

# ALAIR Newsletter

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**FALL 2021**

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Colleagues:

As we enter the new semester and turn the corner towards 2022, I am extremely honored to lead ALAIR into the upcoming year. The association has representatives from over 25 institutions of higher education across the great state of Alabama and continues to be a valuable resource for networking, professional development, and informed decision making across the state. Your ongoing support and participation make all of this possible and I think I can easily speak for the Executive Committee when I say that we are grateful for all of your continuing efforts.



During the upcoming year, the Executive Committee looks forward to providing the association with many opportunities for connecting with one another, growing as professionals within the IR field, and having a lot of fun. The committee is already hard at work planning for the upcoming 2022 ALAIR conference as well as constantly thinking of ways to build connections between members, including hosting webinars with guest speakers, distributing membership spotlights, and encouraging productive discussions within the listserv. Each of these utilities provides an excellent opportunity for growth and development amongst our association by facilitating its greatest assets: the wisdom and experience of the members themselves.

Most importantly, please know that the vision and direction of this organization is always focused on how we can serve you as members. The Executive Committee encourages your feedback and participation as we continue to seek ways to improve the association. As Andrew Carnegie said, 'Teamwork is the ability to work together toward a common vision. The ability to direct individual accomplishments toward organizational objectives. It is the fuel that allows common people to attain uncommon results.' I look forward to working with each of you in the future to see the great things we can accomplish together.

Jacob Pleitz  
ALAIR President 2021-2022

**ALAIR 2022 CONFERENCE UPDATE**

## ALAIR 2022 CONFERENCE UPDATE

Let me start by saying “How you doin’” ALAIR **F-r-i-e-n-d-s**? The ALAIR conference was “On a break” in 2021 due to health concerns with Covid-19 and financial challenges on our campuses. Although institutions may still be experiencing the same concerns, the Executive Committee has decided that we will have a face-to-face conference in 2022. Planning for ALAIR 2022 is well underway and we will reunite in Orange Beach on March 23-25, 2022. Mark your calendars and get ready for a great conference!

Springhill Suites Orange Beach at The Wharf is an all-suite hotel with a resort-style pool and only a short drive to one of the area’s pristine beaches. Located next to [The Wharf](#) you can take advantage of the friendly local shops, a meal by the water at one of the many restaurants, a ride on the Ferris wheel, or the SPECTRA Laser Light Experience show. The ALAIR Executive Committee has already been brainstorming on activities and events. More details to come, but in the meantime, I’d like you to consider presenting a session. What better way to connect with our **F-r-i-e-n-d-s** and colleagues than to attend the conference.

Come hang out with some of the best IR and IE professionals in the state as we ‘*Pivot To A Better Future*’ together in 2021-2022. See you all in March at Springhill Suites Orange Beach at The Wharf and know that “I’ll be there for you.”

Mandy Sessions

ALAIR Vice President and Conference Chair 2021-2022



## GOT IDEAS??

If you have ideas that will make the ALAIR 2022 Conference the best conference ALAIR has ever had, I want to hear from you. You can email me directly at [msessions@wallace.edu](mailto:msessions@wallace.edu).



## ALAIR AT SAIR 2021

The ALAIR membership was well represented at SAIR 2021 in Louisville, Kentucky. Association members presented on topics including Standards on Faculty credentials (Ginny Cockerill, The University of Alabama in Huntsville) and Exploring Career Choices for Education Bachelor Graduates (Bryn Bakoyema, Alabama State University & Jim Purcell, Alabama Commission on higher Education). The Association was also represented on the SAIR Executive Committee by Suzanne Simpson (The University of Alabama in Huntsville) who has served as President for the past year, and will continue to have representation by Jessica Carroll (Wallace State Community College Selma) and Ginny Cockerill (The University of Alabama in Huntsville) serving as members of the nominating committee for the upcoming year. The ALAIR Executive Committee extends their upmost gratitude to these members for their service to SAIR through their leadership and presentations.



## ALAIR MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

The ALAIR Executive Committee is always looking to highlight the talents and accomplishments of our membership. As part of this effort, we are introducing the ALAIR Member Spotlight, a series of periodic features focusing on the career accomplishments, professional advice, and fun personalities of our members. Be on the look out for these throughout the year as we celebrate our most valuable asset – each of you. If you would like to nominate an outstanding colleague or member for a spotlight, please email [jdpleitz@ua.edu](mailto:jdpleitz@ua.edu).

## UPCOMING EVENTS

The SACSCOC Annual Meeting is scheduled virtually for December 2 - 7, 2021 (excluding the weekend) The theme is **Emerging STRONGer: Celebrating Resilience, Renewal, and Return**. Register at <https://sacscoc.org/annual-meeting/>.

The AIR Forum 2022 will be conducted in person June 6 - 9, 2022 in Phoenix, AZ. Save the date and register in February 2022 at <https://www.airweb.org/forum/2022/home>.

Save the Date for SAIR 49: October 1 - 4, 2022 at the Hotel Monteleone in New Orleans, LA.

## THANK YOU!

Thank you for your continuing support of ALAIR. We are looking forward to a wonderful upcoming year!

The ALAIR Executive Committee 2021-2022

## ALAIR LEADERSHIP 2021-2022

PRESIDENT: Jacob Pleitz, University of Alabama

VICE PRESIDENT: Mandy Sessions, Wallace Community College Dothan

PAST-PRESIDENT: Lesley Shotts, J. F. Drake State Community & Technical College

SECRETARY: Jessica Carroll, Wallace Community College Selma

TREASURER: Molly Mathis, University of North Alabama

NOMINATING COMMITTEE: Jeffrey Guenther, Athens State University

NOMINATING COMMITTEE: Lindsay Hutcherson, Coastal Alabama Community College

MEMBER AT LARGE: Mattie Hudson, Wallace State Community College Hanceville

MEMBER AT LARGE: Melody Wicker, Wallace Community College Dothan

