



Newsletter

Bi-Yearly

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Letter from the President

Hello Members,

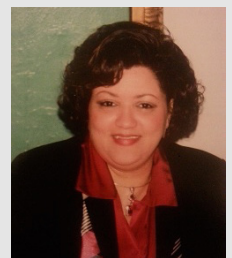
Welcome to 2015! As our profession grows and the services we offer expand, the Arkansas Association of Colleges and Employers becomes even more vital. We are all tasked with the challenge of creating more with less. This organization provides an opportunity for us to network and share professional information to develop innovative and resourceful ways to offer our services and stay ahead of the trends.

This past semester we welcomed several new board members who are excited about being involved and taking their positions to the next level. Some upcoming goals that we aim to implement this spring include hosting an AAACE social event within the state to allow for more networking and encourage an increase in membership, continuing our bi-yearly newsletter to update members on events, new trends, member accolades, etc., and of course, hosting a two day spring conference that will offer another round of professional development opportunities with great speakers.

As stated in the past, the benefits gained from our organization are not possible without everyone! As with any organization, you will only get out what you put in, so I am challenging all the members to be more involved in the upcoming year to make it even more successful! Getting involved in the organization helps to enhance your professional growth and networking skills! If you have an interest in serving on a committee, implementing our set goals or have a new idea, please contact me!

I am again honored to have the opportunity to serve as your President for the 2014-2015 year and look forward to what lies ahead!

Sandra Thomas
AAACE President, 2014-2015



Visit our website at:

<http://www.arkace.org/>

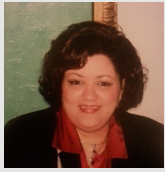
To read articles, check on upcoming events, view useful career services webinars, and connect with others.

Email us at:

contactus@arkace.org

For any questions or comments you may have, or to submit your own events and member spotlights to be included in future newsletters.

Member Spotlight



Sandra Thomas
Assistant Personnel Manager
Arkansas Department of Health

Sandra Thomas, Assistant Personnel Manager of the Director's Office/Administration, recently graduated from the Certified Public Manager Program, from Arkansas Public Administration Consortium (APAC) which is a national level certification. APAC is a cooperative program of the University of Arkansas at Little Rock, Arkansas State University in Jonesboro, and the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville. She was among the graduates honored in a ceremony held at the Governor's Mansion. Sandra also earned the Arkansas Governmental Manager Certification from APAC.



Kelsey Lavigne
Career Counselor - College of Engineering
University of Arkansas Career Development Center

Kelsey Lavigne is the new Career Services Specialist for the College of Engineering at the University of Arkansas. Kelsey graduated from the University of Arkansas in 2010 with her Bachelor of Arts degree in Anthropology and from the University of Tennessee in 2014 with her Master of Science degree in College Student Personnel. Between her degrees, Kelsey worked at the Arkansas School for Mathematics, Science, and the Arts for one year as a Resident Mentor. While at the University of Tennessee, Kelsey was a Graduate Assistant for Career Services and an intern for the College of Arts and Sciences Advising Services, the Programs Abroad Office, the International House, and the Pre-College Upward Bound program. Kelsey will be responsible for coordinating the Co-op/Internship program for the College of Engineering and will be responsible for helping engineering students with career related matters such as resume writing, interview skills, and job searching. She is excited to return to her alma mater, and looks forward to meeting everyone and working with students.



Brittany Straw
Assistant Director of Career Education
University of Arkansas Career Development Center

Ms. Brittany Straw is the new Assistant Director of Career Education in the Career Development Center. Some of her duties include overseeing the Professional Development Institute (PDI) and assisting students with career related matters such as resume writing, interview skills, career assessments, and job search. She has worked in higher education for 7 years within academic and student affairs. She has taught undergraduate level courses and facilitated numerous workshops and trainings on topics such as career development, financial aid and academic success. Brittany received her Master's degree in Vocational Technical Administration and a Bachelor's Degree in Psychology from Arkansas State University. She is a current member of Arkansas Association of Colleges and Employers (AAACE), Southern Association of Colleges and Employers (SoACE), and National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE). This past November she gave a webinar to over 100 Career Professors for SoACE. Brittany also co-authored an IBook on Career Services for Arkansas State University.

Member Spotlight



Ed Rayburn

Associate Director of Career Services
Arkansas State University

Dr. Ed Rayburn is the recipient of the 2014 AACE Lifetime Member Award. After 35 years in education, Dr. Rayburn is retiring. Ed was a 1971 graduate of Malden High School in Malden, Missouri. He attended Arkansas State University where he earned a Bachelor's and Master's degree in Vocal Music. Upon completing his Bachelor and Master degrees he began his career as a public school teacher and taught in Missouri, Arkansas and Oklahoma. While in Oklahoma, Dr. Rayburn attended Oklahoma State University and earned an administrators certificate. He also served as an elementary principle in a private school in Sapulpa, Oklahoma for two years. In 1986, Dr. Rayburn returned to Arkansas and began his career at Arkansas State University as a Financial Aid Officer. He served in this capacity for 10 years. In 1996, Dr. Rayburn joined the Career Services staff as an Assistant Dean of Students/Associate Director of Career Services. Dr. Rayburn received his Doctor of Education in Higher Education Administration in 2004. Dr. Rayburn will be missed dearly.

Dr. Rayburn has been an active member of AACE for 19 years and has served in the following roles:

- AACE Board of Directors, 4 Year College Representative (2001, 2011-2013)
- AACE Board of Directors, Historian (2008)
- AACE Board of Directors, Technology Chair (2000)



Paula Abraham

Recruiter
Department of Human Services

Paula Abraham is the recipient of the 2014 AACE Lifetime Member Award. After 38 years of service to the State of Arkansas, Paula Abraham will be retiring this year. Paula Abraham is no stranger to recruiting, having spent years in the profession helping others. Prior to her role as a Recruiter, Paula worked in other roles with the state. She was a stenographer, A WIN Program Coordinator, a Document Examiner and an Interviewer. Paula has been a dedicated member of the Arkansas Association of Colleges and Employers (AACE). She has served on the conference committee and helped to secure donations for the Association. She will be missed dearly.

Enterprise received the 2014 Diversity and Inclusion Mosaic Award from SoACE.

Thanks to Our Corporate Sponsors



Photos from AACE Winter Conference 2014

The AACE Winter Conference was held on December 12, 2014 at University of Central Arkansas in Conway, AR. During the conference, representatives from four organizations spoke on the theme of :
“New Year, New Opportunities: Leveraging Students with Diverse Populations.”



Speaker: Kendra R. Johnson on
LGBT Student Advocacy



Speaker: Abtin Mehdizadegan on
Federal Contractors and the OCCP - What You
Need to Know!



Speaker: Jonathan Bibb on
Arkansas Career Training Institute



Speaker: Veteran Panel Discussion (Jo Ellen
Polite, Mike Rudisill, Jack Lytle, & Don Quinn)





To view more photos from this conference and past conferences, go to ACE's online [Photo Album!](#)
Enter this link to access the photos: <http://goo.gl/QpAbOk>

Spring 2015 Events

February

February 17, 2015

Harding University - Education Fair

9:30am - 12:00pm

Searcy, AR - Cone Capital

February 18, 2015

University of Arkansas - Diversity Networking Event

5:00 - 6:30pm

Fayetteville, AR - Arkansas Union 507

February 19, 2015

University of Arkansas - Career Fair for All Majors/Veterans Fair

10:00am - 12:00pm & 1:00pm - 3:00pm

Fayetteville, AR - Arkansas Union Verizon Ballroom

February 25, 2015

University of Arkansas at Fort Smith - Education Career Fair

1:00pm - 2:30pm

Fort Smith, AR

February 26, 2015

Arkansas Tech University - Educator's Fair

9:00am - 12:00pm

Russellville, AR - W.O. Young Ballroom

March

March 3, 2015

University of Arkansas - Pre-STEM Mixer

5:00pm - 8:00pm

Fayetteville, AR - Bell Engineering Center

March 3, 2015

Arkansas Tech University - Engineering & Technology Career Fair

1:00pm - 4:00pm

Russellville, AR - W.O. Young Ballroom

March 4, 2015

University of Arkansas - STEM Career Fair

10:00am - 12:00pm & 1:00pm - 4:30pm

Fayetteville, AR - Reynold's Razorback Stadium - East Indoor Club

Spring 2015 Events

March 4, 2015

Harding University - Nursing Fair

9:00am - 11:30am

Searcy, AR - Cone Chapel

March 5, 2015

Quachita Baptist University - Career & Networking Expo

10:30am - 1:30pm

Arkadelphia, AR - Walker Conference Center

March 9, 2015

University of Arkansas Community College at Batesville - Annual Career Fair

1:00pm - 4:00pm

Batesville, AR

March 12, 2015

University of Arkansas at Fort Smith - Spring Career Fair

11:30am - 2:30pm

Fort Smith, AR

March 17, 2015

Arkansas State University - All Majors Career Fair

TBD

Jonesboro, AR

March 18, 2015

Arkansas State University - Education, Nursing, and Health Professions Fair

TBD

Jonesboro, AR

March 19, 2015

Harding University - Spring Career Expo

9:30am - 12:00pm

Searcy, AR - McInteer Rotunda

March 19, 2015

University of Arkansas at Fort Smith - Criminal Justice Symposium

12:00pm - 3:00pm

Fort Smith, AR

April

April 7, 2015

Central Baptist College - Annual Career Fair

11:30am - 2:30pm

Fort Smith, AR

Spring 2015 Events

April 7, 2015

University of Arkansas - Media & Communication Career Fair

1:00pm - 4:00pm

Fayetteville, AR - Arkansas Union International Connections Lounge

April 8, 2015

Arkansas Tech University - Spring Career Fair

9:00am - 12:00pm

Russellville, AR - W.O. Young Ballroom

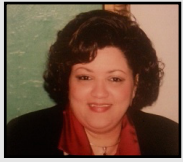
April 9, 2015

University of Arkansas - Teaching Fair

3:00pm - 6:00pm

Fayetteville, AR - Arkansas Union Verizon Ballroom

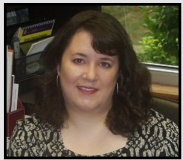
2014-2015 Board Members



Sandra Thomas (President)
Arkansas Department of Health, Little Rock



Monique Forehand (Past President)
Hershey's, Northwest Arkansas



Kimberly Spicer (President-Elect)
University of the Ozarks, Clarksville



Kimberly Blann-Anderson (Secretary)
University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, Little Rock



Heather Reese (Treasurer)
Arkansas Department of Human Services, Little Rock



Don Smith (Employer Representative)
The Heritage Company, Sherwood



Dana Tribble (4 Year College Representative)
Arkansas Tech University, Russellville



Mary Kay Wurm (2 Year College Representative)
National Park Community College, Hot Springs



Rickey Booker (Historian)
University of Arkansas, Fayetteville