



ALAIR NEWSLETTER

Alabama Association for Institutional Research

July 1998

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ALAIR Newsletter

Executive Committee

President: Anna T. Waggener

Vice President: O'Neal Smitherman

Secretary: Janis C. Lowther

Treasurer: Michael O'Rear

Past President: Myrtes Dunn Green

Members-at-Large:

Priscilla Holland
Sandra Fowler

Nominating Committee:

Mimi McDaniel
Cathy Tanner

President's Message

Anna T. Waggener

Greetings,

I hope this summer finds you well and happy! This August ALAIR Newsletter gives us an opportunity to reflect on the past year and anticipate the upcoming year. Many thanks to Myrtes Dunn Green for her outstanding job as President last year. Accomplishments during her tenure include updating the Constitution, Bylaws, and Guidelines Manual, the publication of the resource directory, and a successful regional workshop as well as the annual conference.

This year, as President, I plan to continue the same projects, plus establish an ALAIR web site, recruit membership from public and private 2-year and 4-year schools, and establish points of contact for various information at each institution.

With these reflections of a good past year and an upcoming busy fall, let's remember that our ALAIR network will respond if we need help with our projects, and that ALAIR folks are only an "e-mail" away!

Anna T. Waggener, ALAIR President

Plans for 1999 Annual Conference Underway

O'Neal Smitherman, Vice President of ALAIR, has begun making plans for the Annual Conference in April 1999. If you have a particular interest or suggestion about the Conference structure, please e-mail him at osmither@uasystem.ua.edu.



Executive Committee Meeting Held

Your newly elected Executive Committee held their transition meeting June 19, 1998. The 1998-99 officers are:

President: Anna T. Waggener
University of South Alabama

Vice President/President Elect:
O'Neal Smitherman
University of Alabama System

Secretary: Janis Colee Lowther
Alabama Commission on Higher Education

Treasurer: Michael O'Rear
University of Alabama

Nominating Committee:
Mimi McDaniel
Alabama State University

Cathy Tanner
Bishop State Community College

Members at Large:
Priscilla Holland
University of North Alabama

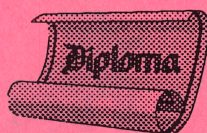
Sandra S. Fowler
Judson College

MEMBER NEWS

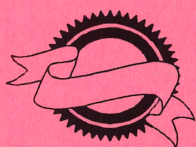
A thank-you was received from **Ronald Range**, Director of Institutional Research at Shelton State Community College, thanking ALAIR for their expression of sympathy over the passing his wife, Bonita.



Reginald A. Crenshaw, Sr. was recently appointed Director of the Student Support Services at Bishop State College.



Mimi McDaniel, Assistant Director of Institutional Research at Alabama State University recently received a post-baccalaureate certificate in Health Care Management and Policy from Auburn University at Montgomery, and currently is working on a Master's in Public Administration.



WELCOME

The position of Assistant Director of Institutional Studies at Auburn University at Montgomery, has been filled by **Kris Mascetti**. Kris began work on July 1. She was previously a Research Analyst at Broward Community College in Ft. Lauderdale and has her MA in Comparative Sociology from Florida International University in Miami.

The position of Director of Institutional Studies at Auburn University-Montgomery has been accepted by **Dr. William Blanchard** from Lake Erie College at Painsville, Ohio. Dr. Blanchard will arrive September 1, 1998.

Jerry Weeks of Jeff Davis Community College is the new MIS Director. He works with I.R. and also teaches mathematics part-time.

Welcome to our new ALAIR members:

Kathleen P. Fields, graduate student at the University of Nebraska in Lincoln; **Sandra S. Fowler**, Registrar and Institutional Research Officer at Judson College; **Michael H. Abbott**, Assistant to the President at Alabama Aviation & Technical College; **F. Diannah Rowser**, Director, Institutional Research at Reid State Technical College; **Lane Estes**, Asst. To the President, and **Judy Creed**, Adm. Asst. To the President, Birmingham Southern College.

SAIR CONFERENCE

The Southern Association for Institutional Research (SAIR) will hold its Annual Conference October 17-20, 1998 in Savannah, Georgia. The Marriott Riverfront will be the conference hotel with a room rate of \$115 for both single and double (city view). There is an upgrade charge for river view rooms. Please make your reservations EARLY! The hotel will release the unreserved rooms after September 17, 1998. People driving and parking cars at the hotel will be charged a \$7 per fee charge. Comfortable shoes are a MUST, the cobblestone Riverwalk was not made for high heels. Program and registration materials will be mailed to members. If you are not a member, contact Larry Jones: telephone 706-542-0573, fax 706-542-7588, e-mail lgjones@uga.cc.uga.edu, or visit the SAIR Conference 98 web site: <http://www.sair.org/> or www.oiri.mcgr.edu/gairpaq/sair98.htm. MAKE YOUR PLANS NOW to attend and help ALAIR show the Georgia folks in their home state that Alabama will have more attendees!

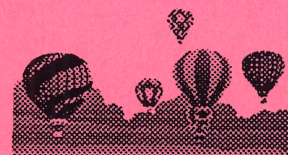


ALAIR Travel Grant to SAIR

Enclosed with this newsletter is an application form for the annual travel grant that ALAIR awards to a member for travel to the SAIR Conference. The amount is \$200, and it is always surprising that we have so few applicants. You do not have to be presenting a paper (although that certainly

would be a consideration), and you do not have to be a long-term member of ALAIR.

Indeed, the award originally was conceived to encourage members with limited travel resources, or persons new to the profession, to access the benefits that can be received by attending this conference.



38th Annual AIR Forum A Success!

Nineteen ALAIR members made the trip to Minneapolis in May. **Myrtes Green** won the top door prize at the special event (which by the way was a laptop computer!) and several others participated in sessions. Everyone is urged to attend next year's conference to be held May 30 - June 2, 1999, in Seattle.

12TH ANNUAL ALAIR CONFERENCE HELD

Fifty-eight people attended the 1998 ALAIR Annual Conference, "Challenges and Responses: Anticipating the Twenty-First Century," held on the University of Alabama in Huntsville's campus April 14 & 15. The group was welcomed by UAH President, Dr. Frank A. Franz, and the opening address was by Dr. Bill Fendley, USA, AIR Vice President/President Elect. Sessions were presented by Frank Hurley, USA, Priscilla Holland and Michael T. Miller of UNA, Larry Kelley, UWA, Dan Rosenthal, AU, Judy Miller, ESJC, and Denise Watts, UM.

Special thanks to Karen Freemon and David Frees for handling the local arrangements.

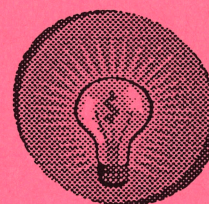
Thank You

Special Thanks to Priscilla Holland and Kathy Robbins for the good job they did publishing the revised ALAIR Resource Directory.

Thank You

Sam and I would like to thank each of you for the surprise wedding party held April 14 in Huntsville. A lot of planning by many went into making it a great dinner and surprise. We especially thank the hosts, Teresa Hall, MaryBeth Adams, Hanne Delbridge, Mike O'Rear and Karen Freeman for all their hard (and sneaky!) work! We were overwhelmed by your graciousness and especially for the thoughtful cards and congratulations received. Thank you so very much. We wish each of you could have been at our wedding May 9, in Smiths, Alabama. Sam and I are currently living in Prattville and Sam is commuting to Auburn each day.

Janis Colee Lowther and Sam Lowther



MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Have you renewed your ALAIR membership for 1998-99? To continue receiving the newsletter, conference registration materials, as well as materials from other groups using our membership list, you should be a current member of ALAIR. If you did not attend the annual conference in Huntsville, or renew your membership at that time or since then, please complete the brief form below and mail:

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP ALABAMA ASSOCIATION FOR INSTITUTIONAL RESEARCH

Name _____
Title () Dr. () Mr. () Ms. () Miss _____
Position _____
Institution _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____
Telephone _____ Fax _____
E-mail _____

Do you grant ALAIR permission to use the information above in its web site home page?
____ Yes ____ No

Individual Membership \$15 _____

Institutional Membership * \$25 _____

*(Covers up to two individuals; members beyond two may be added at \$15 each.)

List information for additional Institutional Representatives on a separate page and attach.

Total Remitted \$ _____

Make check payable to ALAIR.

Mail application with check to:

Dr. Michael O'Rear, University of Alabama, Box 870100, Tuscaloosa, AL 35487-0100

ALAIR NEWSLETTER UPDATE

All ten members were in attendance at the **Executive Committee meeting** held in Montgomery, September 18, 1998. Three new members were welcomed: Teresa Hall - UAB, who has replaced O'Neal Smitherman as Vice President/President Elect, Sandra Fowler - Judson, and Denise Watts - University of Montevallo, both as Members at Large.

The **ALAIR Travel Grant to SAIR** has been awarded to **Karen Freemon at UAH**. This year we had six applicants, and the Committee agreed that all applicants were deserving of the Award. We hope everyone is planning to attend the **1998 SAIR Conference**, "Effectively Sharing the Knowledge", October 17-20, 1998, at the Savannah Marriott Riverfront Hotel in Savannah, Georgia. Any of the ALAIR Executive Committee members will be glad to share more information or, find more on the SAIR conference web site: <http://www.oiri.mcg.edu/gairpaq/sair98.htm>.

ALAIR will sponsor its second annual **Regional Workshop** at Alabama State University in Montgomery February 5, 1999.

Committee members are determining high interest items at this time. If you have any particular topics for the Workshop you'd like to suggest, please make to Teresa Hall at UAB - hallter@uab.edu.

Plans are also underway for our next **annual conference** to be held in April, 1999 at Auburn University. If you would like to be part of the planning or would like a role in the conference, please notify **Teresa Hall** at hallter@uab.edu. Start thinking now about submitting a proposal. We would like to add more workshops and tools and techniques to our conference structure. More information will be included in the next newsletter.

As part of ALAIR's goals for 1998-99, those institutions that were not members of ALAIR this year were invited to join. Several institutions were interested in our ideas for the year and we are happy to welcome them aboard!!! They include: Lane Estes and Judy Creed - B'ham Southern; Beth Gray and Pam Hayes - Ayers St. Tech; Dr. Perry Ward and Corine Williams - Lawson St. CC; Adrienne Royster and Marvalene Freeman - Talladega College; and Jerome Ward - Auburn. We also welcome William Blanchard - AUM, and Roderick McSwain - Bishop St. CC.

Please send Janis any news you have for

the next ALAIR newsletter - jlowther@ache.state.al.us.