



ALAIR NEWSLETTER

Alabama Association for Institutional Research

MARCH 1999

INSIDE

President's Message	1
New Members	1
Regional Workshop	1
Annual Conference	2
1999 AIR Forum	2
Nominations	2
ALAIR Membership	2

ALAIR Newsletter

Executive Committee

President: Anna T. Waggener

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Secretary: Janis C. Lowther

Treasurer: Michael O'Rear

Past President: Myrtes

Dunn Green

Members-at-Large:

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Sandra Fowler

Denise Watts

Nominating Committee:

Mimi McDaniel

Cathy Tanner

President's Message

Anna T. Waggener

Hi folks!

Spring is nearly upon us, which means that you should be planning to attend the annual ALAIR Conference on April 15-16, 1999. Your Executive Committee has worked hard to plan a professionally and personally rewarding experience for you

Meanwhile, the ALAIR Regional Workshop at ASU hosted by Mimi McDaniel in February was a huge success with 32 attendees. Furthermore, your Executive Committee met on March 2 in Auburn and had fun planning details of our upcoming conference. We plan to offer something for everyone, from the Web to Y2K!

With plans to attend the ALAIR in April and AIR in May, we have a busy spring ahead of us. Plus, don't forget SAIR in October!

Try to attend one of the three workshops being held at ALAIR on Thursday afternoon. Also, I hope to meet everyone at Early Bird Hospitality on Thursday evening before dinner. Please try to be there, and bring a "newcomer" with you!

Congratulations to Robert Gottesman, Auburn University, and his wife Tina on the arrival of a new son, Joshua. Born January 26, 1999, at East Alabama Medical Center in Opelika and weighing 7 1/2 lbs.

WELCOME NEW MEMBER

We are happy to welcome our newest member to ALAIR:

Janette Newhouse, Coordinator for Institutional Effectiveness, **Tuskegee University**. Janette has been in this position since 1994. She recently served on the Self-Study Committee and chaired Principle of Psychology, Institutional Purpose Committee and Institutional Effectiveness Committee. She says this was a challenging experience and something she is very proud of. She is married to Dr. Benjamin Newhouse, Dean of Business, Organization and Management, and has two daughters, one who is a medical doctor and one who is an attorney. Welcome to ALAIR!

FEBRUARY REGIONAL WORKSHOPS A SUCCESS

Everyone had a wonderful time and learned lots at the second annual ALAIR workshop day, February 5. **Allen Smith** and **Adrien Aveni** of **Jacksonville State University** packed the morning session with information about survey design and implementation. After lunch, Ann Waggener from the University of South Alabama treated the group to a beautifully-presented overview of statistics for institutional research. Thirty-two ALAIR members attended the workshop day hosted by Alabama State University, and appreciated the wonderful food, Valentine's decorations, and great weather so graciously provided by our hostess, Mimi McDaniel. "Heart-felt" thanks to Mimi, Allen, Adrien, and Ann for making the day a success!

— Teresa Hall

SAIR's 25th Conference

Mark your calendars now for SAIR's 25th anniversary conference to be held in Chattanooga, TN, October 16-19, 1999. The theme will be "A Quarter of a Century and Still on Track." The Call for Proposals will be mailed the end of March or the beginning of April and the deadline for submittal will be April 30 (postmark date). Remember SAIR offers a maximum of 6 travel grants in the amount of \$200 plus waiver of conference registration fees, and the application deadline for the travel grants is May 14. Additional information will be available in the Call for Proposals. Everyone is encouraged to visit the SAIR web site <http://www.sair.org/>...it has some great pictures, a current membership list, and other helpful information.



ANNUAL CONFERENCE APRIL 15-16, 1999

Registration information is included in this newsletter for our ALAIR annual conference to be held at the Auburn University Hotel and Conference Center on April 15 and 16. This year's theme is "Ready or Not, It's Here! Institutional Research Meets Y2K."

For Thursday's pre-conference activities, casual dress is encouraged. Following the lead of our sister AIR affiliate in Georgia, the Board suggests that attendees wear clothing that identifies their institution.

**DON'T FORGET!!
CONFERENCE PROPOSALS
ACCEPTED THROUGH MARCH 12!!**

RESERVE YOUR ROOM BY MARCH 15!

ALAIR's block of rooms at the Auburn University Hotel and Conference Center will be held through **March 15**. Be sure to reserve by that date to receive the special conference rate of \$62 per night.

BRING YOUR PUBLICATIONS!!

Conference attendees, don't forget to bring your fact book, planning documents, and other prized publications to share during our Tools and Techniques session. Who knows, there may even be a prize in it for your office.....

While we certainly don't expect anyone to shirk their professional opportunities at the meeting, the Auburn staff is looking forward to putting together a golf outing for any interested members. And if you would rather watch than play, the SEC Women's Golf Tournament will be in Auburn April 16-18.

For more information, contact Teresa Hall at UAB: (205) 934-3254 or hallter@uab.edu.

Nominations for Officers and Awards

Don't forget to complete your nominations for ALAIR members for election to office, and for our highest honor, the Joseph T. Sutton Leadership Award.

We solicit nominations for ALAIR elected officers. Serving as an ALAIR officer is both a duty and a pleasure. It affords you the opportunity to benefit both the organization and yourself, and to work with an excellent group of people. In the past, it has served as a stepping stone to regional and national association leadership positions.

If you have any questions, contact Myrtes Green at 205-366-8967 or mdgreen@www.stillman.edu.

DEADLINE MARCH 12, 1999

ALAIR MEMBERSHIP

The Alabama Association for Institutional Research (ALAIR) is an organization offering a variety of professional opportunities for individuals involved in institutional research and related activities in Alabama's institutions of higher education. ALAIR is affiliated with the Southern Association for Institutional Research (SAIR) and the Association for Institutional Research (AIR). There are many benefits to becoming a member of ALAIR: meetings that focus on topics of current interest to members; opportunities to discuss special topics and exchange ideas with colleagues; and correspondence, including a newsletter with information on meetings, topics of current interest, proceedings of past meetings and news information on annual membership. ALAIR meets once each year. The annual business meeting is held in conjunction with the conference. The Association also meets during the SAIR and AIR affiliated group meeting sessions. Membership is open to any person who is actively engaged in institutional research and related functions or who has professional interest in activities related to institutional research including assessment, planning, student records. **JOIN TODAY!!**

If you need more information and/or an additional membership form, contact Janis Lowther, 334-242-2106 or jlowther@ache.state.al.us.

1999 AIR FORUM

By now everyone should have received their AIR Forum registrations materials for the 39th AIR Forum to be held May 30-June 2, 1999 at the Sheraton Hotel & Towers and Westin Hotel in Seattle. If you did not receive registration materials and are interested in attending, check the AIR '99 website <http://airweb.org/reg99/.html>. For further information check <http://airweb.org> and www.fsu.edu/~air.