



# NEWSLETTER

Alabama Association for Institutional Research

December 2000

*ALAIR Newsletter*

*Executive Committee:*

- President: Mimi McDaniel Johnson*
- Vice President: Priscilla Holland*
- Secretary: Cara Mia Braswell*
- Treasurer: Brenda Bryant*
- Past President: Teresa Hall*
- Members-at-Large:*
- Jeanette Newhouse*
- Dan Tennimon*
- Tim Vick*

*Nominating Committee:*

- Kris Mascetti*
- Roderick McSwain*



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

**By Mimi McDaniel Johnson**  
*Success is dependent on effort.*  
-Sophocles

The success of an organization can only be measured by the effort each and every member exerts in accomplishing its goals. The unspoken pledge taken by our membership is a testament of the strength and effectiveness of our association. It is further evidenced by the activism of ALAIR members in SAIR and AIR.

Congratulations are extended to SAIR President, **Harriott Calhoun**, for a successful SAIR conference in Myrtle Beach, SC. Wow! Myrtle Beach, indeed! As usual, ALAIR membership readily banded together to aid Harriott in making the conference successful. Your EFFORT was magnificent!

Your ALAIR Executive Board has been working very hard for you. I am pleased to report the following accomplishments:

◆ Through the hard work and tenacity of Sam Lowtiter of Auburn University, we have joined the ranks of the technologically advanced with the unveiling of an ALAIR website at [www.alair.org](http://www.alair.org). Visit this website and send your comments to Sam.

◆ At the publication of this newsletter, ALAIR has a membership of 108 committed to the pursuit of the highest professional ideals. We have achieved the presidential initiative of increasing membership in ALAIR by a minimum of 25%. To date, our membership has increased by 30%.

◆ The publication's coordinator, Member-at-Large Jeanette Newhouse, has developed several proposals for redesign of our membership brochure/application.

◆ Member-at-Large Dan Tennimon has proposed several exciting initiatives to improve member benefits in his capacity as Membership Coordinator.

Vice President Priscilla Holland has been busy preparing for our arrival in North Alabama for our annual conference on April 5 and 6, 2001. Assisting her with local arrangements are Kathy Robbins, Todd Stanfield, and Gail Overby.

May you and your families have a wonderful holiday season. I wish you joy, peace and much happiness.

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### INSIDE

President's Message	1
New Members/News	2
ALAIR Annual Conference	2
IPEDS Workshop Hosted	2
SAIR 2000 Reprise	3
SAIR Exec. Committee	3

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**MARK YOU CALENDAR:**  
**2001 ALAIR ANNUAL CONFERENCE**  
**APRIL 5<sup>TH</sup> AND 6<sup>TH</sup>**  
**UNIVERSITY OF NORTH ALABAMA**



- ◆From Springhill College, **Michael S. Johnson**, Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs; **Terry Lees**, Assistant Registrar; and **Joan Siegwald**, Executive Assistant, Academic Affairs
- ◆From Ayers State Technical College, **Jay Johnson**, MIS Programmer, and **Pamela Hayes Johnson**, Assistant Dean - Administrative Services
- ◆From Alabama A&M, **Exir Brennan**, Director of Institutional Planning and **Janie Collier**, executive assistant
- ◆From Bessemer State Technical College, **Deborah Marcus**, Assistant Dean, and **Jamie Glass**, Systems Programmer
- ◆**Glenda Colagross**, Director of Institutional Research and Distance Education, Northwest Shoals Community College
- ◆**Phyllis Richardson**, Dean of Institutional Research & Planning, Concordia College
- ◆**Mary Mayo**, Director Institutional Research, Wallace State Community College in Hanceville
- ◆**Jim Larkins**, Director of Institutional Effectiveness, Community College of the Air Force
- ◆**Jane Williams**, Director of Institutional Research & Effectiveness, Huntingdon College.
- ◆From Jacksonville State, **Joe Whitmore**, Director of Institutional Analysis, and **Cathy Nabors**, Assistant.
- ◆**Barbara Linder** from Linder & Associates.
- ◆From the University of Tennessee, Chattanooga, **Richard R. Gruetzemacher**.

## Member News

Congratulations to: **Kathy Robbins**, Coordinator of Institutional Research at the University of North Alabama who graduated with her Master of Business Administration in May 2000; **Kathy Robbins**, nominated by the Phi Kappa Phi National Honor Society Membership for initiation at the Fall Ceremony; **Cara Mia Braswell**, **David Lane**, and **Robert Gottesman** from Auburn University, awarded ALAIR Best Paper presentation Award to AIR. The presentation concerning Factors Influencing Employment Migration of Degree Recipients will be presented at Long Beach. The ALAIR travel grant to SAIR went to **Patricia Pratt**, University of West Alabama.



## 2001 ALAIR Annual Conference

The University of North Alabama will host the 2001 ALAIR Annual Conference. The conference will be held on April 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> in the Guillot University Center on UNA's campus. Dr. Kaylene Gebert, Vice President for Academic Affairs will address the theme *Data Driven Decisions*. If anyone has an idea or wants to present a workshop, paper or panel please contact Priscilla Holland at [pholland@unanov.una.edu](mailto:pholland@unanov.una.edu) or 256-765-4221. A Call for papers will officially go out in early Spring. **ALAIR T-shirts (blue with ALAIR logo) will be on sale at the conference!**

## ALAIR HOSTED IPEDS WORKSHOP HOSTED

On August 17 and 18, ALAIR hosted a two-day training workshop on the IPEDS web-based data collection system. Held in conjunction with the Alabama Commission on Higher Education (ACHE) and sponsored by the National Center for Educational Statistics (NCES) and the Association for Institutional Research (AIR), our workshop had 96 registrants. While most were from Alabama and north Florida, we were pleased to make new friends from Tennessee, Georgia and even the Virgin Islands!

**Anna Waggener** and the University of South Alabama were our gracious hosts, putting in countless hours behind the scenes to provide our facilities and our absolutely wonderful food. We all especially enjoyed visiting the beautiful Mitchell Center for our Thursday lunch.

Meetings like this take many hours of work from many people. The Workshop Committee included **Steve Fancher** from the University of Montevallo, **Carol Chenault** from Calhoun State Community College, and Janis Lowther from ACHE, and was chaired by **Teresa Hall** from University of Alabama at Birmingham. Our trainers, provided by IPEDS, were super as well: **Tammie Ritchey** from Jefferson State Community College, **Bill Fendley** from The University of Alabama, **Sabrina Segal** from Keiser College (Fort Lauderdale, FL) and **Janis Lowther** from ACHE.

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## ALAIR Members We Need Your Help!

We want ALAIR to continue to grow and serve the IR community in Alabama and the surrounding states. Do you have ideas for increasing membership? Have you seen good methods or techniques for increasing membership in your other organizations? Please send your thoughts, ideas, comments and expertise on how to increase membership to Dan Tennimon at: [dtennimon@tsum.edu](mailto:dtennimon@tsum.edu) or call at 334-241-9536.

## SAIR 2000 Reprise

SAIR 2000 in beautiful Myrtle Beach has come and gone, and it was terrific!! The theme for the conference, *The Challenges of Change: IR Beyond Y2K*, set the stage for an exciting professional development opportunity for institutional researchers and planners from across the southern region. The conference offered pre-conference workshops, general session speakers, panel discussions, individual presentations on practical concerns, and a fun-filled special event; and, ALAIR members played a major role in making it all happen. Of the nine members on the SAIR Board, four (4!) were Alabamians: Vice-President/Program Chair **Harriott Calhoun** (Jefferson State Community College), Secretary **Myrtes Green** (Stillman College), Members-at-Large **Teresa Hall** (University of Alabama at Birmingham) and **Sam Lowther** (Auburn University).

ALAIR members turned out in force to support Program Chair **Harriott Calhoun**. Conference Evaluation Committee Chair **Jim Eck** (Samford University) was assisted by **Cathy Tanner** (Bishop State Community College), **Dea Mathews** (Samford University), and **Jane Mathis-Hopson** (University of Alabama at Birmingham). **Teresa Hall** headed up pre-conference workshops and assisted with the Newcomers Dinner Caravan. **Sam Lowther** chaired the Papers Committee, with **Karen Freemon** (University of Alabama at Huntsville) and **Kim Thoma** (University of Alabama System) serving on the committee. **Donna Venue** (Jefferson State Community College) was in charge of conference publications, and **Tammie Richey** (Jefferson State Community College) chaired the Document Competition. Securing facilitators for conference sessions was **Carol Chenault** (Calhoun State Community College), assisted by **Priscilla Holland** (University of North Alabama). Additionally **Brenda Bryant** (Alabama State) and **Mike O'Rear**

(University of Alabama) served on the nominating committee.

Alabamians presenting on the program were **Tammie Richey**, **Dea Mathews**, **Janice Farmer** (~~Samford University~~), **Priscilla Holland**, **Janis Lowther** (~~Alabama Commission on Higher Education~~), **Todd Stanfield** (~~University of North Alabama~~), **Bill Fendley** (~~University of Alabama~~), **Kathy Robbins** (~~University of North Alabama~~), **Cara Mia Braswell**, **Myrtes Green**, and **Jerri Bullard** (~~University of North Alabama~~). Others, not already mentioned, who served as session facilitators were **Mary Beth Adams** (University of Alabama at Birmingham), **Denise Watts** (University of Montevallo), **Glenda Colagross** (Northwest Shoals Community College), and **Stephen Fancher** (University of Montevallo). All together, there were 43 people from Alabama attending the conference.

Just to let you know that the Alabama Mafia is still going strong, the 2001 SAIR Board will also have four Alabamians: President **Harriott Calhoun**, Vice-President and 2001 Conference Chair **Sam Lowther**, Member-at-Large **Teresa Hall**, Treasurer **Hannelore Delbridge** (University of Alabama) and **Mimi Johnson** (Alabama State) serving on the nominating committee.

### 2001 SAIR Board

(front row l-r) Hannelore Delbridge, Harriot Calhoun, Cornelia Wills, Teresa Hall, Chris Mee,  
(back l-r) Jim Purcell, Sam Lowther, Gerry Dizinno, Joseph Hoey.

The 2001 conference will be held October 13-16, Edgewater Beach Resort, Panama City Beach. It's an easy drive, so every ALAIR member should plan to attend and give Sam the terrific support that we gave to Harriott. See you there!

### A THANK YOU MESSAGE from Harriott

To all of you who served on committees, presented, facilitated, attended or just sent good thought, I extend my sincere thanks for your support of the SAIR 2000 conference. We were able to have such a wonderful conference because so many people made significant contributions of time and expertise in planning the conference and "making it happen." I've always known that my Alabama colleagues are exceptional, but after serving as program chair for SAIR 2000, I have even more appreciation and respect for each of you. You are a "Dream Team," in every respect. Thank you, thank you, thank you!