeffrey, Director of the Department of Education will meet with the event's participants prior to afternoon appointments with State Representatives and Senators to discuss financial aid and school counselor issues important to students making the transition from high school to college.

Students from the Iowa Student Aid Commission's Student Assistant program will help present the financial aid break-out session and give testimonials about their transition and what they've learned working in financial aid offices. The Young Professionals Club in Des Moines will provide testimonials about their college experiences and their decisions to stay in Iowa.

Travel scholarships will be available for school counselors who bring students to the conference. The Iowa Association for College Admission

### Call for Scenes Articles, Photos and Announcements

Scenes, a quarterly publication from Iowa Association for College Admission Counseling, and edited by the publications & marketing committee, is seeking members who are willing to submit articles for publication. Articles for the Spring Edition of Scenes need to be submitted electronically to the publications and marketing committee by March 15, 2006. If you have questions about Scenes or would like to submit an announcement, article or photo, please contact Terri LeBlanc, [tleblanc@cornellcollege.edu](mailto:tleblanc@cornellcollege.edu).

## Tri-State 2006 Programming Survey Results

By Joel Weyand

In October 2005, the tri-state programming committee developed a survey tool to capture the interest levels of the Iowa, Minnesota, and Wisconsin general membership. The survey was administered both online and in paper format. Members of each state's executive board and other members of the programming committee worked to distribute the survey to engage as many members as possible in an effort to achieve a critical mass. In total, 168 surveys were collected. Below are the topics which received the greatest interest from the membership.

1. High School students using the internet to look for the right college
2. Financial Aid intermediate
3. Scholarship Events - Examples and ideas
4. Diversity and multicultural issues in college recruiting
5. College Campus Visits - Examples and ideas
6. Admissions influence on retention - Retention issues and solutions
7. Online opportunities for colleges
8. Affirmative action and college admissions - What do all counselors need to know?
9. Appropriate role for faculty in admissions - Motivating faculty to help
10. Off Campus Receptions - Examples and ideas
11. Recruiting students with Learning Disabilities - For college and high school counselors
12. Planning Campus Events - Examples and ideas

*If you are interested in presenting a session at the Tri-State Conference in Dubuque, Iowa on May 3-5, 2006, visit [www.iowaacac.org](http://www.iowaacac.org) to submit a session proposal.*

Counselors (IACAC) will sponsor up to ten \$75 travel scholarships. Regional travel is encouraged so that if a counselor can come from one school, s/he might also bring one or two students from another school – perhaps one with no counselor. The Iowa Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators (IASFAA) will sponsor up to five \$75 travel scholarships for colleges who bring students.

Registration for the day's events will be available soon.

## •The Bulletin Board•

### Join Us on the Hill

**What:** 2006 Visit the Hill

**When:** Wednesday, February 8, 2006

**Where:** The State Historical Building in Des Moines

This is a free event sponsored by the Iowa Association for College Admission Counseling (IACAC), the Iowa Association for Student Financial Aid Administrators (IASFAA) and the Iowa School Counselors Association (ISCA). By "Visiting the Hill" you can learn about state government issues that concern educators working with students in the transition process; hear from affected students, counseling educators and state legislators about solutions to the decline in qualified guidance counselors; learn about funding issues students face in paying for postsecondary

education and lobby your legislator for the legislation and resources needed to provide a successful transition to higher education for all of Iowa's students.

High school counselors attending the event with students can apply for an IACAC-sponsored \$75 travel scholarship that will reimburse all or part of transportation costs. Applications and additional information about these scholarships can be obtained by e-mailing Anne Stansbury at [astansbury@iowalakes.edu](mailto:astansbury@iowalakes.edu).

College professionals attending the event with students can apply for an IASFAA-sponsored \$75 travel scholarship by contacting Matt Brown at [mrbrown@studentloan.org](mailto:mrbrown@studentloan.org).

#### Scene Building:

Spring Conference 2006  
Wednesday, May 3, 2006 to Friday, May 5, 2006  
Building the Bridge: Tri-State 2006  
Grand Harbor Hotel, Dubuque, Iowa  
Registration materials and up-to-date information can be found on the IACAC Conference website ([www.iowaacac.org](http://www.iowaacac.org)).

#### Call for Presentation Proposals:

Presentation proposals are due Monday, February 1, 2006 and can be submitted online ([www.iowaacac.org](http://www.iowaacac.org)).

#### Change of Scenery:

**Chris Coons**, became the Director of Admissions at Buena Vista University in June. Chris moved to Iowa from New York where he served as Associate Director of Admissions at Alfred University.

**Eric Wiebers** joined the staff at Buena Vista University as an admissions counselor.

*\*Has your scenery changed recently? Send your "Change of Scenery" announcement to Terri LeBlanc ([tleblanc@cornellcollege.edu](mailto:tleblanc@cornellcollege.edu)) for publication in the Spring 2006 Scenes Newsletter.*



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**Iowa Association For College  
Admission Counseling**

# SCENES

Iowa Association For College Admission Counseling

## Spring Conference Update!

By Jen Farrell

The tri-state conference planning committee is working to design an exciting spring conference. Building the Bridge: Tri-State 2006 will be held at the Grand Harbor Resort ([www.grandharborresort.com](http://www.grandharborresort.com)) in Dubuque, Iowa.

Join college admissions professionals and high school counselors from the Iowa Association for College Admission Counseling, the Minnesota Association for College Admission Counseling and the Wisconsin Association for College Admission Counseling in Dubuque May 3 through 5 for informative sessions, enjoyable socials, and dynamic keynote speaker, John Powers ([www.johnpowers.com](http://www.johnpowers.com)).

For the most up-to-date information about this year's conference, visit [www.iowaacac.org](http://www.iowaacac.org).

## Letter from the President



Happy Holidays! I hope this issue of Scenes finds each of you safe, healthy, and ready for the New Year! It's truly amazing what can be accomplished by a group of

dedicated individuals. IACAC is only as strong as its active and engaged members. Each of your involvement in IACAC makes a difference in the lives of high school and college students throughout the state. As I write my article for the Newsletter IACAC is actively planning: Visit the Hill, the Tri-State Conference in Dubuque, ten spring college day/night programs, Making High School Count, a new Mentor Program, and the redesign of our web page - [www.iowaacac.org](http://www.iowaacac.org). I'd like to thank all those for their countless hours of dedication to the association. If you'd like to become more involved, I would encourage you to complete the Lend a Hand form under the membership section of the web site.

The NACAC conference in Tampa saw groundbreaking legislation take place. One issue that I would like to point out specifically was the General Assembly's passing of the revisions to the Statement of Principles of Good

Practice (SPGP). Within the new version, the association endorsed a set of Core Values and Membership Conventions. In addition there are Mandatory Practices that members must abide by and Best Practice statements. As you know, SPGP serves at the center of our ethical standards. I would encourage each of you to take time and understand this revised document ([www.nacacnet.org](http://www.nacacnet.org)). When you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact Jim Gale, chair of the admission practices committee.

The fall semester is almost over for many of the high schools and colleges that we serve. Admissions offices throughout the state are seeing their admissions counselors return from a busy (and hopefully fruitful) fall travel season. Guidance counselors are wrapping up spring schedules and sending college transcripts and recommendation letters. During this time of the year, I hope that each of you takes time to reflect on this past fall semester. It is only by taking the time to reflect that we can understand the direction that we're going. As always, the Executive Board is available to answer any question that you may have about the association and our profession.

Warm regards and best wishes during this wonderful holiday season!

Tom Becker  
President, IACAC