



ALAIR NEWSLETTER

Alabama Association for Institutional Research

Winter 1994

ANNUAL CONFERENCE RIGHT AROUND THE CORNER

The ALAIR annual conference will be held at the Bevill Center on the campus of the University of Alabama in Huntsville on Tuesday, April 5. On Monday night, April 4, there are plans for dinner and socializing with colleagues who already have arrived in Huntsville. The program promises sessions that should provide interesting and useful information for institutional researchers, and as always, the opportunities to meet with friends and fellow IR professionals is invaluable. Registration materials are included in this newsletter. Please copy and share them with others at your institution who would be interested in the conference or in ALAIR membership.

HUNTSVILLE WELCOMES ALAIR

From the ante-bellum homes of the Old South to the space exploration of the future, it's all in Huntsville. You can experience Huntsville's rich heritage by visiting Constitution Village, the Huntsville Depot Museum, Burritt Museum and Park, and the Twickenham Historic District, all of which are on the National Register of Historic Places. Then reach out and touch the past, present, and future of space exploration at the world's largest space science exhibition and tour the NASA Marshall Space Flight Center where the American space program began.

We hope to see all of you at the 1994 ALAIR annual meeting and hope you'll take time to enjoy all that Huntsville has to offer.

COMMENTS FROM TRAVEL GRANT RECIPIENT

The attendance at conferences is always a blessing for me in that I am grateful for the opportunity to meet people who share the same concerns for higher education as myself. Through the efforts of the ALAIR travel grant I was able to attend the SAIR conference in Memphis October 30-November 2. This conference provides a more relaxed setting for the exchange of ideas and the issues which face each individual campus. There is a variety of activities from which to choose and encouraging camaraderie among the membership.

In the structured sense of the conference, I find the people who serve as presenters to be well organized and prepared to present high quality information. The presenters also share in formation relevant to the practices of institutional research and the issues that face a majority of the membership. The topics chosen for presentation are thought provoking and worth the consideration for being implemented on individual campuses.

I am grateful to ALAIR for the travel grant award to attend the SAIR conference. I am always eager to learn as much as possible in the field of institutional research.

Judy Elliott, Director of Institutional Research
Talladega College

ASSESSMENT/TQM CONFERENCE A SUCCESS

Over 70 people attended the fifth annual assessment conference sponsored by ALAIR and the southeastern and south central regions of SCUP. The meeting was held at the Bryant Conference Center in Tuscaloosa January 27-28; this year's theme was *Connecting TQM to Institutional Effectiveness in Higher Education: Improving Effectiveness Through Total Quality Management*. General sessions were provided by John Harris, Samford University; Greg Lozier, Pennsylvania State University; and Deb Teeter, University of Kansas.

ALAIR sponsored three conference sessions: Using TQM Tools to Improve Processes in Institutions of Higher Education, **Dr. Robert Searcy and Dr. Deana Stephenson, both of Calhoun State Community College;** Inter-College Comparison Used to Develop Institutional Benchmarks in Assessing Effectiveness and Quality, **Mr. Jim Purcell, Shelton State Community College and Dr. Ray Hackett, Auburn University;** and Applying TQM in Student and Financial Affairs, **Ms. Jeanne Alexander, Mr. Bob Cummings, Mr. Tony Dew, Dr. Virginia Gauld, Mr. Greg Jones, Dr. Aaron Lamar, and Ms. Judy Traylor, all of UAB.**

CHANGES TO CONSTITUTION TO BE VOTED ON

Attached to this newsletter is a copy of the ALAIR constitution and bylaws which reflect changes suggested by the constitution review committee and accepted by the executive committee. The constitution review committee was chaired by **Dr. O'Neal Smitherman**, and included **Bill Beckham, Harriott Calhoun, and Robert Gottesman**. They suggested changes to the constitution and bylaws which corrected inconsistencies and accommodated the results of separating the offices of secretary and treasurer. At the annual business meeting to be held during

the luncheon at the annual conference in Huntsville, the membership will be asked to vote on accepting these changes. Marks in the margins indicate changes; additions are underlined and deletions have been struck through. Please review the documents carefully and contact Dr. Smitherman at the University of Alabama System (or any member of the executive committee) with comments.

MEMBER NEWS

We all are saddened by the death of **Dr. Bob Glover**, Director of Institutional Research at the University of Alabama. Dr. Glover died at age 60 on December 23, 1993 of complications of the Epstein-Barr virus. He is survived by his wife Beryl and sons David Ainsworth of Ann Arbor, MI and Timothy Scott of Raleigh, NC. In his memory, the Robert H. Glover Memorial Fund has been established at Bowdoin College. Contributions may be sent to the attention of Harry K. Warren, Secretary of the College, Bowdoin College, Brunswick, Maine 04011.

Mike O'Rear has been named Acting Director of Institutional Research at UA.

Nancy Edgar has taken a position as Director of Institutional Effectiveness at Faulkner State Community College.

Sue A. Baum, Betty R. Cully, and Judy G. Miller, Enterprise State Junior College, contributed to the recently published Technology in Student Affairs: Issues, Applications, and Trends.

*Good judgment comes
from experience;
experience comes from
bad judgment.*

**ALABAMA ASSOCIATION FOR INSTITUTIONAL RESEARCH
EIGHTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE
APRIL 4-5, 1994
TOM BEVILL CENTER UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA IN HUNTSVILLE
REGISTRATION**

**TECHNOLOGY AND ETHICS:
IMPLICATIONS FOR INSTITUTIONAL RESEARCH**

Lodging at the TOM BEVILL CENTER UAH
(\$50.00 Per Room 205-721-9428 for Reservations--mention ALAIR)

MONDAY, APRIL 4, 1994

2:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.	Conference Registration/Committee Meetings
6:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.	Early Bird Hospitality (Everyone arriving on April 4 is cordially invited to join the officers of ALAIR for conversation and refreshments)
7:00 p.m. -	ALAIR Group Dinner (Everyone who wants to go!)

TUESDAY, APRIL 5, 1994

8:00 a.m. - 8:30 a.m.	Registration and Continental Breakfast
8:30 a.m. - 8:50 a.m.	Welcome and Introductions
8:50 a.m. - 9:45 a.m.	Opening Address, "Institutional Research and Institutional Integrity"
9:45 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.	Break and "Tools and Techniques"
10:30 a.m. - 11:15 a.m.	Session Presentations
11:30 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.	"Legal and Ethical Issues in Student Information and Reporting Requirements"
12:30 p.m. - 1:45 p.m.	Luncheon and Business Meeting
2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.	Presidents' Panel: "Technology and Ethics: Issues in the Information Age"

ALAIR Eighth Annual Conference Registration Form
(*Pre-registration Deadline March 25, 1994)

Name: _____
() Dr. () Mr. () Ms. () Mrs. () Miss ()
Title/Position: _____
Institution _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ ZIP _____
Phone _____ Fax _____
Internet _____ Bitnet _____

_____ \$40.00 Conference Pre-registration
(\$50.00 late registration after March 25, 1994 deadline)

Registration includes continental breakfast, Tuesday luncheon, and 1994 membership

_____ Check here if you plan to pay at the conference

MEMBERSHIP DUES IF NOT ATTENDING CONFERENCE:

_____ \$15.00 Individual Membership
_____ \$25.00 Institutional Membership (Covers up to two individuals)

MAIL FORM AND FEES TO:
Ms. Brenda Bryant
Institutional Research Assistant
Alabama State University
915 South Jackson Street
Montgomery, AL 36101- 0271

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: ALAIR

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FORM ENCLOSED.

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