

# ALAIR

# NEWSLETTER

Alabama Association for Institutional Research

January, 2002

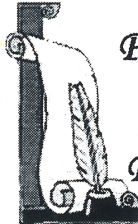
## *ALAIR Executive Committee:*

*President: Priscilla Holland*  
*Vice President: Jim Eck*  
*Secretary: Cara Mia Braswell*  
*Treasurer: Stephen Fancher*  
*Past President: Mimi Johnson*

*Members-at-Large:*  
*Janette Newhouse*  
*Dan Tennison*  
*Diane Sherman*

## *Nominating Committee:*

*Kelly D'Eath*  
*Marvalene Freeman*



## *President's Corner*

*By*

*Priscilla Holland*

I hope that the Holiday season was a great one! May your 2002 be filled with peace, productivity and happiness!

ALAIR's Annual Regional workshop was held at Snead State with Kelly D'Eath coordinating the

event. Thanks to Kelly D'Eath for her hard work and to Tammie Richey and Janis Lowther the workshop presenters. AIR and IPEDS supported the workshop with material and the presenters.

It is with great pleasure that I announce the Best Paper Award for the 2001 ALAIR Annual Conference. Dr. Anna Waggener's paper "Principles of Graphical Excellence" will be presented at AIR in Toronto, Canada in June.

The 2002 ALAIR Conference time and place have been set. Please join us at Samford University in Birmingham on April 11 and 12 for information sharing and rejuvenation. Now is the time to be thinking of a paper, panel or a Tools and Technique session. Don't forget to enter the Factbook competition both published and electronic. You will receive entry forms with registration packets in March.

The 2001 SAIR meeting in Panama City Beach was a great success. Of course ALAIR members kept a high profile with Sam Lowther as the program chair and Harriot Calhoun as the president. ALAIR members made presentations, served on/and chaired committees, worked registration, served as facilitators.

One of the goals for the coming year is to increase the membership by recruiting new members and convincing old ones to return to the fold. We are also encouraging all members to recruit graduate students that may be interested in the field of institutional research. Full time students can join ALAIR at a reduced fee. Please notify appropriated departments within your graduate schools.

One of ALAIR's Executive Committee's goals is to meet the needs of all members. In this we welcome any suggestions as to ways to be more responsive to each of you.

Check out the ALAIR website [www.alair.org](http://www.alair.org) for current information and pictures from SAIR in Panama City and the Regional Work-Shop at Snead State (coming up soon)!

Looking forward to seeing each of you at the ALAIR Conference in April!

Priscilla Holland

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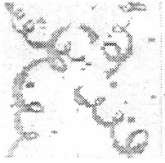
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## ALAIR Annual Conference

April 11-12, 2002

Call for Proposals Due March 15th

## MEMBER NEWS



### Welcome New and Returning Members:

◆ From Wallace Community College in Dothan, **Mike Babb**, Dean of Instructional Support Services;

◆ **Tim Smith**, Director of Institutional Effectiveness, from Jacksonville State University;

◆ **Steve Spratlin**, Director of Institutional Research, Southern Union Community College;

◆ **Shirley Kargleder** Registrar, from Spring Hill College;

◆ from Enterprise State Community College, **Sue Baum**, Director of Computer Service;

◆ **Marylyn Reece**, Director of Institutional Research and Dean of Extended Day from Northeast Alabama Community College;

◆ and from University of Mobile, **Kaye Brown**, Director of Institutional Research.

### Congratulations to:

**Mimi McDaniel** who recently took a new position as an Institutional Research and Planning Analyst in the Division of Development with Trenholm State Technical college ( Her new office will be at the Trenholm Campus on Air Base Blvd., in Montgomery);

**Jim and Wendy Eck** upon the birth of Rachel Brianne Eck on November 20<sup>th</sup>, 2001 "8 pounds, 4 ounces, 21 3/4 inches long";

**Cara Mia Braswell**, who is engaged to be married; and

**Jon C. Acker**, who is the newly appointed Coordinator of Student Assessment at the University of Alabama. Dr. Acker, along with **Bill Fendley** and **Billy Hughes** recently won the Best Paper Award for presenting "Implementing a Recursive Retention Assessment System for Engineering Programs" at SAIR in Panama City and will be presenting this paper at AIR in Toronto.

### ALAIR Regional Workshop Held December 7<sup>th</sup>, 2001

The 2001 ALAIR Regional Workshop was held December 7 on the Snead State Community College campus in Boaz, Alabama. Twenty-three participants attended the one-day workshop. Following

the welcome by Snead President Dr. Johnny McAlpine, Tammie Richey (Assistant Director of Institutional Research at Jefferson State Community College) and Janis Lowther (Institutional Research Associate at the Alabama Commission on Higher Education) provided an overview of IPEDS changes and the winter collection. Following lunch, the training convened in a computer lab to allow participants hands-on training in with both the winter collection and peer analysis.

The following evaluation comments highlighted the positive aspects of the presentations:

- *Hands on computer exercises were helpful and raised issues and questions that were immediately answered*
- *Ability to see actual screens and get explanation first hand*
- *Import file information was helpful*
- *The "hands-on" training; the training manual is great to have!*
- *Advice from other users at schools like mine*
- *Peer Analysis - migration to spreadsheets!!*  
- Kelly D'Eath.

### SAIR Success - ALAIR Presence Significant Again

SAIR '01 is history and ALAIR members played a significant part. Many of us enjoyed the program and activities at the Edgewater Beach Resort in Panama City Beach, FL. A good many of us were more actively involved with organizing and putting on the conference. In my role as conference program chair, I received valuable assistance from Jim Eck, chair of the panels committee, Carol Chenault, chair of the facilitators committee, Hanne Delbridge, SAIR treasurer and chair of the registration committee, and Teresa Hall, SAIR board member at large and chair of the workshops committee. Robert Gottesman provided invaluable assistance with technical support, Cathy Tanner served as a reviewer of paper proposals, and Cara Mia Braswell performed yeoman service with conference publications and door prizes, and fought through illness to chair the document competition judging. Many others assisted Hanne with registration and, particularly vital, several ALAIR colleagues came through when I begged for computer projectors. Most importantly, several of our members were on the program, presenting papers, teaching workshops, serving on panels, convening roundtables and facilitating sessions. Many thanks to everyone who contributed.

I've just returned from Baton Rouge, LA, site of the 2002 SAIR conference, and I think you'll be very pleased with what program chair Joseph Hoey is putting together for you. I want to encourage all of you to make plans to attend, and especially to answer his calls for proposals and assistance when they go out. SAIR officers have learned that they can depend on ALAIR people. Keep up the exceptional work. -Sam Lowther

### DON'T FORGET TO MARK YOUR CALENDAR:

**April 11-12, 2002, ALAIR Annual 16<sup>th</sup> Annual conference**, Samford University, Birmingham, AL. Overnight lodging will be available at the Courtyard by Marriott (at an ALAIR rate of \$75/night) located about one mile from the Samford University campus. Dinner on Thursday night will be at Sarris Seafood and Steak Restaurant. For more information, contact Dr. Jim Eck, Samford University, [jceck@samford.edu](mailto:jceck@samford.edu).

**June 2 - 5, 2002, the Association for Institutional Research (AIR), 42nd Annual Forum**, Sheraton Centre, Toronto, Ontario, Canada. Contact the AIR Executive Office, 114 Stone Building, Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL 32306-4462; Phone: (850) 644-4470; Fax: (850) 644-8824; or at: <http://www.airweb.org/forum02/>

## GUIDELINES FOR THE ALAIR TRAVEL GRANT TO AIR (\$300)

### Introduction

In order to promote the three major purposes of ALAIR:

- the advancement of institutional research leading to improved understanding, planning, and operation of Alabama institutions of higher education
- The dissemination of information and interchange of ideas on problems of common interest
- the continued professional development of ALAIR members;

The Executive Committee of ALAIR, based upon the recommendation of the Awards Committee, will select a travel grant recipient from among applications received.

Guidelines for application:

- Applicant must be a member of ALAIR.
- Executive Committee members are not eligible to receive any travel grant
- Applicant must have attended at least one ALAIR conference
- Application must be received by published due date
- Applicant must provide a brief statement describing financial need for Travel Grant
- Applicant must describe the ways in which conference attendance will contribute to professional development in general and recipient's participation in ALAIR

The amount of the Travel Grant for AIR will be \$300.00. The announcement of the recipient will be made by the Immediate Past President at the annual ALAIR conference each year. Payment will be issued by the ALAIR Treasurer to the recipient upon attendance and return from AIR.

**Remember: Nominations for Officers, Sutton Leadership Award, Conference Proposals, and Applications for Travel Grants are Due> See Enclosures.**

## ALAIR Grants Awarded To AIR

|                        |                              |
|------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1994 Vicki Hawsey      | Reid State Technical College |
| 1995 Teresa Hall       | Auburn University            |
| 1996 Anna Waggener     | University of South Alabama  |
| 1997 Dan Tennimon      | Troy State University-Montg. |
| 1998 Mimi Johnson      | Alabama State University     |
| 1999 Frank Hurley      | University of South Alabama  |
| 2000 Priscilla Holland | University of North Alabama  |
| 2001 Harriot Calhoun   | Jefferson State Com. College |

## ALABAMA ASSOCIATION FOR INSTITUTIONAL RESEARCH JOSEPH T. SUTTON LEADERSHIP AWARD

*Criteria: All eligible award recipients must at some time have been involved in institutional research or a related field in Alabama. Beyond that, at least one of the following criteria must be met:*

- A. Service to ALAIR, SAIR or AIR in the form of serving as an officer, committee member, or conference host; making presentations; and other forms of volunteer activity.*
- B. A career in institutional research or a related field exemplifying leadership accomplishment, and innovation.*
- C. Contribution to the field of institutional research through specific accomplishments and innovative endeavors which enhance the field, institution, or community (local, state, nation).*
- D. Retirement will not be a criterion.*
- E. Former members of ALAIR and individuals who are not members of ALAIR will be eligible, as will former Alabamians who have been involved in institutional research in Alabama.*

### *Selection Process:*

- A. Annually, the Immediate Past President will chair the awards committee and develop a list of not more than three candidates for recommendation to the Executive Committee. The recommendation of the committee should be ranked. The President will appoint a chairperson who will then appoint the other members of the committee.*
- B. An affirmative vote by the majority of the Executive Committee members present during voting is required for approval of a Joseph T. Sutton Award.*
- C. Only one award should be presented. However, there could be co-recipients, for example, in the case of two or more people working together on a significant body of research.*
- D. Criteria and procedures for selecting The Joseph T. Sutton Award recipient are distributed annually to all ALAIR members.*
- E. The award should be presented at the ALAIR Annual Conference by the President and the Immediate Past-President (or his/her designee).*



Cara Mia Braswell  
ALAIR  
205 Samford Hall  
Auburn University, AL 36849-5111



*Previous Joseph T. Sutton Award Recipients*

|      |                      |  |
|------|----------------------|--|
| 1993 | Dr. Gerald Leischuck | Auburn University                      |
| 1994 | Mr. Alfred Yeager    | University of South Alabama            |
| 1995 | Dr. Kay Staub        | University of Alabama                  |
| 1996 | Dr. Al Searway       | Jacksonville State University          |
| 1997 | Mrs. Deborah Dailey  | University of Alabama at Birmingham    |
| 1998 | Mr. Ed Rutledge      | Alabama Commission on Higher Education |
| 1999 | Dr. Harriott Calhoun | Jefferson State Community College      |
| 2000 | Mr. Sam Lowther      | Auburn University                      |
| 2001 | Dr. Myrtes D. Green  | Stillman College                       |

## CALL FOR PARTICIPATION/PAPERS

16<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference of the Alabama Association for Institutional Research  
April 11-12, 2002  
Samford University



### Alike or Different?: Product Differentiation and the Institutional Researcher

The 16<sup>th</sup> Alabama Association for Institutional Research Annual Conference will be held at Samford University, Birmingham, Alabama on April 11 and 12, 2002. The theme of this year's meeting will be "Alike or Different?: Product Differentiation and the Institutional Researcher," focusing on making institutions distinctive by emphasizing strengths.

Your participation in the ALAIR Conference is essential to ensure the success of the Conference. You do not have to be an ALAIR member, or even an institutional researcher. Proposals are encouraged in all areas of institutional research, assessment, policy analysis, planning, or other areas of interest to the membership. Proposals do not have to be related to the conference theme, and can take the form of a paper, presentation, or tools and techniques session.

- Papers and Presentations are formal sessions that present a scholarly approach or extended discussion of a technique of interest to conference participants. These sessions will be approximately 45 minutes in length, which should include time for questions and discussion. An overhead projector and screen will be provided for each session.
- Tools and Techniques sessions are informal displays of reports, analyses, techniques, software, demonstrations, or similar items. The presenter may choose to prepare a brief (3-5 minute) presentation, but the value of this type of session is the opportunity to discuss the topic one-on-one or in small groups.

To submit your proposal, send the following information and attach a brief abstract of what you would like to present. Proposals should be postmarked by March 15, 2002. If you have special equipment requirements, or have questions or concerns, please contact Jim Eck at (205) 726-2484, fax (205) 726-2971, or e-mail [jceck@samford.edu](mailto:jceck@samford.edu).

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### ALAIR PRESENTATION/PAPER PROPOSAL

16<sup>TH</sup> Annual Conference, April 11-12, 2002

Title of Presentation \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Presentation: Paper \_\_\_\_\_ Presentation \_\_\_\_\_ Tools & Techniques \_\_\_\_\_

Authors/Presenters: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Special Equipment/Requirements: \_\_\_\_\_

Return the information and your proposal by March 15, 2002 to Jim Eck, Samford University, 800 Lakeshore Drive, Birmingham, AL 35229-2240. Proposals will also be accepted by fax (205) 726-2971, or e-mail: [jceck@samford.edu](mailto:jceck@samford.edu)

**ALAIR TRAVEL GRANT APPLICATION**  
**for the 2002 42<sup>nd</sup> Annual AIR CONFERENCE**  
**Toronto, Ontario, Canada**  
**June 2-5, 2002**

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NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

INSTITUTION: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

Please provide a brief statement describing your financial need for the travel grant.

Please describe the ways in which this conference will contribute to your professional development in general and to your participation in ALAIR.

Return this form by **March 15, 2002** to:

DR. PRISCILLA HOLLAND  
DIRECTOR OF RESEARCH, PLANNING AND  
INSTITUTIONAL EFFECTIVENESS  
UNIVERSITY OF NORTH ALABAMA  
UNA Box 5121  
FLORENCE, AL 35632-0001

Information can also be emailed to: [pholland@unanov.una.edu](mailto:pholland@unanov.una.edu)

**ALABAMA ASSOCIATION FOR INSTITUTIONAL RESEARCH  
NOMINATIONS FOR 2002-2003 OFFICERS**

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*Please nominate one or more people for each of the following offices:*

**Vice-President/President-Elect:**

*"The Vice President shall: a) plan the program for the annual conference; b) assist the President in other duties as the need arises; and c) assume the duties of the President in the event that person cannot complete his/her term. The Vice President shall succeed to the office of President at the end of the one-year term as Vice President."*

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**Secretary:**

*"The Secretary shall: a) keep the minutes of the annual business meeting and other meetings of the membership or of the Executive Committee; b) publish and distribute the newsletter of the Association; c) publish and distribute an annual information directory for the Association; d) attend to the correspondence of the Association, including printing and distributing notices about the annual conference; e) print any proposed bylaws or amendment(s) initiated in accordance with Section 1 of Article I, and submit them to the members for consideration at the annual business meeting; and f) perform all said duties inherent in the position of Secretary. The term of office shall be two years, commencing in even numbered years."*

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**Nominating Committee: (Two will be elected)**

*"A Nominating Committee shall exist which consists of the Immediate Past President and two additional members to be elected by and from the membership. The Nominating Committee shall prepare and report to the Executive Committee a single candidate for each office position for which an election is to be held. Nominating Committee members are ineligible to be on the slate of officers to be elected at the annual business meeting the year in which they serve on the committee." Nominating Committee members serve on the Executive Committee of ALAIR.*

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*Return this form by March 15 to: Mrs. Mimi Evelyn Johnson, Trenholm State Technical College, Division of Development, 1225 Air Base Blvd., Montgomery, AL 36108  
or fax to: (334) 240-9733.*

*Nominations can also be emailed to: [mjohnson@trenholmtech.cc.al.us](mailto:mjohnson@trenholmtech.cc.al.us)*

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**ALABAMA ASSOCIATION FOR INSTITUTIONAL RESEARCH  
JOSEPH T. SUTTON AWARD: NOMINATIONS FOR 2002-2003**

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Person nominated:

Institution:

Nominator's name:

Rationale:

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(Use additional page if necessary)

*Return this form by March 15 to: Mrs. Mimi Evelyn Johnson, Trenholm State Technical College, Division of Development, 1225 Air Base Blvd., Montgomery, AL 36108  
or fax to: (334) 240-9733.*

*Nominations can also be emailed to: [mjohnson@trenholmtech.cc.al.us](mailto:mjohnson@trenholmtech.cc.al.us)*

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