



**Alabama Association for Institutional Research**

## NEWSLETTER

May 29, 1991

\*\*\*\*\*

### FIFTH ANNUAL MEETING PROVIDED GOOD OPPORTUNITY FOR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The fifth annual meeting of the Alabama Association for Institutional Research was held on April 24, 1991 at The University of Alabama. Approximately 65 persons attended the meeting.

"Putting It All Together: Institutional Research and Planning in the 1990's" was the theme of the meeting. **Dr. Gerald McLaughlin**, Immediate Past President of AIR and Professor and Director of Institutional Research at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, presented the keynote address. Persons interested in receiving copies of Dr. McLaughlin's overheads should contact **Don Dailey** because the "sign-up sheet" has disappeared!

During the "Tools and Techniques" session, ALAIR members were available for informal discussions and presentations on various applications of computer technology in their own IR offices. ALAIR members then heard a three-member panel discuss "Integrating Institutional Research, Planning, and Budgeting". This panel included **Dr. John Lyons**, Vice President for Planning and Information Management at UAB, **Dr. Shirley Woodie**, President at Alabama Aviation & Technical College, and **Dr. Cordell Wynn**, President of Stillman College.

Following the luncheon business meeting, **Dr. Larry Jones**, Past President of SAIR and Associate Director of Institutional Research and Planning at the University of Georgia, presented an entertaining and insightful view of "Effective Institutional Research" using "lessons" learned from the Gulf War. The program ended with two concurrent sessions by ALAIR members. **Ms. Teresa Hall**, AU, discussed "The Student Right-to-Know Act" and **Dr. Judy Rogers**, UM, and **Ms. Kathleen Balland**, UA shared information on "Using a Word Processor in Survey Research".

A special thanks goes to **Mr. Don Dailey** and those persons who worked with him to plan this outstanding program. Also, ALAIR expresses its appreciation to **Ms. Hannelore Delbridge** for handling all local arrangements at The University of Alabama.

\*\*\*\*\*

### ALAIR OFFICERS FOR 1991-92 ANNOUNCED

As a result of the elections during the business meeting, the following officers will serve ALAIR for 1991-92: President, **Mr. Don E. Dailey**, University of Alabama at Birmingham; Vice-President/Program Chair, **Dr. Albert M. Searway**, Jacksonville State University; Secretary-Treasurer, **Ms. Teresa W. Hall**, Auburn University; Immediate Past President, **Dr. Kitty C. Collier**, ACHE. ALAIR President **Don Dailey** has also appointed the following ALAIR members as Members-At-Large of the Executive Committee: **Mr. Willie J. Jackson**, Tuskegee University; **Mr. Delmar R. Duboise**, Northwest Alabama Community College; and **Dr. Julia S. Rogers**, University of Montevallo.

Also elected at the annual meeting were two members of the nominating committee: **Mr. Alfred H. Yeager**, University of South Alabama, and **Dr. Judith G. Miller**, Enterprise State Junior College.

\*\*\*\*\*



## **ALAIR ESTABLISHES TRAVEL GRANT PROGRAM**

During its recent business meeting, ALAIR established a travel grant program to facilitate the participation of ALAIR members in The Southern Association for Institutional Research (SAIR) and The Association for Institutional Research (AIR). The program will consist of two awards:

A. ALAIR Travel Grant to SAIR -- ALAIR will endorse one member's application to SAIR for the SAIR travel grant. This endorsement will include a letter of support accompanying the application and a matching grant of no more than \$200. Should the applicant not receive the SAIR travel grant, he or she would still receive the ALAIR grant. The Executive Committee will make the selection based on need, service to ALAIR, and involvement in SAIR.

B. ALAIR Travel Grant to AIR -- ALAIR will select one member to apply for a travel grant from AIR and will match this grant for up to \$300. Should the applicant not receive the AIR travel grant, he or she would still receive the ALAIR grant. The Executive Committee will make the selection based on need, service to ALAIR, and involvement in AIR.

The Executive Committee has the authority to suspend the ALAIR travel grant program in any year if, in its judgment, sufficient funds would not be available to meet other Association expenses.

An application for the travel grant for the 1991 SAIR Conference is attached to this newsletter. Please note that the deadline for the application is July 1, 1991.

\*\*\*\*\*

## **ALAIR COMMITTEE EXPLORING POSSIBILITY OF TRACKING STUDENTS FROM TWO-YEAR TO FOUR-YEAR INSTITUTIONS**

Colleges in the two-year system have been requesting and receiving a variety of information from the state's four-year colleges and universities regarding transfer students. With outcomes assessment becoming an increasingly dominant factor in the accreditation process, colleges are becoming even more concerned with the importance of documenting the success of their students. As a result, the four-year colleges and universities in the state are seeing increased requests from the two-year colleges for follow-up information in a variety of formats.

To help alleviate the problem of burdening the four-year schools, and at the same time ensure that the two-year colleges are receiving useful information concerning their transfer students, a committee consisting of two-year college academic deans and a committee of institutional researchers from the Alabama College Association's institutional research interest group, worked together to poll members and reach consensus on a list of definitions and requests. This list was presented to a volunteer group of four-year institutional researchers at a meeting at the University of Alabama held on Tuesday, April 23, 1991, prior to the ALAIR meeting.

**Dr. Judy Miller**, Enterprise State Junior College, and **Dr. Harriott Calhoun**, Jefferson State Community College, represented the two-year group and presented the request for standard information and format. Representatives from the four-year institutions who volunteered to test the proposed program and join **Judy** and **Harriott** as members of the ALAIR committee on transfer follow-up were: **Dr. John Porter**, University of Alabama; **Sam Lowther**, Auburn University; **Debbie Dailey**, University of Alabama-Birmingham; and **Dr. Albert Searway**, Jacksonville State University. Work will begin over the summer months, using Jefferson State and Enterprise State as trial colleges. At least some of the results should be ready by September. Many thanks to those who have worked, and are working, on this activity. Others interested in this project may contact any member of the committee for information.

\*\*\*\*\*



## MEMBER NEWS . . .

**Jim Carlson** is leaving AUM to assume duties as a Senior Research Scientist at the Educational Testing Service (ETS) in Princeton, New Jersey, effective July 1. **Carlson** served as Secretary-Treasurer of ALAIR during 1991-92.

**Joseph T. Sutton**, recently retired Executive Director of the Alabama Commission on Higher Education, has been awarded emeritus status in the Association for Institutional Research. **Sutton** was a charter member of AIR, joining the Association at its organizational meeting at Stony Brook in 1965.

Congratulations to **Jack Doane** (ACHE) on the birth on a 6 lb. 11 oz. daughter, Susan Hargrave, on April 23, 1991.

**Judy Miller** (Enterprise State Junior College) is chairing the Chancellor's ad hoc committee for the two-year college system on student tracking and placement.

\*\*\*\*\*

## MEETINGS OF INTEREST TO ALAIR MEMBERS

### 1991 AIR Forum

San Francisco

May 26-29

Contact: **Ms. Jean C. Chulak** (904-644-4470)

### Society for College & University Planning

Seattle

July 14-17, 1991

Contact: **Dr. Al Searway** (205-782-5557)

### 1991 SAIR/MIDAIR/SCUP Conference

Oklahoma City

October 6-8, 1991

Contact: **Dr. Brenda Rogers** (919-560-6367)

\*\*\*\*\*

## SAIR SUPPORTS ELEVATION OF INSTITUTIONAL RESEARCH TO A PROFESSION

In the recent SAIR newsletter, **President Brenda Rogers** shared thought on what SAIR can do to promote the professionalism of institutional research and planning. **Rogers** noted that SAIR is considering asking "the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) to recognize in its Criteria the need for adequate personnel with appropriate qualifications to staff institutional research and planning offices." **Rogers** plans to ask the membership at the SIG meeting at the San Francisco AIR Forum to consider endorsing the following revision of the 3.2 Criteria, with changes underlined:

Institutions should assign administrative responsibility to an individual with the professional qualifications for carrying out institutional research and should provide sufficient staff with appropriate experience or training to support planning and evaluation processes.

\*\*\*\*\*

### **ALAIR MEMBERSHIP ENCOURAGED**

If you did not attend the fifth annual ALAIR meeting at The University of Alabama or pay your 1991-92 dues, this will be the last newsletter you receive as a member of ALAIR. Don't let your membership expire. Send \$10 today to **Ms. Teresa Hall**, Coordinator of Institutional Studies, Auburn University, 203 Samford Hall, Auburn University, AL 36849-3521. Be sure to include your title, institution, mailing address, and telephone number.

If you know of persons who might be interested in joining ALAIR, please send their names to **Teresa Hall**. She will mail them a membership brochure which describes the organization.

\*\*\*\*\*

### **REMINDER**

The NCES IPEDS surveys will begin using the revised Classification of Instructional Programs (CIP) codes effective with the 1992 Survey. That survey, distributed late next summer (July-September 1992), will include completions for the period 1 July 91 to 30 June 92.

Therefore, the completions awarded from August 1991 forward need to be classified according to the revised CIP. However, no other data associated with calendar year 1991 or academic year 1991-92 should be classified under the revised code scheme.



# ALAIR

L. Alabama Association for Institutional Research

## Application for Travel Grant

_____ Name	_____ Title
_____ Institution	Grant requested for travel to <u>SAIR</u> or <u>AIR</u> ?
_____ Address	_____ SAIR
	Date: _____

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

2. How long have you been a member of ALAIR? \_\_\_\_\_

Please indicate if you have served as a: an officer b: a member of the Executive Committee c: a member of another committee d: other Please specify:

3. Do you currently hold a responsible position in SAIR or AIR or will you make a presentation or have other responsibilities at the next SAIR or AIR conference? \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No If yes, please specify:

\_\_\_\_\_ AIR \_\_\_\_\_ SAIR

ALAIR Exexecutive Committee Action:

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Submit to the following by July 1, 1991:

Don E. Dailey  
UAB  
M. Jordan Hall, Suite 102  
Birmingham, AL 35294