

# ALAIR NEWSLETTER

Alabama Association for Institutional Research

FALL 1993

## CALL FOR PROPOSALS

Watch your mail for a call for paper and presentation proposals for the April annual meeting in Huntsville. This year's conference theme is *Technology and Ethics: Implications for Institutional Research*.

**Dr. Judy Miller**, ALAIR vice president/president elect and conference program chair, would like to encourage the membership to submit proposals for papers or presentation dealing with this topic that continues to impact institutional researchers as the demands for data and information increase. She also would like to encourage participation in the "Tools and Techniques" segment of the conference. Suggested topics include:

- computers and screen shows
- factbooks, viewbooks, or profiles
- computer software reviews
- model IR office--policies and procedures
- special studies (withdrawing or graduating student surveys)
- evaluation of IR--how to? methods? frequency?
- hardware technology reviews
- tips from ALAIR members
- professional organization materials

Contact **Judy Miller** at Enterprise State Junior College at 347-2623, ext. 310 if you are interested or have questions or suggestions.

## ALAIR TRAVEL GRANT APPLICATION ENCLOSED

Enclosed with this newsletter is an application for the ALAIR travel grant which will be awarded to an ALAIR member to provide financial assistance for attending the AIR Forum in May in New Orleans. The Executive Committee will make the selection based on need and service to ALAIR.

The form should be completed and sent to Harriott Calhoun by January 14. All members are encouraged to apply.

## SAIR MEETS IN MEMPHIS

The Southern Association for Institutional Research held its annual joint conference with the southern SCUP regions in Memphis October 31-November 2. More than 250 people from around the region attended. Alabama sent more professionals to the conference than any state except Texas!

Alabamians and ALAIR members also were well represented in conference planning and on the program. Debbie Dailey (UAB) is out-going SAIR treasurer and handled all registration activities; Ann Tomlinson (USM) is SCUP South Central regional rep; Ann Tomlinson (USM), Bob Glover (UA), Hannelore Delbridge (UA), and Billy Hughes (UA) conducted preconference workshops; Harriott Calhoun (continued on page 2.)



## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETS

The executive committee of ALAIR met on Tuesday, October 19, at 10:00 in Montgomery. Several matters were discussed, and the highlights are outlined below.

**ALAIR Goals:** The goals for the year were accepted and are listed on page 4 of this newsletter.

**Constitution/By-laws:** The constitution review committed headed by O'Neal Smitherman suggested changes to the ALAIR constitution and by-laws which correct previous inconsistencies. Copies will be mailed to the membership before the annual conference in April.

**New AIR paper session:** AIR is implementing a new forum session called "Best Presentations from State Conferences," which is designed to provide an opportunity for institutional researchers to attend and present at a national conference. The ALAIR executive committee has selected Allen Smith's (JSU) presentation on "Use of College BASE for Assessing General Education" for nomination for this session.

**Train the Trainer:** The executive committee will nominate Dr. O'Neal Smitherman to participate in AIR's Train the Trainer program which prepares attendees to return to their states/institutions and share what they have learned at the AIR-sponsored professional development workshop.

**Transfer Data Advisory Committee:** The committee has been successful in getting participation from some four-year institutions on providing reports on transfers from two-year institutions. They are continuing to work on getting ALL institutions to participate. The feedback from the two-

years receiving the reports has been positive.

**Annual Conference:** Planning is underway and Judy Miller, vice president and program chair, wants to encourage paper and presentation proposals. (See related article on page 1!)

## ***NOMINATE SOMEONE FOR THE SUTTON LEADERSHIP AWARD!***

### MEMBER NEWS

At the University of Alabama in Huntsville, **Karen Freemon** has been named Director of Institutional Research and **Sharon Walker** has been named Director of Finance and Budgets.

**Bill Beckham**, University of South Alabama, has taken a job with the Texas Coordinating Board for Higher Education. His position as ALAIR member-at-large has been assumed by **Ellen Haulman**, ACHE.

**Dr. John Baker**, Director of Institutional Research, Planning, and Evaluation at Alabama State University, retired June 30 after many years of service in institutional research in Alabama.

During recent SAIR elections, **Myrtes Green**, Stillman College, was elected to the SAIR nominating committee, and **Al Searway**, Jacksonville State University, was elected SAIR member-at-large.

If you have any news about ALAIR members that you would like to share with the association, please send it to:

Mary Beth Bridges  
Institutional Studies and Services  
212 CHSB, UAB  
Birmingham, AL 35294-2041



## SAIR/SCUP IN MEMPHIS (cont.)

(JSCC), Ray Hackett (AU), Teresa Hall (AU), Larry Jones (UGA), Cathy McDonald (JSCC), and Ann Tomlinson (USM) presented and facilitated.

Keynote speakers this year were Ted Marchese, American Association for Higher Education, and Don Norris, Strategic Initiative, Inc. Both presented interesting, challenging talks addressing the conference theme *Balancing Effectiveness and Efficiency: A Key Relationship in Planning for the 21st Century*.

Despite a full program, there was some time for fun with a Halloween party/reception Sunday evening and a visit to Graceland on Monday night. And just about everyone proved willing to brave the unseasonably cold temperatures to sample ribs from the Rendezvous and blues from Beale Street.

The SAIR/SCUP conference is always interesting, the sessions are timely and useful, and the opportunities to gather with colleagues are invaluable. Next year's meeting is planned for San Antonio, Texas. Make plans to be there!

---

**ALAIR ANNUAL CONFERENCE  
TUESDAY, APRIL 5  
HUNTSVILLE**

---

## NOMINATIONS FOR SUTTON AWARD BEING ACCEPTED

The ALAIR Awards Committee is soliciting nominations for the Joseph T. Sutton Leadership Award. The award was established in 1992 to honor Alabamians who have demonstrated leadership and outstanding accomplishment in institutional research and related fields. The first award was presented to Dr. Gerald Leischuck of Auburn University.

Eligible recipients must at some time have been involved in institutional research or a related field in Alabama and meet one of the following criteria:

- Service to ALAIR, SAIR, or AIR in the form of serving as an officer, committed member, or conference host; making presentations; and other forms of volunteer activity;
- A career in institutional research or a related field exemplifying leadership, accomplishment, and innovation; or
- Contribution to the field of institutional research through specific accomplishments and innovative endeavors which enhance the field, institution, or community (local, state, or nation).

All nominations should include the nominee's name, brief professional history, and a brief statement regarding why you are nominating the individual. Nominations should be submitted by January 14, 1994 to Dr. Al Searway, Director of Planning and Analysis, Jacksonville State University, Jacksonville, AL 36265. The award will be presented at the annual meeting in Huntsville in April.

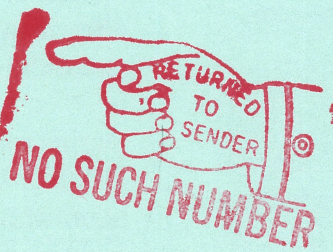


## GOALS FOR 1993-1994 SET

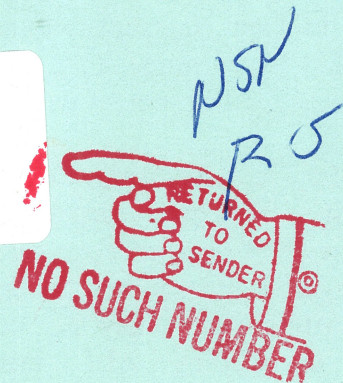
The Executive Committee adopted the following goals for the association for the coming year:

- Contribute to the professional development of members and other interested people by holding an outstanding annual ALAIR conference and for members by awarding travel grants to the SAIR and AIR annual conferences.
- Co-sponsor other programs and conferences, as appropriate.
- Review/Revise the ALAIR Constitution and By-Laws to achieve consistency within the document.
- Provide timely communication to members through the ALAIR Newsletter and other mailings.
- Continue work on the ALAIR Transfer Data Project and participate in the ACHE Higher Education Information Advisory Group activities.
- Recognize significant contributions of institutional research practitioners by the following: 1) presenting the Joseph T. Sutton Leadership Award; 2) recognizing the service of ALAIR past-presidents by presenting an appropriate award to each; and 3) recognizing members in the ALAIR Newsletter for their publications, presentations, and honors.

ALAIR Newsletter  
Institutional Studies and Services  
UAB, 212 CHSB  
Birmingham, AL 35294-2041



Dr. Louise Thomas  
Chair Department of Education  
Judson College  
Route 5 Box 699  
Alexander City, AL 35010





## ALAIR TRAVEL GRANT APPLICATION

Name/Title \_\_\_\_\_

Institution \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Please provide a brief statement describing your financial need for the travel grant and the ways in which this conference will contribute to your professional development.

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

Please indicate any ALAIR offices you have held or any committees on which you have served.

---

Indicate any positions you have held in AIR and/or any responsibilities you have at the next conference. (Note: Prior involvement in AIR is not a criterion for eligibility for the grant.)

Return this form by **January 14** to:

Dr. Harriott Calhoun  
Director of Institutional Research  
Jefferson State Community College  
2601 Carson Road  
Birmingham, AL 35215