



ACUTA

eNews

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TO KNOW**



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Morrison



Brant



Jansenius



Reynolds



Esposito



Megill



Moore



O'Bryan

Board of Directors for 2015-16

With the elections behind us, a new Board of Directors will begin working together at the end of the Conference on April 22. This year we elected a President-elect, Secretary/Treasurer, and two Directors-at-Large.

Current President Mark Reynolds of the University of New Mexico, will assume his new position as Immediate Past President. President-elect Michele Morrison, British Columbia Institute of Technology, will step into the role of President for 2015-16. The new President-elect is Arthur Brant, Abilene Christian University, who has most recently served as Chair of the Program/Content Committee. Publications/Media Committee Chair, Jeanne Jansenius of Seawane: The University of the South, will serve as Secretary/Treasurer.

Chris Megill, The George Washington University, was elected to his first term as Director-at-Large. Adrienne Esposito, Rutgers University, was elected to her second term as Director at Large. Sharon Moore, Smith College, and Cathy O'Bryan, Indiana University, will serve the second year of their two-year terms as Directors-at-Large. The Board-appointed Director-at-Large has not been announced yet.

Congratulations to all those who were elected, and thanks to all who sought an opportunity to serve. Board service requires commitment and dedication, but also offers an excellent leadership experience. ACUTA's volunteer Board is very active and plays a vital role in the success of the organization.

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Corinne Hoch, PMP
ACUTA CEO

Poised for Growth

Yesterday when I realized that I hadn't received any e-mail messages in my university account since the morning, I sent a test message. Well, it was sent successfully, but I still didn't see it. So I called the HelpDesk. As I waited patiently because I really needed help, watching the minutes change in the lower right-hand corner of my screen, I thought about the many years I was responsible for generations of help desks there and that I am still in touch with many who work and worked there, some while going to school. One is an attorney now in Colorado, and I enjoy sharing his life

achievements, seeing his family grow up through our virtual exchanges.

I learned from the wonderful, knowledgeable university HelpDesk representative that all accounts had been moved from Exchange. Rather than ask why I hadn't known, I was respectful of his time and valued his expertise as he went through the steps with me to update my computer, iPad, and iPhone. And, yes, I have written my device password

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Are you a C-level leader?

If you are, and you have not received your invitation to this year's exclusive

**Strategic Leadership
Forum**, contact me at
choch@acuta.org.

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Unweighted Median Salary by Carnegie Classification

Data from the College and University Professional Association for Human Resources (CUPA-HR)'s 2014-15 Administrators in Higher Education Salary Survey show a median base salary increase in 2014 of 2.5% for those in senior-level positions at public institutions, compared to a 2.3% increase for those in the same positions at private institutions. CUPA-HR is the recognized authority on compensation surveys for higher education, with its seven salary surveys designed by higher-ed HR professionals for higher-ed HR professionals and other campus leaders. The following table lists overall median salaries for higher-ed IT-related administrative positions.

Title	All Institutions	Research University	Other Doctoral	Masters	Baccalaureate	Associates
CIO/IT Officer	134,168	229,500	173,626	129,162	111,092	112,430
Dep. Chief Info/IT Officer	113,179	154,127	132,439	102,854	82,160	97,414
Chief Campus Telecom Network Administrator	97,888	122,539	102,146	89,624	91,915	86,753
Chief Campus Admin. Computing Administrator	98,346	130,513	100,655	97,850	86,751	82,800
Chief Campus IT Security Administrator	103,054	129,901	102,000	92,000	83,037	81,907

Inter-Building Fiber Networks

by Dr. Ian Timmins, OCC

As the demand for high-bandwidth networks continues to proliferate on campuses of all types, many are struggling with how to implement a high-count fiber backbone that supports high-speed data requirements and yet is reconfigurable to suit both current and future needs.

For many campuses, future needs are not currently known, and incorporating a network system that offers both high-density and easy accessibility is a challenge. Thus, a reliable and reconfigurable system innately suited to increasing bandwidth-hungry users is needed for dynamic support of future applications.

These types of fiber installations are becoming very popular because everyone is certain of two things. First, supporting the typical user means accommodating higher bandwidth demands. Second, changes in the network configuration are inevitable.

In most current situations these networks will be based on high-count fiber optic backbone cabling systems. Architectures with fiber counts of 144 and 288 are not uncommon, and installations with even higher numbers are emerging.

Unfortunately, many networks that are composed of high-count fiber optic cable ultimately result in disappointments and frustrations with the conventional type of cabling and connectivity. High fiber count cables with a large outside diameter are inflexible and are hard to manage and install, which can risk broken fibers and jeopardize the success of the system. This, combined with connectivity utilizing stacks of splice trays feeding adapter plates with extremely high fiber counts, can make for infrastructure that is very challenging to service or execute moves, adds, and changes.

Conventional implementations intended to enhance versatility and thereby overcome this challenge can easily lead to systems with too many connectors in the communications channel. This causes increased attenuation, decreased bandwidth results and general degradation in signal integrity. Stacks of splice trays that must be manipulated to access a single fiber can disrupt the entire network every time service is performed. Ultimately, conventional network architecture is prone to disruptions, increased financial costs due to maintenance, and premature system overhauls.

One new solution offered through the OCC Blade™ Solution provides flexible cable subgroups that protect the installer from damaging the fiber during the installation process, and a connectivity system that provides easy access to every fiber in the system, without disrupting peripheral fibers during servicing. This is a fiber network solution designed for building-to-building applications, incorporating a "blade-like" splicing system along with OCC's proprietary, high-count, indoor/outdoor fiber optic cable.

With this solution, an 'in-line flow' of individual fiber groups provides slack storage, splicing, and access to industry standard couplers, in a form factor that can be accessed from either the front or back of the rack-mount chassis and wall-mount enclosures. Fiber subgroups can be accessed independently of all other subgroups.

Dr. Ian Timmins is Vice President of Engineering, Enterprise Connectivity Products at Optical Cable Corporation (OCC) in Roanoke, VA. (www.occfiber.com.)