Greetings and welcome to all, especially the new members of the Rocky Mountain Association of Institutional Research. RMAIR and AIR membership provide many benefits and services to the profession. Lending support and assistance through networking and by advancing knowledge through conferences, workshops, and extended training opportunities are only a few of reasons to actively participate in AIR, RMAIR, and your state and local institutional research and planning organizations. Great friendships and long-lasting associations are forged as well.

Congratulations to all the folks in Wyoming for hosting a superb conference. Connie Brizuela, Connie Williamson, and others carried on flawlessly with the local arrangements (no small feat), and Susan Koller put together a first-class program and then kept us on time to boot. Thank you Lisa Muller and Jacki Stirn for your timely and informative pre-conference workshops. These 4-hour training sessions help bring back information about national issues and mandated reporting requirements to the region.

Congratulations Mike Ellison from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas! Mike is the winner of the “Best Paper” award from RMAIR. Mike presented “Exposing Faculty … Web-Based Tools for Collecting and Reporting Faculty Workload” at RMAIR’s fall conference in Jackson Hole. AIR maintains presentation time slots for regional conferences’ “Best Papers,” and Mike will be attending the upcoming national forum in Tampa and represent RMAIR at this event. I urge all of you attending the forum to please support Mike and RMAIR by attending Mike’s presentation.

As the fall semester gets underway—full steam ahead—with all its detailed reporting to IPEDS and ad-hoc analyses for institutional leadership to help inform them regarding strategic issues, it is nice to know that there is
From the Editor
Wendy Kappy

Greetings RMAIRians. Imagine, the November-December issue of Panorama coming out in January! This issue of Panorama is long overdue, and I want to thank each of you for your patience. Given all of the hard work that many of you did to contribute to this issue, I didn’t want to drop the ball altogether.

I want to thank Wendy Miley for her great summary of the business meeting at our conference in Jackson Hole. Wendy’s Intercom message also contains news from the conference. I hope these articles are especially informative for those of you who did not attend RMAIR 2002. The meeting in Jackson Hole was great in every way, and I would encourage all of you to consider attending our next meeting this October in Santa Fe, New Mexico. Please see the attached brochure on the meeting. Kayleigh Carabajal and I are the organizers of RMAIR 2003, and we will be sending out more information later on in the spring.

RMAIR 2002 – Photos
Jackson Hole, Wyoming

Thanks to all of you who sent in these great photographs!
RMAIR Election Results
Bruce Higley

Thanks to all those who voted in the recent RMAIR elections. A new Vice President was elected and announced at the annual RMAIR conference in Jackson Hole, Wyoming. We had two extremely qualified individuals who accepted the invitation of the election committee to be candidates this year. We would like to thank Lou Attinasi from Pima Community College and Kathy R. Chandler-Henry from Colorado Mountain College for consenting to have their names put in nomination. Once again the election results were extremely close, but Kathy Chandler-Henry was elected Vice President. Wendy Miley from the University of Arizona is the RMAIR President for this coming year. Connie Brizuela from the University of Wyoming is the Past President. Also appointed to take Joe Curtin=s place as Secretary/Treasurer is Ellen McGregor from Pima Community College. We wish these new officers well in their responsibilities and encourage all RMAIR members to volunteer to assist these officers whenever the need arises.

RMAIR Business Meeting Highlights
Jackson Hole, WY: October 11, 2002
Wendy Miley, RMAIR President

The RMAIR conference in Jackson Hole, Wyoming was a smashing success as was this year’s business meeting. The participation, enthusiasm, and multitude of value-added suggestions from the membership is the reason the Rocky Mountain AIR is one of the most effective organizations in the network of regional and local AIR’s.

The incoming vice-president is Kathy Chandler-Henry from Colorado Mountain College. Congratulations Kathy. The immediate past president is Connie Brizuela from the University of Wyoming. Thank you Connie for your great leadership this past year. And I, Wendy Miley from the University of Arizona, am the new president.

Secretary/Treasurer Report: Joe Curtin of Brigham Young University has served as secretary/treasurer for the past 4 years and has done an excellent job keeping the finances of RMAIR in order. Joe will be stepping down from this position, and Ellen McGregor of Pima Community College has accepted the position. Thank you Joe for your dedication and commitment to RMAIR. Ellen has been a long-standing member of RMAIR and will do a fine job managing the membership funds and lists. Welcome Ellen. As of October 2002, RMAIR had almost $19,000 not including any revenues or expenditures from this year’s past conference

RMAIR Communications Discussion: Wendy Kappy, the editor/coordinator for RMAIR’s quarterly newsletter introduced the reporters. The reporters help keep the membership informed about higher education current events taking place in their states throughout the year, and their efforts are truly appreciated.

Fred Lillibridge of Dona Ana Branch Community College hosts the RMAIR list serve and asks members to please e-mail him updates to their e-mail addresses, or if they think they are not on the list serve, please contact him, and he will add you on the list. Fred’s email address is flillibr@nmsu.edu.

Brian Shuppy of Weber State University has done an outstanding job of updating and managing RMAIR’s website. If you haven’t already done so, please visit http://weber.edu/bir/rmair/main.htm to keep up-to-date on RMAIR news and business.

Emeritus Nominations: Joe Curtin nominated Bruce Higley for emeritus status. Bruce Higley has been a long-standing member of RMAIR presenting timely papers on higher education, hosting conferences, and serving in various elected and appointed roles, including president in 2000-01. A call for emeritus members will also be solicited from the membership during the RMAIR SIG meeting at the AIR conference in Tampa, Florida this May 18-21, 2003. Bruce Higley and other RMAIR members nominated for emeritus status during the SIG meeting will be voted on in the next RMAIR annual conference business meeting in Santa Fe. (Per the RMAIR By-laws:}
Emeritus members shall be nominated prior to the annual Conference. At the business meeting, such nominations shall be voted upon and these individual shall become official emeritus members upon receiving a simple majority of those voting. Emeritus members cannot hold elective office in RMAIR. Emeritus members shall pay only the direct conference costs (food, etc.) within the conference registration fee. Furthermore, any annual membership fee shall be waived for emeritus members.)

Change in By-laws: The suggestion to change RMAIR by-laws and split the secretary/treasurer position has been put on hold until the new incoming secretary/treasurer Ellen McGregor has had an opportunity to fully assess the joint position.

RMAIR 2003 Conference: New Mexico will be hosting the RMAIR conference in 2003. Wendy Kappy of the University of New Mexico and Kayleigh Carabajal of ATVI Community College are the conference chairs. The location will be in downtown Santa Fe, New Mexico, October 15-17, 2003 at the historic Hilton of Santa Fe. Mark you calendars! Details of the conference will be in future issues of Panorama.

RMAIR 2004 Conference: Idaho will be hosting the RMAIR conference in 2004. Marcia Belcheir, of Boise State University, is the local arrangements chair, and Archie George and Ray Wallace, University of Idaho, are the program chairs. Marcia solicited location selection preferences from the membership and will begin researching potential sites.

Other Business: The membership continued discussion from the previous SIG meeting held during the AIR conference in Toronto last May. The RMAIR treasury balance has grown over the years, and the membership feels there are sufficient funds in the treasury to meet future conference obligations and financially assist RMAIRians to attend select AIR associated events in 2003. The two events the membership approved to financially sponsor are: (1) presentations of the RMAIR best paper at the AIR conference, and (2) participation in the AIR “Train-the-Trainer Program.” Because no one can foresee future financial contingencies the membership may face, the authorization of monetary sponsorship—including the dollar amount for these two events—will be voted upon by the membership annually at the RMAIR Conference business meeting.

- A $500 stipend will be awarded to the group (or if one presenter, the individual) of the RMAIR Annual Conference in Jackson Hole, Wyoming “Best Paper” to re-present their paper at the upcoming AIR Conference to be held in Tampa, Florida this May. The stipend is designed to recognize exemplary achievement and help defray the costs of attendance at the AIR conference so that the winners of the Best Paper can represent RMAIR at the national level.
- A $500 stipend will be awarded to the appointed group (or if one trainer, the individual) to participate in the AIR “Train-the-Trainer” program. The program consists of two parts. The trainer(s) will attend an AIR pre-conference workshop this May and then present this workshop to the membership during the next annual RMAIR conference in Santa Fe. The stipend is designed to recognize the time and effort commitment of the participants and help defray the costs associated with attendance at a national AIR conference.

While these stipends are a token of the true cost, they represent the appreciation by the RMAIR membership for group and individual meritorious commitment and achievement.

Other business included a continuing discussion of training and support for regional members, especially those new to the profession. There was a call for suggestions to enhance programs and information for new members. Suggestions for new membership support—especially at the upcoming conference in Santa Fe—are welcome.

The meeting was adjourned. We look forward to seeing you in Tampa.
RMAIR Budget Report
Joe Curtin

RMAIR is currently doing very well in the area of cash reserves. The September 30, 2002 balance was $18,842.53. Since that time we have made a deposit for the 2003 Conference at the Santa Fe Hilton of $1,500 leaving us with a balance of $17,342.53. An additional commitment of $1000.00 was voted during the Business Meeting in Jackson Hole, Wyoming. This commitment consist of a $500 stipend awarded and shared by the presenters of the Best Paper to be used toward travel expenses to AIR in Tampa Fl, and $500 to help fund the travel of the person who is selected to participate in the Train-the-Trainer pre-conference workshops in Tampa. The decision to make these awards will be reviewed annually at the RMAIR business meeting.

The decision to divide the Secretary/Treasurer position was tabled for the time being. A new Secretary/ Treasurer was appointed with Ellen McGregor from Pima County Community College in Tucson, AZ taking over the position from Joseph Curtin.

University of Arizona Nursing Faculty Memorial Fund

Last fall 3 nursing professors were slain at the University of Arizona’s College of Nursing. A number of people have asked how to contribute to a memorial fund established to honor the victims of the tragedy. You can contribute to the "Nursing Faculty Memorial Fund" at the University of Arizona Foundation. At a later date, and after consultation with bereaved family members, specific purposes for these funds within the College of Nursing will be determined and named for Professors McGaffic, Monroe, and Rogers. These funds may be used to establish endowments or to support more immediate needs depending on the amount of funding available and the wishes of the interested parties.

Checks should be made out to Nursing Faculty Memorial Fund/UAF and sent to:

Office of Development
P.O. Box 245018
University of Arizona
Tucson, AZ 85724-5018.

If you have any questions, please call Lisa Fahey, Executive Director of Development, Arizona Health Sciences Center, at (520) 626-7766.

News from the States

ARIZONA
State Reporter: Ellen McGregor

More Budget Cuts in Arizona

In my last article, I had mentioned that Arizona’s public universities and community colleges were facing increases in enrollment and decreases in financial support. The situation has gotten worse. Voters in Pima County defeated a tax override that was designed to support Pima Community College. Then in a one-day special session of the state legislature held on the Monday before Thanksgiving, drastic budget cuts were made. The headline in the Arizona Republic (Phoenix based newspaper) read “Budget cuts to hammer universities, health care.” The article stated: “Arizona’s three public universities will be hit hard by 5 percent cuts in their budgets. Northern
Arizona University will have to chop an additional $5.8 million from its budget by June 30, including the elimination of about 88 positions, though many of those currently are vacant.” Arizona State University’s cut is $18 million. In Tucson, University of Arizona faces a $14.9 million dollar cut, and the cut for health science center is additional 3 million dollars. The Board of Regents plans to increase tuition. The cuts for community colleges funding were $6,716,000. The really frightening news is that more cuts will be needed to balance the state budget, a legal requirement. Unlike the federal government, Arizona must balance the budget. This state is very dependent on sales taxes and tourism.

In meeting this budgetary challenge, the universities are reviewing their missions. In public statements, the President of the University of Arizona states that excellence is the goal and that means elimination of some academic programs while strengthening other programs. Arizona State University plans to increase enrollments. What do these budget issues mean to IR? Simply that decision makers are even more dependent on our projections and hard data for making the difficult choices. It also means that vacancies are less likely to be filled and that travel will be less available. That was already evident at the recent RMAIR conference. As we approach the holiday season, it does not look like a very merry Christmas for higher education in Arizona. However, the long-range implications may be brighter as the need for planning and data become more apparent to leaders in higher education.

COLORADO
State Reporter: Stephen Chambers

Shape of Colorado Appropriations Bucket May Change but Will the Volume Remain the Same?

On November 22nd, the Governor’s Blue Ribbon Panel on Higher Education in the 21st Century took up several issues related to financing higher education. As you may recall from earlier PANORAMA Colorado reports, the Blue Ribbon Panel was established by executive order in 2001, and was charged to work in conjunction with the State’s coordinating board, the Colorado Commission on Higher Education (CCHE), to make recommendations to the General Assembly concerning creating:

- A higher education system of the highest quality that is nationally competitive
- A coordinated, cost-effective delivery system
- Differentiated missions, both among and within governing boards, designed to meet the state’s needs with a minimum of duplication.
- Increased access to undergraduate degree programs for Colorado residents.

The panel’s first recommendation of that day dealt with reducing community college tuition levels. Information provided to the panel indicated that Colorado community colleges on average charged about 11% higher rates than neighboring states. This information was coupled with evidence that college participation rates for students from low-income families had been declining in Colorado provided background for the panel recommending a 25% reduction in community college tuition. The majority of panelist saw this action as needed to increase levels of access to for those who could least afford postsecondary education.

Most of the panel’s discussion and recommendations centered on replacing traditional state appropriations to higher education with a voucher-like grant directly to students who could spend this sum at the college or university of their choice. The proposed new way of financing higher education was detailed in an article appearing in the November 8th issue of the Chronicle of Higher Education (page A 25-26).

The panel made specific recommendations that day on several mechanisms to be integrated into the proposed voucher-like system; these include:
• There would be one voucher level for all undergraduate in-state students; estimates place the amount between $3,800 and $4,300 per year, per full-time student.
• There would be a different voucher level for in-state students pursuing a master’s degree; estimates place the amount at or above $8,000 per year, per full-time student.
• Several of the state institutions would receive an additional role and mission grant to help defray costs in expensive programs that aided state interests.
• A cap of 140 credit hours would be imposed upon in-state residents pursuing baccalaureate level education. After 140 hours, in-state residents would pay out-of-state tuition rates for further education. The count toward 140 hours would begin at zero hours for new and continuing students once the cap was officially approved.

There will be two more Blue Ribbon panel meetings before final recommend changes are forwarded to the General Assembly in February 2003.

IDAHO
State Reporter: Archie George

The Idaho higher education scene has been pretty quiet the past couple months. The elections witnessed another near sweep by conservatives. The financial picture remains clouded. Massive tax cuts enacted a year ago prevent a modest improvement in the state's economy from producing additional revenue. When essentially all those who enacted the cuts are returned to office, it's difficult to make a case that change is needed. The higher education institutions in the state have attempted to unite to present a unified message: We have made the necessary adjustments to accommodate last year's cuts and have continued to serve a growing student body. Higher education is essential for future economic growth. Further cuts will threaten the viability of essential programs, and hurt the state in the long run.

A Brief Perspective on Idaho Higher Education

Idaho currently has 10 higher education institutions. The U of Idaho in Moscow is the oldest, founded in 1889. UI now has 11,000 students on-campus and another 2,000 enrolled at off-campus centers. Albertson College, a private institution in Caldwell with about 800 students and Lewis-Clark State College in Lewiston with about 2,500 students were founded at about the same time. Lewis-Clark was originally a "Normal School", or teacher's college for north Idaho, as was Albion Normal School for south Idaho. Both schools were closed in the 1950s—L-C only briefly, but Albion never reopened.

Idaho State University in Pocatello, originally a technical school, then part of the University of Idaho, and now a research intensive university with a community college mission, has about 13,000 students. BYU-Idaho in Rexburg, originally founded as Ricks College, a community college, became a four year college a couple years ago and now enrolls over 10,000 students. North Idaho College in Coeur d'Alene, a community college founded in the 1930s, enrolls about 4,200 students. Southern Idaho College in Twin Falls was founded in the 1960s and now enrolls about 7,000 students. SIC has been the fastest growing school in the state in recent years.

Boise State University, originally a religious community college, then a local community college, a state university, and now a comprehensive university with a community college mission, is now the largest higher education institution with over 17,000 students. Northwest Nazarene University in Nampa enrolls about 1,500 students, and Eastern Idaho Technical College in Idaho Falls enrolls about 500 students.

Altogether, the seven public institutions have a combined enrollment of approximately 53,000 students; the three private institutions have combined enrollments of about 12,300 students, making the total enrollment about 65,000.
We are all essentially holding our breath until the legislative session, which begins in January, addresses the needs of the public institutions.

**MONTANA**

**State Reporter: Cathy Burleson**


**NEVADA**

**State Reporter: Virginia Moore**

**University and Community College System of Nevada (UCCSN)**

In October, the Board of Regents approved two new program proposals: Bachelor of Arts, Economics at Nevada State College in Henderson; and Master of Science, Management Information Systems at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas.

The Board also approved an amendment to fortify the University and Community College System of Nevada’s policy on nepotism. Although institutions have anti-nepotism policies in place, the new amendment will provide uniformity to existing policies so no UCCSN employees would be able to hire and supervise a relative.

The State of Nevada, along with Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Tennessee, and Texas, has been asked to take part in a K-16 data project led by National Association of System Heads (NASH) and the Education Trust to improve teacher education. Chancellor Jane Nichols said this partners nicely with the recently created P-16 Council, whose creation and membership were approved at the August Board meeting. They held their first meeting on October 29, 2002.

There has been some controversy in recent months over regents’ access to student files. Institutions had been advised by system counsel that members of the elected 11-seat Board of Regents are education officials and thereby have a right under FERPA to student data. One regent has been accused of inappropriately requesting, and receiving, data on individual students for reasons not characterized as ‘legitimate educational purposes.’ The short-term upshot is that all regents’ data requests must now be made through the system Chancellor; in the longer-term, specific policies regarding appropriate access to files (personnel as well as student) will be developed and codified.

Momentum is building to have the Board of Regents become an appointed rather than an elected body an idea that both the Governor and State Senate majority leader favor. In three months, the Legislature is scheduled to discuss a bill to reduce the 11-member Board of Regents (due to expand to 13 members in January) to five members appointed by the governor. The State constitution would need to be changed for this to occur; the bill would have to pass through both legislative houses twice and then win the popular vote—a process that would likely take six years. Legislative officials are looking into whether that process could be circumvented if the board were to be partially appointed.

**University of Nevada, Reno (Nevada)**

Headcount enrollment at the University of Nevada, Reno reached 15,093 this fall, a 5.4% increase over last fall. Student FTE increased 9% over the same period. Millennium Scholarships continue to have an impact, both in increased numbers of undergraduate students (up 7%) and somewhat higher average credit loads (the minimum...
credit load to maintain the scholarship is 12 credits; most millennium scholars at Nevada are advised to enroll in a minimum of 15—to allow the flexibility of dropping a class if necessary without jeopardizing eligibility).

Nevada continues to meet the challenge of slashed budgets in the face of growing enrollments. Most of the campus will shut down for 2 weeks during the winter break, in an effort to save on utilities. (So much for catching up on those back-burner IR projects during the holidays!) Some departments and colleges, in light of few or no dollars to hire temporary instructors and little taste for reducing class offerings at this time, are taking a much closer look at faculty teaching loads than ever before.

The Interim Executive Vice President and Provost at the University of Nevada, Reno is being recommended to fill the position permanently. Nevada President John Lilley said he will recommend the appointment of John H. Frederick as the University’s Executive Vice President and Provost to the Board of Regents at their December meeting. Frederick has been with Nevada since 1988, and has served as the university’s interim provost since August 2001. Frederick, 44, is nationally known for his work in theoretical chemistry. A Texas native, he earned his A.B. degree in chemistry from Princeton University and his A.M. and Ph.D. degrees in chemistry from Harvard University, where he was a National Science Foundation Graduate Fellow. Before coming to Reno, he was a post-doctoral research associate at the University of Washington.

Planning, Budget & Analysis (of which Institutional Analysis is a part), which has reported to the Vice President for Administration and Finance since its inception, now has a reporting line that is split equally between the VPAF and the Provost. President Lilley has stated that, given the Provost’s central role in all planning and budgetary activities, it is appropriate for the Provost to work closely with and, consequently, have a role in evaluating the performance of the Office of Planning, Budget & Analysis.

Research projects at the University of Nevada, Reno are attracting external funding at a record-setting pace. In the fiscal year that ended in June, sponsored projects surpassed $110 million. Last year, the university passed the $100 million milestone for the first time. Research projects make up more than half of the $110 million total and jumped $9 million in the past year. Just three years ago, sponsored projects generated $80 million for the university. “This is occurring in two ways,” Linda Brinkley, vice president for research, said. “Our faculty are increasingly successful in winning highly competitive grant awards, and the university is now also attracting top-notch research faculty, some of whom bring important research projects with them when they come to Nevada. An important added benefit is that our faculty are creating a stimulating teaching environment and are acquiring state-of-the-art equipment for classrooms and laboratories. Strong research programs also help attract outstanding undergraduate and graduate students.”

University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV)
by Diane Muntal

UNLV’s enrollment figures increased dramatically this fall, jumping 5.7 percent in the total number of students and increasing an unprecedented 9.5 percent in FTE to 17,777. UNLV enrolled 24,965 students, of which 1,347 were new students. Full-time students increased from 13,594 to 15,057 (10.7%), continuing an upward three year trend, while part-time students decreased by 1.1%.

UNLV’s Center for Academic Enrichment and Outreach will receive more than $32 million over the next five years to help prepare low-income middle and high school students for college. Two grants were awarded through the U.S. Department of Education’s Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs (GEAR UP), which are designed to encourage youths to set high school educational goals, complete high school, and then go to college. Two other grants will support programs that assist displaced or underemployed workers. The grants will play an important role in the university’s overall effort to improve student retention.

UNLV recently created the UNLV Research Council to assist in increasing the quantity, quality, and scope of research activities on campus. Thomas Williams, who previously worked for the Las Vegas office of the National Nuclear Security Administration, joined the UNLV staff to serve as director of the new foundation. Williams
stated that the foundation would pursue research opportunities in medical, biological and behavioral sciences and applications and in energy technologies from both traditional and emerging sources. Additionally, they will seek opportunities for research in national security, homeland security, forensic science applications, information technology and physical and materials sciences.

NEW MEXICO  
State Reporter: Dawn Kenney

The New Mexico Commission on Higher Education (NMCHE)  
From the Commission on Higher Education

In February 2002, Commission Chair Jerry Armijo established a Blue Ribbon Task Force to review the existing higher education funding mechanism and recommend revisions that might be needed. It was agreed that the current approach:

- Encourages duplication rather than collaboration
- Is not responsive to state priorities and workforce needs
- Funds institutions based upon what they did last year—not what they need to do next year
- Is primarily driven by enrollment
- Does not encourage mission focus
- Was designed in the 1970’s, and the world has changed dramatically since then.

The Blue Ribbon Task Force is chaired by Maralyn Budke. The other members are: David Abbey, Director of LFC; Karen Becklin, retired from NMSU; Frank Bird, Commissioner; Andy Burke, NMSU, Dona Ana Branch Community College; Gerald Burke, Commissioner; Danny Earp, ENMU; Brian Foster, UNM; Michael Glennon, ATVI; Bruce Hamlett, Director of the CHE; Sigfredo Maestas, NNMCC; Denny Peterson, NMIMT; Jeff Riggs, Department of Finance and Administration; and Jane Shipp, Commissioner.

The Blue Ribbon Task Force met most recently on October 9, and agreed unanimously to recommend that the Commission on Higher Education move forward on changes to the funding formula. The funding changes are to address the following issues:

- Support both increased access and economic development for New Mexico
- Make the funding model easier to understand
- Reward successful institutions, successful students, and success in serving New Mexico’s economy and quality of life

The Blue Ribbon Task Force added an important guideline: be realistic in assessing New Mexico’s current resource potential and stay as consistent as possible with the level of state funding now received by higher education. The proposed new funding mechanism will provide incentives for success and enhance higher education’s capacity to respond quickly to the state’s workforce needs. In general, the formula recommendation uses a Base-Plus Incentives Model:

- The Formula Base would include four major components: current appropriation, adjustments for compensation increases and mandatory cost increases, and increases or decreases based on student and facilities workload changes.
- The current appropriation part of the base assures that each institution starts the formula process with a consistent and predictable funding level—the prior year’s base appropriation level.
- Student workload adjustments to the base use a funding grid created to respect, yet simplify, the discipline clusters of the original formula.
Incentives have been recommended as the “plus” part of the funding mechanism to support higher education’s role in addressing state needs. These Incentives-for-Success Funds are:

- A competitive grant program to fund programs responsive to state needs. Priority would be given to collaborative programs among and between institutions. Grants would become part of the institutional base in order to maintain the program.
- Performance funding for results in the area of student success. Institutions could receive an annual addition to the institution’s budget of no more than 2% of the base, if the institution met specified performance goals in the area of student success.
- Incentive fund for economic development and for program excellence. Eligibility for the appropriations would require institutional matching funds from non-state sources. Institutions could receive one-time appropriations for areas like workforce training, research infrastructure, endowed chairs, centers for excellence, and scholarships.

The Sub-committee of the Task Force deserves a great deal of credit for their work in developing these recommendations. The members of the Sub-committee are Karen Becklin, Andy Burke, Danny Earp, Kathie Winograd (ATVI), Vanessa Hawker (Commission Staff), Michael Schmitt (Clovis Community College), and Denny Peterson.

Maralyn Budke and members of the sub-committee presented these recommendations to the Commission on October 11. The Commission will act on these recommendations on November 14-15.

**Santa Fe Community College**
From Richard Rindone

The SFCC Board of Trustees placed President Frank Vivelo of Santa Fe Community College (SFCC) on administrative leave on October 21, 2002. The board’s vote came after a special meeting during which the chairman of the Faculty Senate declared the group was giving Vivelo a vote of no confidence. Jim McLaughlin, Dean for Administrative Services, has been named Acting President until the Board deals with the president’s contract.

**Albuquerque Technical Vocational Institute**
From Dawn Kenney

The Next Generation Economy Initiative (NextGen) has recognized Albuquerque Technical Vocational Institute (ATVI) with the Real Progress award for “considerable contributions” in promoting economic development in the metropolitan area. NextGen also honored Joe Sackett, ATVI’s special projects director, for his “extraordinary effort” in furthering NextGen’s agenda. ATVI, under Sackett’s leadership, has used its federal Carl Perkins grant to tie new and existing instructional programs directly to NextGen’s efforts to boost economic development in the areas of electronics, tourism, information technology, biotechnology, and photonics. In making the award, the NextGen board of advisors attributed much of NextGen’s success to ATVI’s “embracing cluster-based career instruction,” and described Sackett as “one of the bold few … who take action that truly makes a difference.” Congratulations to all those involved in ATVI’s NextGen efforts and, in particular, to Joe Sackett for exemplary work.

A leadership training opportunity offered annually by ATVI has been named the Micali Leadership Institute (MLI) in honor of Dr. Janice E. Micali, vice president for student services who announced that she will retire in January 2003 after 31 years at ATVI. Dr. Micali started the leadership training six years ago, modeling it after Harvard University’s Management of Lifelong Education course. Each year, about 40 aspiring leaders are selected to participate in the weeklong training.
New Mexico Association of Institutional Research and Planning
From Dawn Kenney

The results have been tallied and the results are in! This year’s new leaders are:

President: Judy Bosland, NMSU-Main
President-Elect: Renee Wharton, New Mexico Junior College
Past-President: Dawn Kenney, Albuquerque TVI
Secretary-Treasurer: Steve Wong, NMMI

Congratulations to our new officers and many thanks for your willingness to take on new responsibilities and challenges!

UTAH
State Reporter: Valerie Stegeman

UTAH STATE UNIVERSITY - How Clean Is Your Drinking Water?

This month a Utah County city sued an industry for polluting its municipal water supply. The ooze is now leaching toward the two remaining wells that serve the city. When it reaches them—if it reaches them - residents will be without drinking water.

The problem is the city of Mapleton needs scientific tools to determine how much contamination is acceptable and how safe their water supply is. And they’re not alone.

SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY OF UTAH - SUU Math Department Receives National Accreditation

As part of a constant effort to advance the quality of Southern Utah University’s teacher education program, the SUU Math Department has been successful in receiving accreditation from the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics.

The process of accreditation is rigorous and demanding. The entire program must be assessed and meet the criteria set forth by the NCTM. The University and accredited department must offer intellectually demanding courses that are germane to the needs of today’s classrooms. A committee from the NCTM must visit the department and be shown the eligibility of that department, what the students know and what they are capable of.
http://www.suu.edu/news/MathAccreditation.htm

UNIVERSITY OF UTAH - U of U Receives Grant to Train Native American Students to Become Teachers

November 20, 2002 – Nearly $1 million in federal money has been awarded to the University of Utah to be used to train Native American or Alaskan Native American students to become teachers. The U.S. Department of Education's Office of Indian Education earmarked the $945,887 Title VII money for preparing undergraduate students to become instructors-especially in the disciplines of math, science and reading.
Bryan McKinley Brayboy, assistant professor in the Department of Education, Culture & Society and author of the grant, notes that the money will allow scholarship recipients to focus solely on their studies without worrying about financial constraints.  
http://www.utah.edu/unews/releases/02/nov/teachers.html

**UTAH VALLEY COLLEGE UVSC - Advancement Leader Named Vice President**

Similar to the student body it serves, Utah Valley State College Institutional Advancement has grown significantly in the past few years and has made remarkable progress since the naming of Dr. Ian Wilson as Associate Vice President who will now be named a college vice president.

"It's a title change, really," said Ian Wilson, former dean of the School of Business and associate vice president of Institutional Advancement since September 2001. In summer 2002, President Romesburg cultivated increased efforts to seek outside donor support, and Wilson began reporting directly to him rather than a mediating vice president.  
http://www.uvsc.edu/relations/releases/22nov02.html

**BRIGHAM YOUNG UNIVERSITY – BYU to raise tuition slightly for 2003-2004 school year**

Brigham Young University will raise tuition by 2.9 percent, or $45, in 2003-2004, bringing the undergraduate rate per semester to $1,575.

Although the increase is slightly less than the traditional 5-percent increase BYU has averaged over the past 10 years, it will allow BYU to meet its specific needs, said Administrative Vice President Brad Farnsworth. "We believe that through wise management we can keep our tuition costs at a lower-than-average level and yet continue to provide a quality education for our students, including mentored-learning experiences," he said.

Last year, for the first time since the 1973-1974 school year, BYU did not increase its tuition rate. At that time, President Merrill J. Bateman explained that the university "was sensitive to the current economic condition and the impact it is having on families whose children attend the university."

http://www.byu.edu/news/index.html

**WESTMINSTER COLLEGE – Gov. Schweiker announces $1.7 million for Westminster College Cultural Arts Center**

Gov. Mark Schweiker today delivered $1.7 million in capital budget redevelopment assistance to Westminster College to create a Western Pennsylvania Cultural Arts Center. The state funding will allow Westminster College to renovate the 1,700-seat Orr Auditorium and work with the Lawrence County Tourist Promotion Agency to increase the number of cultural events in the county. Orr Auditorium serves as the area’s major public venue for performing arts, public lectures, and civic programs.

“This project will improve what is already a major public venue for the performing arts in this area,” Gov. Schweiker said. “This is more than just a renovation. It is about a community gathering place—a regional cultural center important to improving the quality of life for this community and this region.”

Gov. Schweiker made the announcement on the third day of a five-day “Celebration of the New Pennsylvania” tour across the state.  

**WEBER STATE UNIVERSITY - WSU Unveils Redesigned Website**

OGDEN, Utah – Visitors to Weber State University’s web site will find a new look starting today.
The university launched a redesigned version of its site with a more robust search engine, improved page navigation, a site index and audience-specific portals that, together, make it easier to locate information.

The new home page features headlines of recent news from campus. The WSU Today page offers a one-stop resource for campus news, publications and information about events and athletics. Web profiles spotlight past and present WSU students and alumni, who share their experiences and the opportunities they received as a result of studying at WSU. http://www.weber.edu/x2513.xml

**DIXIE STATE COLLEGE - Community invited to DSC accreditation meeting**

Fresh off the heels of a campus wide accreditation evaluation, Dixie State College’s nursing program will now undergo its first accreditation evaluation. Specifically, accreditation officials will evaluate DSC’s Practical Nurse (LPN), and Registered Nurse (RN) programs community meeting will be held in conjunction with the accreditation visit Tuesday at 4 p.m. in the Udvar Hazy Business Building, room 361. All community members are invited to meet with the accreditation team and offer input regarding the programs. "I feel real good about it," said Health Sciences Director Kevin Tipton of the accreditation evaluation. "I know there are things that we haven’t gotten like clockwork. That’s all right—we want to improve, and we hope the evaluation team points those things out to us. But I feel that we’re going to match the requirements." http://www.dixie.edu/pr/news.htm#communityoct2102

**WYOMING**

**State Reporter: Lisa Muller**

It was great to see many of you at the Rocky Mountain AIR fall retreat in Jackson Hole!

Surprisingly a democrat—Dave Freudenthal—was elected Governor in Wyoming despite campaigning by Vice President Cheney. Governor Freudenthal worked previously as a staff economist for the Wyoming Department of Economic Planning, as a state planning coordinator and administrative aide for Gov. Ed Herschler, as an attorney in Cheyenne, and then as federal prosecutor until 2001. Freudenthal had never run for state office before.

UW’s President Philip Dubois was out educating the new legislators and the new Governor immediately after the election with the primary issue of the importance of high quality education. “There is one true renewable resource: a steady supply of educated citizens, who can create economic diversity and fill the dynamic new jobs that are created; who can form the backbone of a viable health care infrastructure; who can advance Wyoming public education deep into the 21st century. We urge the men and women who aspire to be this state’s political leaders to embrace UW and the community colleges as the engines of Wyoming’s economic future. Dance with the ones who brought you, but save the last dance for the ones who will be Wyoming’s partners in a brighter future.” (Philip Dubois)

The state discussion about health insurance continues with the University of Wyoming suggesting a complete re-examination of the very structure of our health care plan. “At the same time, I do believe that all of us need to be prepared to accept modified deductible, co-pay, and benefit levels if we are going to get our state plan on a stable footing. Some resources must be dedicated to bringing younger people—the children of our employees—into the system. Not only is addressing the problem of "adverse selection" essential to putting our system on a financially stable footing, but it is simply unconscionable for the State of Wyoming to have dedicated employees forced to go without health insurance for their families.” (Fall convocation Philip Dubois)

Enrollments at the University of Wyoming increased this fall by 3%. The public portion of a very ambitious ($125 million dollar) fund raising campaign had an October kick-off. Work on the next round of academic planning is in progress looking carefully at issues like diversity, access, internationalization, the academic experience for first-
year students, the future of graduate enrollments, the quality of graduate programs, and our technological infrastructure.

Community college enrollments grew 1.8% this fall despite the decrease in high school graduation. In the latest addition of State-by-State Profile of Community Colleges, “Wyoming colleges ranked first in the nation in fall semester percent of population 18 or older served by a community college.” (Steve Butler, Wyoming Community College Commission)

As Tract 5 Chair please let me know if you’d like to help facilitate a session at AIR in Tampa.
Lisamull@uwyo.edu

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**News from WICHE**

Jacki Stirn

The latest edition of WICHE’s regional fact book, Policy Indicators for Higher Education: WICHE States, November 2002 is now available at [http://www.wiche.edu/Policy/Fact_Book/index.asp](http://www.wiche.edu/Policy/Fact_Book/index.asp). The fact book can also be ordered on CD from the WICHE site. The latest edition of WICHE’s tuition and fees publication is also available at [http://www.wiche.edu/Policy/Tuition_and_Fees/index.asp](http://www.wiche.edu/Policy/Tuition_and_Fees/index.asp). Other publications can be linked to from: [http://www.wiche.edu/Policy/index.asp](http://www.wiche.edu/Policy/index.asp). If you have questions or comments, please contact Jacki Stirn (jstirn@wiche.edu).

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