AACRAO and Federal Relations Update
AACRAO who are we?

- [http://aacrao.org/home/about](http://aacrao.org/home/about)
- [http://aacrao.org/home/about/aacrao-demographics](http://aacrao.org/home/about/aacrao-demographics)
- AACRAO Leadership – please vote if you are an AACRAO member!
FERPA on-line training

- AACRAO developed an online interactive FERPA training that can be implemented into learning management systems such as Moodle, Blackboard, or Edmodo.
- Pilot schools will be selected after a public call for volunteers and AACRAO hopes to make it available by mid 2017.
- AACRAO will also gather feedback about the viability of a variety of payment and delivery options.
The Future of the ERP

• AACRAO members drafted a white paper shared at the Tech/Transfer conference last July where major vendors presented sessions on the topic.

• Future sessions on the subject are under development.

• Goals include:
  – understanding the current landscape of ERPs and SISs and their impact on AACRAO professionals
  – Exploration and evaluation of what is on the horizon
  – Identification of key questions/considerations as campuses evaluate their options while developing and sharing practical tools and resources for the AACRAO membership
Veteran’s Compliance and Reporting

- AACRAO, the Department of Defense, Student Veteran’s of America, and the National Student Clearinghouse have developed a proposal to streamline the veteran’s compliance reporting process.
- The Clearinghouse would create an interface with the VA system so that it could report on behalf of institutions similar to how it provides other federal compliance reporting.
- See “Trending Topics” on the AACRAO web site to learn more.
- Also note, the Department of Veteran’s Affairs has postponed the publication of four-year school data in their Scorecard after many institutions raised concerns about the accuracy of the data. They are now working to align their process more closely with a “schools graduation success”.
State and Regional Association Technology support

- AACRAO has a proposal with MemberClicks under development to provide an association management software solution designed for small associations such as AACRAO state and regional associations.

- The software includes many of the basic functions of association management such as a web site, member database, dues and member renewals, email communications and event registration.

- If NEACRO is interested in learning more, contact AACRAO IT Director Greg Osburn gosburn@aacrao.org.
AACRAO Public Policy and Education Agenda Update

- Draft changes presented at 2015 Annual Meeting
- Additional edits incorporated
- Proposed changes published for review in Sept.
- Final edits incorporated
- Public Policy and Education Agenda presented to AACRAO Board for approval
- Public Policy Advisory Committee
AACRAO Update

Other Updates and Announcements

- AACRAO Core Competencies and Proficiencies
- Lumina Grant: comprehensive student record pilot
- 60 Second Surveys
- IES Changes
AACRAO Update

Upcoming Meetings

• 2017 Winter Institute for International Transfer Credit, January 23-26, 2017, Alexandria, VA
• 2017 Annual Meeting, April 2-5, 2017, Minneapolis, MN
Federal Budget Update

- Congress approves, President Obama signs two-year budget and debt limit agreement
  - Deal raises discretionary caps by $80 billion for defense and domestic spending in 2016 and 2017

- FY 2016 Omnibus Spending Bill
  - Legislation boosts some student aid and federal research funding

- FY 2017 Budget Update
HEA Reauthorization

• Potential timeline
• Meeting with Senate HELP Committee Chairman Lamar Alexander (R-TN)
• House advances HEA-related bills
  – Simplifying the Application for Student Aid Act (H.R. 5528)
  – Accessing Higher Education Opportunities Act (H.R. 5529)
HEA Reauthorization

- House advances HEA-related bills (cont.)
  - HBCU Capital Financing Improvement Act (H.R. 5530)
  - Strengthening Transparency in Higher Education Act (H.R. 3178)
  - Empowering Students Through Enhanced Financial Counseling Act (H.R. 3179)
  - Strengthening Career and Technical Education for the 21st Century Act
FERPA

• House floats Student Privacy Protection Act
• Education Dept. releases draft guidance on the disclosure of student medical records
  – Advised colleges to handle student medical records under FERPA similarly to those governed by HIPAA
• AACRAO submits comments on draft guidance
  – Outlines key issues and urges ED to reconsider proposal to apply HIPAA standards to student education records
Hot Topics

• In the Courts
  – Fisher II, Immigration, Gainful Employment
• DOL Overtime Rule
• ED State Authorization Rule
• ED Guidance on Transgender Students
• ED Guidance on Criminal Records in Admissions
• 2017-2018 FAFSA
• Pilot Programs to Expand Financial Aid Eligibility
Questions?