



► CONGRATULATIONS FROM RACC CHAIR, PAMELA TAZIK, AND VICE-CHAIR JOHN SITES.....1



► BOARD NOTES, MEETING AND AWARD PHOTOS!...2



► KUDOS TO NEWLY MINTED CRAS.....3

○ February | ○ VOLUME 5 | ○ 2010

CRAIN *focus*

ADDRESSING THE NEEDS OF INDIVIDUAL CERTIFIED RESEARCH ADMINISTRATORS AND PLANTING THE SEEDS FOR A SECURE FUTURE.

Helping you achieve your professional goals

Congratulations to all our new Certified Research Administrators! We also congratulate our newly recertified CRAs. These efforts speak volumes about your dedication and professionalism and we are proud to be a part of this achievement. The year has been difficult for many of us and the institutions we serve. Our CRAs are being asked to do more with less under ever increasing regulations and sponsor oversight. Your ability to successfully complete the CRA under these conditions is commendable.

As we start the New Year we hope to introduce new opportunities for additional specialization and focus in specific research administration areas. We recognize that many of our colleagues have uniquely focused and specialized skill sets and we are looking into opportunities that will allow them to receive professional recognition in these areas as well. In addition, we are looking at technology and investigating ways to share the Body of Knowledge and other offerings in new and

exciting ways.

We look forward to hearing from and greeting many of you throughout the year as members of the Board attend regional and national meetings across the country. Please stop by our booths and say hello. Let us know how we can best serve and support you. Last but not least, please remember to review the recertification requirements and take advantage of the different options and resources we have identified to help you.

Please feel free to contact us at anytime with your thoughts, questions or suggestions.

Sincerely,

Pam Tazik, CRA, RACC Chair
Director, Sponsored Programs, University of Mississippi Medical Center, ptazik@dor.umsmed.edu

John Sites, CRA, RACC Vice Chair
Manager, Huron Consulting Group
jsites@huronconsultinggroup.com

*Next Exam period
May 1 - 15, 2010*

*Upcoming 2010
Review sessions:
March 8, 2010
NCSRA Meeting
Charlotte/
Concord, NC
March 10
University of
Louisville
Louisville, KY
March 12, 2010
University of IL,
Chicago
Chicago, IL
March 22, 2010
Northpointe
Conference Center
Columbus, OH*

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED



The RACC updates its examination annually in order to ensure that it remains current and appropriate to the Body of Knowledge. As part of the validation process we invite CRAs to participate in a session where they review and edit the draft questions which have been submitted. We'll be holding a review session from Noon to 6:30 pm on Wednesday, April 28 at the Ritz Carlton in Philadelphia, PA. This is at the conclusion and location of the Midwest/Northeast SRA Section Meeting. Lunch will be served.

We are seeking 6-7 CRAs to volunteer to attend this session and help us review the questions. You don't have to be attending the Section Meeting; if you live in the vicinity and can join us that afternoon that would be fine. We will award 6 Contact Hours toward recertification for participation in this session.

If you are able to join us on April 28, please send your name, affiliation, a brief explanation about your job responsibilities, and the number of years you've been a CRA. We are going to select participants in such a way as to ensure representation across the field of research and sponsored programs administration. Send information to Joan Campbell, jcampbell@ptcnv.com.

Sub-Specialty Examinations

Those of you who have taken the Certified Research Administrator (CRA) examination know that it is a comprehensive examination, covering all aspects of the profession. However, we know that there are those in the profession who only practice in a narrow part of the field, such as pre-award or post-award. So, the RACC is planning to develop a new series of certification examinations for these sub-specialty areas. They will be stand-alone examinations for which a candidate who passes will earn a credential specific to the specialty. The names of the credentials have not yet been determined.

The current CRA examination is comprised of 250 multiple choice questions and is offered two times a year at computerized testing facilities. The sub-specialty examinations will most likely contain about 200 questions and will be offered in the same way as the CRA exam.

It is expected that the first sub-specialty examination will be introduced in late 2010, with new sub-specialty examinations to follow annually thereafter.

Kim Carter, CRA, Committee Chair

CONTACT HOURS FOR RECERTIFICATION

This is just a reminder that the number of contact hours of education which you must earn in research or sponsored programs administration educational activities, as required for recertification of your CRA, is increasing. If you will be recertifying in 2010 you will need to demonstrate that you earned at least 60 contact hours of education within the past 5 years; in 2011 that will increase to 70 contact hours; and in 2012 and beyond the number will be 80 contact hours. Of course, you always have the option of re-taking and passing the CRA examination in order to recertify.

RACC has added to its website a couple of tools that you may find helpful as you prepare for recertification. The first is a list of opportunities by which you can earn contact hours and the second is a log which you can use to track your hours of education throughout your 5 recertifying years. Both can be found here:

<http://www.cra-cert.org/application.html>

New CRA Products

The RACC is now offering personalized frames and desk accessories to showcase the fact that you are a Certified Research Administrator. Just go to our website, www.cra-cert.org, and click on "CRA Products" on the right side of the home page to see the array of offerings.

Joan Campbell, CAE

Body of Knowledge Review Session Webinars – Coming Soon

Recognizing the limitations and reductions in budgets that have been occurring everywhere, the RACC has been investigating different ways to offer the Body of Knowledge review sessions. At present the sessions are only offered in a one-day format, with everyone attending in person. Many have to incur travel and hotel costs to do so. The concept we are working on is to offer the sessions in a webinar format, but in 2-hour modules since it's not feasible or desirable for attendees to sit in front of a computer screen for an entire day.

We will still continue to offer in-person meetings as adjuncts to professional conferences or for organizations who wish to organize a session in their local community or at their organization. The webinars will be just one more way we can help research and sponsored programs administrators better understand the breadth and depth of their jobs.

It is planned that the webinar series will be introduced in mid-2010.

Barbara Sterry, CRA, Committee Chair

New RACC Chair Pam Tazik, CRA presents Immediate Past Chair Kathleen Taggart with Service Award



Pat Buennemeyer, CRA
SRA Excellence Award



Renee Vaughan, CRA
SRA Symposium Award



RACC Board of Directors

**RESEARCH
ADMINISTRATORS
CERTIFICATION COUNCIL
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

The RACC Board of Directors meeting was held on October 2009 in Seattle WA. RACC is pleased to announce Pamela Tazik; CRA has been elected Chair of the Board for the 2009-2010 fiscal year. John D. Sites, Jr., CRA, has been elected Vice Chair. Barbara Sterry, CRA will begin a new term as Secretary as well as Catherine J. Diaz, CRA, a new term as Treasurer. Sandra Sward was selected as a new Director. Kathryn A. Watkins-Wendell, CRA will remain as *Board Emerita*. The entire Board of Directors is as follows:

Chair

Pamela P. Tazik, CRA

Immediate Past Chair

Kathleen Diaz Taggart, CRA

Vice Chair

John D. Sites, Jr, CRA

Secretary

Barbara Sterry, CRA

Treasurer

Catherine J. Diaz, CRA

Kim Carter, CRA

Rebecca D. Claycamp, CRA

Wil Emmert, CRA

Judy Harris, CRA

David Hollingsworth, CRA

Suzan G. Lund, CRA

Loretta C. Polite, CRA

Toni Shaklee, CRA

Marie F. Smith, CRA

Sandra Sward, CRA

Renee J. Vaughan, CRA

Chair Emerita

Patricia Buennemeyer, CRA

Board Emerita

Kathryn A. Watkins-Wendell, CRA

Executive Director

Joan Campbell, CAE

WEB: www.cra-cert.org



Research Administrators
Certification Council

1350 Broadway, 17th Floor
New York, NY 10018

**DECEMBER 2009
Kudos!! New CRAs**

VINCENT M. ANTENUCCI
ELIZABETH ARNOLD
AMANDA CARSON BANKS
EILEEN A. BECKETT
CAROLINE M. BEEMAN
AUTUMN BIGGERS
MARGARET A. BOWE
BOBBIE BOWLING
BARBARA LANGSTAFF
CADIEU
HEATHER CHRISTINA
CLARK
SAMANTHA ANN
COGBILL
GINA CONCANNON
ANGELA D. COOKE
TRICIA L. COSTAS
CAROL-ANN COURTNEY
LAURA R. DAVIS
MARCIA DAY
LETITIA DEAN
STEPHANIE DEARING
LINDA K. DELANEY
ALEX B. DELAVAN
LINDSEY M. DEMERITT
EVAN ELLIS-RAYMER
JARED DAVID ELZEY
DOMINIC ESPOSITO
TAMMY L. FAIRCLOTH
KRISTY FORD
ERIC S. FREIMARK
ANCA GEANA
BETHANNE GIEHL
THERESA W GIRARDI
ARE GJELLAN
SUSAN G. GLICK
JOANNA GOMES
MELISSA M. GORDON
STACY GOVAN
GLORIA W. GREENE
SALLY A. HARRIS, PHD
MARIANNE HASSAN
KARL HEREIM
MARSHA Y HIRSCH
JANET S. HOLSTON
ROBERT H HOULIHAN
IJONA JUKIC
NEAL J. KELLEY
CHRISTINE E. KENNEDY

Special Thanks

The RACC Newsletter Assistance Ad Hoc Committee:

Suzan Lund, CRA, Marie Smith, CRA, Kim Carter, CRA, Barbara Sterry, CRA and Catherine Diaz, CRA. Photos compliments of Judy Harris, CRA.

CRA In focus is a means to highlight the accomplishments of CRAs globally. Please send notices of your awards, promotions and news of interest to:

Renee J. Vaughan, CRA, *Editor* vaugh008@mc.duke.edu

ANN B. KRATZ
SONA U. KUMAR
ROBIN H. KUZEN
KRISTINE KWOK
CATHRYN A.
LAWRENCE
PATRICIA LEVIN
STACIA C. LEVY
RENNA ONARIO LILLY
CASSANDRA L. LUCAS
KATHERINE MARTUCCI
LYONS
RICHARD J. MADISON
JENNIFER MAHLER-
KRUPP
GINA MARZILLI
SHAUGHNESSY
TERI S. MCCORT
CHRISTINE H.
MCMILLAN
AMY MIARECKI
RADHIYAH I MILLER
KAREN NEALE
MATT NGUYEN
JODI S. OGDEN
STEPHANIE PAGE
RAJASHRI PATEL
ETHENIA C. PHILLIPS
ROBERT PITYSINGH
PHYLISS QUAIL
DR. JULIET M. RAY
TRUDY M. RILEY
JAMES RINGO
VENRIQUE H. ROBERTS
DENISE L. ROOKS
AMY L. SCHNEIDER
KATHRYN SEIFERT
ANN M. SINK
KIM SMALL
RIDDICK SMILEY
TERRI SOELBERG
SABINA SOLOUKI
SARA A. STANLEY
SUZANNE STROUD
WINNIE WENYI WANG
NIKKI WATSON
JANA S. WEST
DEEDEE N. WHITE
TERESA WHITE JONES
JOHN T. WILLS
CAROL WITHERS

**CRA
DESIGNATION**
Experience and
Discipline



CRA IN FOCUS is a newsletter of the Research Administrators Certification Council for those designated as Certified Research Administrators.

For more information contact:
Renee J. Vaughan, M.Div., M.A.
CRA, *Editor*, 919.684.1891,
vaugh008@mc.duke.edu.

The Research Administrators Certification Council was formed in 1993 and is an independent non-profit organization. The Council is comprised of active research administrators whose role is to certify that an individual, through experience and testing has the fundamental knowledge necessary to be a professional research or sponsored programs administrator.

Chair

Pamela P. Tazik, CRA

Immediate Past Chair

Kathleen Diaz Taggart, CRA

Vice Chair

John D. Sites, Jr, CRA

Secretary

Barbara Sterry, CRA

Treasurer

Catherine J. Diaz, CRA

Kim Carter, CRA

Rebecca D. Claycamp, CRA

Wil Emmert, CRA

Judy Harris, CRA

David Hollingsworth, CRA

Suzan G. Lund, CRA

Loretta C. Polite, CRA

Toni Shaklee, CRA

Marie F. Smith, CRA

Sandra Sward, CRA

Renee J. Vaughan, CRA

Chair Emerita

Patricia Buennemeyer, CRA

Board Emerita

Kathryn A. Watkins-Wendell,
CRA

Executive Director

Joan Campbell, CAE

V-212-356-0693

F-800-693-3714

jcampbell@ptcnv.com

WEB: www.cra-cert.org



SRA International Annual Meeting, Seattle, Washington October 2009



RACC Board of Directors at work

FEBRUARY 2010

CRA IN

focus

Published by the
Research Administrators Certification Council
1350 Broadway, 17th Floor
New York, NY 10018



**Your Name, CRA
Anytown, Global**