



Network News

Texas – Oklahoma – Arkansas – Louisiana Region
National Association of Educational Procurement

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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Greetings TOAL Members & Friends!

I can't believe summer is almost here and we are just five months away from our next TOAL Annual Meeting & Exposition scheduled for September 24-27, 2017 in Tulsa! Recently the TOAL board met for their site visit at the beautiful Hyatt Regency in downtown Tulsa and we have a wonderful program shaping up for you! Our theme this year is *Procurement Matters: Surviving and Succeeding*. Kevin Holmes and the Oklahoma State host committee are also working very hard on bringing you an exciting and fun-filled event. As an added bonus the annual meeting will also include a three-hour TOAL "mini institute" on Sunday afternoon at no additional cost.

Bryan Glenn, West Texas A&M University, and 1st Vice President of TOAL has been busy coordinating speakers and educational break-out sessions for a great program. Chandra Miller, Oklahoma State University Institute of Technology and 2nd Vice President of TOAL, is planning the best vendor show ever and Jennifer Adling, Texas Tech University and Secretary of TOAL, is keeping everyone organized and helping us stay on task! Mary Williams, Texas A&M Engineering Experiment Station and Immediate Past President, is in charge of the nominating committee while continuing to provide support and phenomenal ideas as always. Patty Winkler, Texas A&M University, in her final year as TOAL Treasurer, is keeping track of finances, taking care of registration payments, and ensuring our budget is solid and well-spent! More details about the annual meeting will be sent out at a later date!

You may want to make plans to arrive early, or stay late, and visit more of Tulsa's popular attractions and shopping areas. The conference hotel is located in the historical Blue Dome district of Tulsa, one of the city's most visited entertainment areas. The Hyatt Regency is just a short walk from a vibrant nightlife with fantastic restaurants and colorful bars and pubs, and even a bowling alley. The Blue Dome district is filled with activity almost every night of the year.

At this time I would like to take the opportunity to congratulate Joe White, University of Texas at Arlington for being the recipient of the 2017 TOAL Scholarship of \$1,000 to attend the NAEP annual meeting in Reno, NV in March! More scholarship opportunities are offered in this newsletter, so please take advantage of them. Start making plans now to pack your bags for another great TOAL conference in Tulsa, OK this coming September! Online registration will begin the first of May at www.naeptoal.org. So.....get your kicks on Route 66 and travel to Oklahoma where the wind comes sweepin' down the plain, look forward to living on Tulsa Time, where you might just see an Okie from Muskogee on your way, and remember, you may never have been to heaven, but you can say I've been to Oklahoma!

I am honored and excited to be serving as the 2017 TOAL President and promise to do whatever possible to live up to the wonderful TOAL legacy of past presidents!

Rhonda Caton, CPPB, CPPO
President, TOAL 2017



**2017 TOAL Conference Planning
Meeting in Tulsa, Oklahoma**

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

It is once again that time to seek out members interested in becoming an officer of TOAL. Please contact Mary Williams no later than August 1, 2017 with your nomination for Secretary. All nominations shall include the following:

- Affirmation that the nominee is an active, loyal and dedicated member in the NAEP/TOAL Region.
- Affirm that they have the financial support and full commitment of their institution and understand the responsibilities of the office to which they are being nominated and the subsequent offices that they may hold as an officer.

Please review the TOAL By-Laws and/or seek out a current TOAL board member to review the duties that are required prior to submitting your nomination. A current copy of the TOAL By-Laws may be viewed from your TOAL website <http://www.naepcoal.org/docs/TOALHandbookwithBylaws.pdf>

As your Immediate Past President, I would just like to encourage anyone interested in serving the organization either as an officer or volunteer to get involved. This is a GREAT organization and you receive as much as you give with terms of experience, leadership opportunities and professional development and growth within your profession.

Mary Williams, C.P.M., CTPM
Immediate Past President
Me-williams@tamu.edu



Jack Kennedy always said to me, Hedy, get involved. That's the secret of life. Try everything. Join everything. Meet everybody.

— Hedy Lamarr —

AZ QUOTES

TOAL Annual Meeting & Exposition

The TOAL Annual Meeting and Exposition will be held September 24-26 on Tulsa, Oklahoma!

Members can attend TOAL for only \$300.00. TOAL provides a great opportunity to network with other procurement professionals in the region, attend an exciting Exhibitor event, and the opportunity for up to 14 continuing education hours. In addition, TOAL will provide a mini institute on Sunday afternoon. The mini institute will provide an additional three hours of CEUs.

We know that many institutions are experiencing budget cuts this year. TOAL is a great way to make lasting connections and to expand your industry knowledge. Below are some cost savings tips for attending TOAL:

1. Carpool with other TOAL members from your institution or location.
2. Apply for a TOAL scholarship. TOAL will award \$850.00 to apply towards travel expenses for up to ten awardees. <http://www.naepcoal.org/docs/TOAL-2017-Scholarship-Application.pdf>
3. Find a roommate! The double rate is the same as the single rate. <http://www.naepcoal.org/events/2017/hotel-reservations.html>
4. TOAL registration includes all of your meals starting with Sunday night and concluding on Wednesday at noon.

If you can only attend one event this year, make sure it is **TOAL!**



TREASURER'S REPORT

Greetings from your Treasurer! We have been busy over the past few months updating the registration pages to better serve our members and vendors. We hope that the new clean look will only make it easier for everyone to register for the 2017 TOAL Conference in Tulsa, OK.

During our planning meeting last month, one of the main topics – “*continuation of budget cuts across the states*”. We wanted to make sure that if you are only able to attend one professional development event this year, that you select TOAL.

We have packed over 18 CEU hours into the program, held your hotel rate low at only \$119.00 per night as well as all food and events are included in your registration cost during the conference.

Don't miss the great conference we have planned for you! See you in Tulsa, OK

Patty Winkler, C.P.M.
TOAL Treasurer



**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED
FOR
TOAL CONFERENCE!**

Please volunteer for TOAL 2017 in Tulsa, OK. Currently TOAL needs moderators for the sessions.

- Moderators introduce speakers;
- Moderators thank the presenters for volunteering; and
- Moderators track time and distribute and collect presentation evaluations.

There are other ways you may volunteer as well. Please see the Volunteer Form attached to your newsletter. If you are willing to assist, we can find a place for you!

<http://www.naepatoal.org/events/2017/docs/Volunteer-Form.pdf>

VENDOR EXHIBITS

We need your help in getting vendors to register for this year's vendor exhibit. We have space for 68 vendors at the Hyatt Regency in Tulsa, Oklahoma. Please encourage all vendors to participate in this year's TOAL Conference. All information and registration forms for potential exhibitors are on the TOAL website: <http://www.naepatoal.org/events/2017/exhibitor.html>

The vendor exhibits are a great way to learn about the goods and services that these vendors provide. In addition, there are so fantastic raffle items given away at this event. Don't miss it!

Please e-mail Chandra Miller if you have a vendor who is interested in sponsoring TOAL or participating in the Vendor Exhibit event. Chandra.miller@okstate.edu