



ALAIR NEWSLETTER

Alabama Association for Institutional Research

March , 2001



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Mimi McDaniel Johnson

The height of your accomplishments will equal the depth of your convictions.
-William F. Scolavino

The ALAIR Executive Board met at the University of North Alabama on February 13, 2001. This meeting was very resourceful. Highlights of the meeting included the following:

- The Board approved a new membership brochure/application design submitted by the publications coordinator, Member-at-Large **Jeanette Newhouse**.
- Member-at-Large **Dan Tennimon** proposed several exciting initiatives to increase membership and improve member benefits in his capacity as Membership Coordinator. The Board accepted several recommendations, which included, providing Membership Certificates to all ALAIR members initially and thereafter, to new members. In addition, a proposed change to the ALAIR Constitution and By-Laws regarding adding two new categories of membership was approved for presentation to the membership for adoption at the annual conference (information is included in this newsletter).
- Other Board action included offering ALAIR t-shirts for sale at \$10.00 each. The t-shirts will be available on a pre-sale basis ONLY. You may purchase a t-shirt via the conference registration form.
- To maintain the fiscal accountability of the organization, the Board has approved the review of our financial records for two calendar years with the accountant making recommendations on proper accounting procedures.

If the depth of our Vice President, **Dr. Priscilla Holland**, and the local arrangements committee's convictions truly indicate the height of their accomplishments, we can expect a very successful annual conference at the University of North Alabama in April.

While the proration of the State's budget is foremost on all of our minds, we hope that you will make every effort to attend the 15th Annual Conference in April. We encourage you to car pool and share resources as needed. We have several informative sessions planned to address *Data Driven Decisions*. The Thursday afternoon workshops will include two exciting presentations -- hands-on computer based SPSS workshop and IPEDS workshop. On Friday, **Sandra Woodley**, Director of Financial Affairs of the Alabama Commission on Higher Education, will offer insight on the ACHE Faculty Database. I look forward to greeting you at the University of North Alabama on April 5 and 6, 2001 for our 15th Annual Conference.

MEMBER NEWS



LEISCHUCK AWARDED HONORARY DOCTORATE

Gerald S. Leischuck, retired Executive Assistant to the President and Secretary to the Board of Trustees at Auburn University, has been recognized for his long and distinguished career in higher education by conferral of the degree Doctor of Humane Letters, Honoris Causa, by Auburn University. He is a founding member of ALAIR and former recipient of the Joseph T. Sutton Leadership Award.

Leischuck, a native of Colorado, received the Ed.D. from Auburn in 1964 and entered the IR field by joining Auburn's Office of Institutional Research, one of the first in the country. He rose to become director of that office and remained with it through its several incarnations until 1992, when he became Executive Assistant to the President and Secretary to the Board of Trustees. During his tenure he was widely respected for his depth of knowledge and understanding of Auburn University, its history and constituencies, serving as a trusted advisor to the Board of Trustees and six AU Presidents. Among Leischuck's other accomplishments are serving as International President of Phi Delta Kappa, being named AU College of Education Outstanding Alumnus of 1988 and serving 10 years (five as president) on the Auburn City Board of Education. He and his wife, Emily, also retired from Auburn University, are living in Auburn and remain very involved in community, philanthropic and University activities.

Welcome New Member



From Auburn University, **Dr. Drew Clark**, Director of Assessment, Office of the Provost.

SAIR 2001 October 13-16, 2001

It's also not too early to begin making plans for the SAIR 2001 Conference which be held October 13-16, 2001, at the Edgewater Beach Resort in Panama City, Florida. The program will center on how to adapt to an ever more rapidly changing environment, evaluating and adopting the methods and technologies that will allow us to "be all we can be." Additionally, we will be instituting a special program focus on assessment, a topic near and dear to all our hearts.

I encourage you to make plans to attend SAIR '01 and to submit a program proposal when you receive the call in the near future. One special note on proposals: Because of the late timing of AIR's Annual Forum this year, deadline for SAIR submissions will fall prior to the Forum, so don't let the due date sneak up on you.

Most importantly, if you have any questions or would like to volunteer your services for this year's conference, please don't

hesitate to contact me at lowthgs@auburn.edu or at 334-844-4765. So dust off that airbrushed t-shirt and plan to join us for a round of Goofy Golf in PC. -- **Sam Lowther**, Program Chair

ALAIR 15TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE April 5-6, 2001, University of North Alabama

The preliminary program and registration form are included in this newsletter. Please note the due dates for the hotel reservations (below) and the conference registration due date on the registration form (next page).

Directions To Holiday Inn/University of North Alabama

Those traveling north on I65 can exit at Cullman 310 onto Hwy 157 which is the University of North Alabama Highway. Travel North on 157 for about 55 miles (passing through Moulton and other small towns - 157 merges with Hwy 20 just before Muscle Shoals, follow Hwy 20 - West). After arriving in Muscle Shoals, at the first intersection with a light, (Hardies on the right) turn right following 20, 43 and 72 East (which soon becomes Woodward Avenue and goes through Muscles Shoals). On Woodward Avenue, after about six red lights, you will see the Holiday Inn on the left. The intersection just before the Holiday Inn has a Texaco Station on the left. Be in the left lane, because you will be turning just after crossing the railroad track.

To get to the University of North Alabama, leaving the Holiday Inn, take a left back onto 72 east. The second light take a right (Ramada Inn is on the right). Cross the Tennessee River coming into Florence. You will be on the road/street that comes to the University. Stay in the left lane all the way through town as you have to be in the left lane when the street becomes one lane.. Bear to the right when you see the University sign on the front lawn of Rogers Hall. At the stop sign take a left and park in that lot. There are visitors parking where the streets break in three directions., Guillot University Center is on the middle street, second building. Use parking spaces with green lines.

Hotel Information for ALAIR Conference Holiday Inn, Sheffield, 4900 Hatch Blvd. Sheffield, AL 35660

Approximately 40 rooms are being held until **March 21, 2001** at a rate of \$55.00 plus 9% tax per room.. Please contact Judith Ransom at: 1-800-HOLIDAY, Sheffield, AL.

The web site for Holiday Inn is:
<http://www.basshotels.com/holiday-inn?franchise=SHEAL>



PROPOSED CHANGES IN ALAIR MEMBERSHIP

Included in this newsletter you will find proposed changes to the Constitution and By-Laws of the Association. The changes to the Constitution would divide our membership into three classifications: regular membership, student membership, and emeritus membership. We hope that by providing different membership categories ALAIR can both attract members earlier in their careers and maintain our connection with colleagues who are no longer actively employed. The By-Laws revision will allow variable membership charges to be assessed to the three classifications.

These changes will be on the agenda for discussion and voting at the Business Meeting in Florence on April 6.

CONSTITUTION

Article III

Membership and Voting

The qualifications of members and the manner of their admission shall be as follows:

~~Section 1. Membership shall be open to any person who is actively engaged in institutional research or who has professional interest in activities related to institutional research.~~

Section 2. Membership in the Association and election to any office or appointment to any committee shall not be based on race, ethnic origin, sex, age, or religious conviction.

Section 2. There shall be the following categories of membership: regular membership, graduate student membership, and emeritus membership.

Section 3. To be eligible for regular membership, a person must (a) be actively engaged in institutional research, or (b) have a professional interest in activities related to institutional research.

Section 4. To be eligible for graduate student membership, a person must be actively pursuing a graduate degree, must not be employed full time, and must (a) be actively engaged in institutional research, or (b) have a professional interest in activities related to institutional research.

Section 5. To be eligible for emeritus membership, a person must be retired and must have been an active member of the Association for a minimum of five years immediately preceding retirement. A person who retired before the fifth anniversary of the Association must have been actively engaged in institutional research for five years prior to retirement, and must have been a member of the

Association in each year between the Association's founding and the person's retirement.

~~Section 3. Membership shall include all individuals who register for attendance at the annual conference of the Association, or otherwise pay annual dues set by the Association.~~

Section 6. All individuals who register for attendance at the annual conference of the Association, or who otherwise pay annual dues set by the Association, shall be considered regular members unless a different membership classification is requested.

Section 7. All registered members, regardless of membership category, who attend the annual conference shall be allowed to vote on Association business. Election of Association officers shall be held at the annual conference business meeting.

BY-LAWS

Article V

Fees

~~A registration fee~~ Registration fees shall be assessed to all who attend the annual conference each year.

Alternate membership fees shall be determined by the Executive Committee and will be assessed to anyone who does not pay a registration fee but wishes to be a member of the Association.

Fees shall be reviewed and set annually by the Executive Committee.

41st Forum of the Association for Institutional Research June 3-6, 2001

It's time to make plans to meet your ALAIR peers and others around the country at the AIR forum. Registration is now online at <http://airweb.org> for the Annual Forum of AIR at Long Beach. We have many ALAIR members presenting; serving as committee members and well as Board members working behind the scenes for this conference. As this newsletter goes to press, reasonable flights are available into Long Beach, particularly from Atlanta. A business meeting of ALAIR will be held at the forum where our strong presence in AIR is always evident.



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

ALAIR Newsletter

Executive Committee:

President: Mimi McDaniel
Vice President: Priscilla Holland
Secretary: Cara Mia Braswell
Treasurer: Brenda Bryant
Past President: Teresa Hall
Members-at-Large:
Jeanette Newhouse
Dan Tennimon
Tim Vick

Nominating Committee:

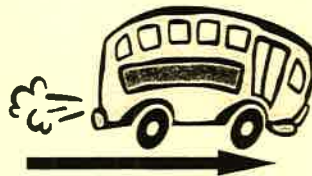
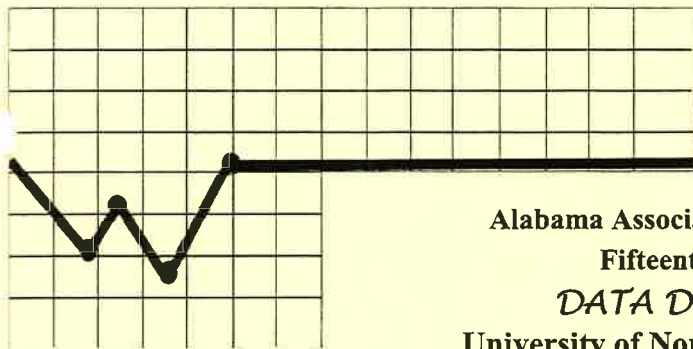
Kris Mascetti
Roderick McSwain

ENCLOSED:

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

**ALAIR 15TH ANNUAL
CONFERENCE
APRIL 5TH - 6TH, 2001**

University of North Alabama



Alabama Association for Institutional Research
 Fifteenth Annual Conference
DATA DRIVEN DECISIONS
 University of North Alabama – April 5-6, 2001

PRELIMINARY PROGRAM

Thursday, April 5th

2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.
 2:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Early Registration – 2nd Floor Commons, Guillot University Center
Concurrent Pre-Conference Workshops (No additional charge, limited space available, preregister below)

WORKSHOP 1

WORKSHOP 2

SPSS: Mapping the Road to Data-Driven Decisions – Presenter—Todd Stanfield, Coordinator of Analytical Service, University of North Alabama

Participants will be given an overview of how SPSS can be a valuable tool in the hands of the institutional researcher. Strategies for importing, cleaning, organizing, analyzing, and presenting data will be demonstrated. Participants will be given practical techniques that can assist them in solving the problems that institutional data often present. The focus will be on efficient analysis and easy-to-understand presentation of results. Registered participants are asked to forward descriptions of common problems they face in data analysis to tstanfie@unanov.una.edu. They are also encouraged to send data that can be used in the session to demonstrate ways to address these problems. Techniques will be demonstrated on a large projection screen using SPSS 10.0; however, differing techniques in earlier versions of SPSS will also be discussed.

IPEDS Training - Presenter—Dr. Bill Fendley, Director of Institutional Research, The University of Alabama

Beginning with the academic year 2000-2001, the IPEDS data collection will be entirely web-based. The IPEDS Web-Based Data collection system will allow institutions to provide NCES with the required statistical data, replacing the paper survey forms that have been used in past years. Though many in the IR field are familiar with IPEDS and have attended web-site training courses, new people enter the profession every year. The Association for Institutional Research, with a grant from the National Center for Educational Statistics, will again offer ongoing training for all personnel involved in IPEDS reporting. This will be an opportunity for a brief introduction to web-based surveys. Additionally, those who have attended previous training sessions may want to discuss issues they have encountered.

5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
 5:00 p.m. - 6:45 p.m.
 7:00 p.m. - Until

Newcomers Workshop (No additional charge - preregister below) Room 200, Guillot Univ. Center
Registration and Informal gathering - 2nd Floor Commons, Guillot University Center
Group dinner - Renaissance Tower - Meet at the 2nd Floor Commons, Guillot University Center

Friday, April 6th

8:00 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.
 8:30 a.m. - 8:45 a.m.
 8:45 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.

Registration - 2nd Floor Commons - Guillot University Center

Welcome and Introductions
Introduction of Guest Speaker

Opening Address: Dr. Kaylene Gebert, Vice. Pres. Academic Affairs (UNA) - "Data Driven Decisions"

Break

9:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m.
 10:00 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.
 10:45 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
 11:30 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.
 12:30 p.m. - 1:45 p.m.
 2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.
 3:00 p.m.

Concurrent Sessions, Part 1

Tools and Techniques

Concurrent Sessions, Part 2

Luncheon and Business Meeting - Banquet Hall, Guillot Univ. Center, 2nd Floor

ACHE Faculty Database - Sandy Woodley, Dir. Financial Affairs, Alabama Commission on Higher Education

Door Prize Drawing and Adjournment

Registration Form

Conference Registration Fee
 (includes membership 2001 - 2002)

Name _____

Amount through 3/30/01 - \$55.00
 Amount after 3/30/01 - \$65.00

Send registration form and payment by March 30, 2001 (for reduced rate) to:

Title/Position _____

Check below for Pre-conference Workshop Registration, Dinner, t-shirt.
 (You must be a registered conference participant to attend workshop.)

Ms. Brenda Bryant
Director of Institutional Research
Alabama State University
915 So. Jackson St.
Montgomery, AL, 36104

Name of Organization _____

SPSS April 5, 2001 2:30 - 5:00 p.m.

Address _____

IPEDS April 5, 2001 2:30 - 5:00 p.m.

City/State/Zip _____

Newcomers Workshop April 5, 2001 5:00 - 6:00 p.m.

Fax _____

Group Dinner April 5, 2001 7:00 p.m.

Make checks payable to: ALAIR

Tax I.D. # 63-1013416

Email _____

ALAIR T-Shirt Royal blue, short sleeve \$10.00

For more information contact:

Priscilla Holland
pholland@unanov.una.edu
(256) 765-4221

Year of first ALAIR membership _____

\$10.00 payment for T-shirts can be paid at conference or with registration.