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ALAIR

FALL 2018 NEWSLETTER

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I want to thank everyone for this opportunity to serve as the Alabama Association for Institutional Research (ALAIR) president.

As I sat down to write this message, I asked myself what I really wanted to say to you. I've been an ALAIR member for 13 years and my message is to get involved and stay involved. It doesn't matter if you get involved at the local, state, regional, or national level, it just matters to be involved. Volunteer at your community church, firehouse, homeowners' association, or professional organization. Stay connected to a group of friends and colleagues. We are stronger, personally and professionally, when we unite.

The last two ALAIR conference themes have been "COMMUNITY" and "Learning from the Experts"; both themes are about getting involved and staying involved. Meeting friends and colleagues within the community of our profession allows us to share ideas and best practices. We form bonds that are crucial to our careers and our organizations.

Please join us in March for the 33rd Annual ALAIR Conference at Lake Guntersville State Park. Vice President and Conference Chair Wendy Broyles is planning a wonderful conference. If you're new to ALAIR, we welcome you to take advantage of the informative sessions and the networking opportunities. We always strive to bring in new members and representatives from all of Alabama's two- and four-year institutions (public and private). ALAIR now has an institutional membership category, in addition to the individual membership, to accommodate reimbursement/membership policies for all institutions.

For those faces we have not seen over the past few years, ALAIR still needs your knowledge and fellowship. Please consider reconnecting at this year's conference.

The ALAIR Board would like for you to join us. We need your ideas and your expertise. We will be filling many Board positions in 2019 (vice-president/conference chair, treasurer, nominating committee, and members-at large). If you would like to get involved, please contact any of our Board members and we will be in touch with you on how to proceed.

Please get involved and stay involved. Life can have many challenges, but it can also have many rewards.

Julianna Proctor
ALAIR President 2018-19



Hayley Johnson

Hayley is using Smore newsletters to spread the word online.

Get email updates from **Hayley**:

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2018 ALAIR TRANSITION MEETING

The 2018 ALAIR Board transition meeting took place on June 26, 2018, at the Alabama Community College System (ACCS) office in Montgomery, Alabama. Pictured standing from left to right: Member-at-Large Ginny Cockerill (UAH); Treasurer Mandy Lanier (WCC); Outgoing President Kelly Birchfield (ACCS); Incoming President Julianna Proctor (UA); Secretary Hayley Johnson (UWA); Incoming Vice-President/Conference Chair Wendy Broyles (Troy) and seated is Outgoing Past-President Toner Evans (Samford).

ALAIR LEADERSHIP:



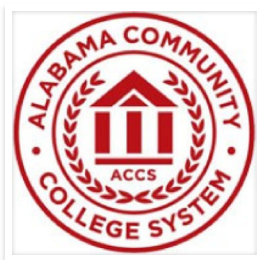
PRESIDENT

[Julianna Proctor](#)
The University of Alabama



VICE-PRESIDENT/ CONFERENCE CHAIR

[Wendy Broyles](#)
Troy University



PAST-PRESIDENT

[Kelly Birchfield](#)
Alabama Community College
System

**SECRETARY**[Hayley Johnson](#)

University of West Alabama

**TREASURER**[Mandy Lanier](#)

Wallace Community College

**MEMBER-AT-LARGE**[Ginny Cockerill](#)University of Alabama
Huntsville**MEMBER-AT-LARGE**[Kellei Samuels](#)

Tuskegee University

**MEMBER-AT-LARGE**[Melissa Rice](#)Snead State Community
College**NOMINATING COMMITTEE**[Somer Givens](#)

Troy University

**NOMINATING COMMITTEE**[Jessica Merklin](#)

University of South Alabama





2019 CONFERENCE CHAIR MESSAGE

Planning for ALAIR 2019 is well underway! We will descend on Lake Guntersville State Park on March 6-8, 2019, and I would like to ask you to begin preparing yourself now for the great conference we will make it together. The Lodge at Lake Guntersville State Park is perched on a mountain overlooking the lake, and based on the photos posted at <https://www.alapark.com/lake-guntersville-state-park>, we will have a breath-taking view. Because Lake Guntersville State Park is an Alabama State Park, your ALAIR Executive Committee has already started brainstorming some ways we can take a few conference activities outside. To give you a sneak peek of the activities we are considering, we are planning a Thursday evening barbecue on the beach, and we think a pre-conference guided hike might even be appropriate. More details will come on that front, but in the meantime, here are two things I would like for you to consider doing now to prepare:

First, it's never too early to **start preparing a conference session for the ALAIR 2019 agenda**. Do you have some ideas that you feel are half-baked? Test them on your ALAIR colleagues. We aim to offer positive, constructive criticism. Do you have some lessons learned you feel are worth passing on to others just starting in IR/IE? This is definitely the right place to share! Are you new to IR/IE and just trying to find some contacts to help guide you as you navigate the ACHE/IPEDS/SACSCOC/_____ waters (you fill in the blank)? Our 2018 conference chair and current President Julianna Proctor did an amazing job collecting member competencies to give us great contacts in targeted areas of interest! We want you to feel engaged in ALAIR, and the best way I know to get plugged in with this group is to come to the conference, present a session or moderate a panel if you will, and just meet some of the cool folks we in ALAIR are proud to call friends and colleagues.

Second, we are going to an Alabama State Park for our 2019 annual conference, and Alabama State Parks provide some exciting ways to get engaged long before the ALAIR conference begins. **Check out the 100 Alabama Miles Challenge** below. I would love for us to be able to share a total number of miles accrued by ALAIR members during our business luncheon on Friday, March 8. I've joined the challenge, and I'm hoping we can connect via an "ALAIR" group inside the challenge website. Be sure to tag @AlabamaAIR on Facebook if you get social with #100ALMiles when you join the challenge.

As Alabama's IR and IE professionals, we are **Reaching New Heights** together in 2018-2019. I'm looking forward to connecting at Lake Guntersville State Park in March, but I'm also excited about our opportunities to engage in the meantime. Happy fall, y'all!

Wendy Broyles
ALAIR Vice President/Conference Chair 2018-19



2018 100 AL Miles Challenge



ALAIR MEMBER NEWS:

WELCOME!

- John Glasscock, a 1999 Master's graduate of AUM's School of Education, joined the Office of Institutional Effectiveness in 2017 as the new Research Analyst. Prior to AUM, he worked as Coordinator of Adult Education at Wallace State Community College in Hanceville, AL.
- Philip Brodeur joined AUM's Office of Institutional Effectiveness in 2017 as their new Assessment Specialist. He is a recent graduate of Teachers College, Columbia University, where he earned his Master's degree in Higher Education Policy.
- Dr. John LeMay has joined the IR, Planning and Assessment team as a research analyst at the University of North Alabama.
- Dr. Eva W. Lewis, an expert in higher education and health care leadership, planning and management has been named Vice Provost for Institutional Effectiveness and Academic Planning following a national search. She joined UAB on August 1, 2018.
- Michelle Tin joined the Office of Institutional Research and Assessment team as an Institutional Research Analyst at The University of Alabama.
- Jennifer Benge joined the Office of Institutional Research and Assessment at the University of Alabama in Huntsville as the Interim Assistant Director of Reporting and Programming. Prior to UAH, she worked as a Database Administrator at the College System of Tennessee and then Middle Tennessee University.

MEMBER UPDATES:

- Angel Jowers' husband, Larry, received good reports from his oncologist and his GI specialist. All the blood work and tests he's had over the past 18 months indicate that he is still cancer-free. Angel and Larry appreciate everyone's thoughts and prayers! Larry asks that everyone take GI screenings seriously.

CONGRATULATIONS!

- Dan Tennimon will be retiring as of January 1, 2019, after 23 years at Troy University and 24 years in the Army. Dan has been a long-time supporter of ALAIR and will be dearly missed.
- Dr. Molly Vaughn was promoted to the Director of IR, Planning and Assessment at the University of North Alabama.



- Nathan Pitts was promoted to the Associate Director of IR, Planning and Assessment at the University of North Alabama.
- Dr. Ginger Bishop is now the Assistant Provost and Director of Institutional Effectiveness at The University of Alabama.
- Dr. Lindsay Aycock, Senior Institutional Research Analyst at The University of Alabama at Birmingham, recently completed the Data Science Certificate program at University of California, Irvine. She was chosen by her instructors to receive the Student Achievement Award from the UCI Division of Continuing Education. Per the award letter: "This award recognizes outstanding UC Irvine DCE students who have demonstrated excellence in terms of commitment to their profession and continued lifelong learning."

UPCOMING EVENTS:

SAIR 2018 CONFERENCE

WHEN: Saturday, October 6th- Tuesday, October 9th

WHERE: Norfolk Waterside Marriott- Norfolk, VA



DETAILS: The Southern Association for Institutional Research (SAIR) is dedicated to the advancement of research leading to improved understanding, planning, and operation of institutions of post-secondary education. SAIR provides a forum for the dissemination of information and interchange of ideas on problems of common interest in the field of institutional research. In addition, SAIR promotes the continued professional development of individuals engaging in institutional research and fosters the unity and cooperation among persons having interests and activities related to research. ALAIR's own Matthew Campbell (Auburn University) is the current SAIR President. It is not too late to register! Register today at <http://www.louisianau.com/sair18/registration.php>.

ALAIR SIG MEETING AT SAIR 2018 CONFERENCE

WHEN: Tuesday, October 9th, 11AM

WHERE: Hampton Roads Ballroom VII, Norfolk Waterside Marriott- Norfolk, VA



DETAILS: Please join us for a photo opportunity as the 2018 SAIR Conference draws to a close. The ALAIR Special Interest Group (SIG) meeting will take place on **Tuesday, October 9th, at 11:00 a.m. in the Hampton Roads Ballroom VII**. Please make plans to join us for a brief meeting before traveling back home to Alabama.

2019 AIR FORUM

WHEN: Tuesday, May 28th- Friday, May 31st, 2019

WHERE: Colorado Convention Center- Denver, CO

DETAILS: The AIR Forum, the Association's annual conference, is the world's largest gathering of higher education professionals working in institutional research, assessment, planning, and related post-secondary education fields. This four-day conference includes more than 300 presentations by



colleagues representing all sectors of higher education and an Exhibit Hall featuring the latest tools and resources to support data use for decision making. For more information, visit the [AIR website](#).



WANT TO TRAVEL TO SAIR OR AIR; NEED FUNDS?

Need help paying for travel to the SAIR Conference or AIR Forum? Be sure to apply for the [ALAIR Sam Lowther Travel Grant](#), and you may be able to defray those travel costs. Also, the winner of the ALAIR Conference Best Presentation receives a stipend for travel to the SAIR Conference or AIR Forum to present their winning presentation.

STAY CONNECTED:

ALAIR WEBSITE

Check out the ALAIR website to stay up-to-date on all things ALAIR...

ALAIR FACEBOOK

Check out the ALAIR Facebook page to connect with other ALAIR members!

ALAIR LISTSERV

The ALAIR listserv is designed for members to communicate and support each other. It is a good way for professionals in Alabama to ask questions or to share good practices and advice. To submit a message, address an e-mail to ALAIR-L@LISTSERV.UA.EDU.



Connect with Hayley Johnson

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