

# Southern AIR

Spring 1998

Volume 20, Issue 2

## SAVANNAH in OCTOBER!

Some of you were treated to Mike Crow's eloquent tribute to Savannah at the Hot Springs conference. For those who missed it, here's a tickler:

"If ever in your institutional research career you considered joining the annual SAIR trek, let it be this Fall. Set on the banks of the old tidewater Savannah River in the heart of the city's famed historic district, this conference will showcase one of the nation's most scenic and picturesque large towns--or small cities (folks from Savannah haven't decided which). Besides the formal conference agenda, you will enjoy and be hard pressed to resist a great variety of informal side experiences. Savannah is, quite simply, like no other North American city. And, it all lies within an easy walking distance of our conference hotel, beckoning all but the most uncurious or stodgy of guests. If it didn't exist, Disney would have developed it and charged admission."

Let Mike, our man about Savannah, entertain and entice you with the full, unedited version of his "Siren Song of Savannah" ([www.oiri.mcg.edu/gairpaq/sair98.htm](http://www.oiri.mcg.edu/gairpaq/sair98.htm), click welcome, click Siren Song).

And if you're wondering about "Monday night," SAIR members opting to partake in the special event can expect a riverboat cruise on the Savannah River Queen (full boat charter). Our meal will be a southern buffet. Entertainment will be 50s, 60s, and 70s music (that covers a lot of ground) on one level, a jazz trio on the other. We'll board the boat on the riverfront, a short walk up from the conference hotel. We de-board two hours later in the same spot. Very convenient for a pub-crawl or a leisurely stroll along the river. Savannah is a walking city--much to see, much to do. We hope you'll join us in October.

*Deb Barshafsky*  
*Co-chair, Local Arrangements Committee and Past President,*  
*Georgia Association for Institutional Research, Planning,*  
*Assessment, and Quality*

**effectively**  
**SAIR '98 sharing**  
**the knowledge**

## GRANTS for TRAVEL to SAIR

SAIR offers up to six Travel Grants for the annual meeting to current members or newcomers (individuals who will become members of SAIR at the immediate next annual conference) in the amount of \$200 plus waiver of the conference registration fees (not including membership fee).

The following information is required of each applicant. Also, note that while all members are able to apply for grants, priority will be given to individuals who have NOT received a Travel Grant from SAIR within the past two years.

- Applicant's name and institution/organization of employment;
- A brief resume or curriculum vita;
- A statement of how receiving the grant will contribute to professional development, particularly with regard to future activity in SAIR;
- A statement describing financial need and the financial support available from his/her institution and other possible sources.

To apply for a Travel Grant, the information noted above must be sent to Gerry Dizinno, Assistant to the President for Planning & Institutional Research, St. Mary's University, One Camino Santa Maria, San Antonio, Texas, 78228 (or e-mailed to Gerry at [gdizinno@stmarytx.edu](mailto:gdizinno@stmarytx.edu)). Applications must be postmarked or e-mailed on or before Friday, June 26, 1998.

## S A I R

### The Southern Association for Institutional Research

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John Kalb  
Florida State University

#### Vice President/ President Elect

Glenn James  
Tennessee Technological University

#### Past President

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Clemson University

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Medical College of Georgia

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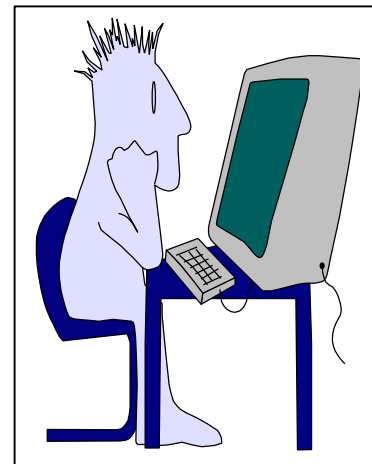
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Please submit materials for the  
next issue of Southern AIR by the  
first of August 1998.

## President's Report . . . from John Kalb

By the time this is read, everyone (who went) will be back from Minneapolis and the Forum, and we can turn our thoughts to Savannah and the 1998 SAIR conference. Glenn James and his planning group will no doubt provide us with an excellent opportunity for several days of workshops, papers, panels, and communication with the best in the IR field in the South. Make plans now to join us October 17-20 at the Savannah Marriott.



One of the things that has been happening within SAIR these past few months is the establishment of the SAIR website. If you haven't checked it out already, put your browser at [www.sair.org](http://www.sair.org) and see what is there. John Milam at George Mason University is our webmaster, and he has established an up and running site. The site contains:

- a section on SAIR News from around the region;
- a membership directory, searchable by name, school, city, or state;
- a listing of the officers and board meeting minutes;
- a SAIR discussion web (new and hardly used);
- a scrapbook with pictures of the 1997 SAIR conference in Hot Springs. More will be added as they are available.
- links to IR resources, state organizations, IR office web pages (if you don't see yours, send it to the webmaster);
- a listing of future SAIR conferences and some comments on the past one.

This site will only be as useful as we make it. There were two postings to the discussion web last I looked, but all are welcome to enter and throw out topics for discussion. This can be a valuable tool for SAIR members to exchange ideas, but only if we use it!

The SAIR website was selected as the **Site of the Month** for May by Microsoft in Education. This is quite an honor, and a tribute to the hard work John Milam has put into the site over the past few months. Check it out at <http://www.microsoft.com/education/hed/site.htm>

The folks from Baton Rouge are working on proposals for SAIR 2000, and others around the region have expressed some interest as well. You will have heard more about this in Minneapolis. If you have that great site for a conference, and the interest, let me hear about it right away. The decision for 2000 will be made in the near future, and it is not too early to begin thinking about 2001 (though not in space just yet). We're not that technologically advanced in SAIR, but we're getting there.

Best wishes for a productive and restful summer, or as restful as it can get in IR.

John

**Bookmark the SAIR Web site . . .**

**<http://www.sair.org>**

# NOMINATIONS WANTED: SAIR SERVICE AWARDS

SAIR members are invited to nominate deserving colleagues for one of the following awards and recognitions. SAIR has established three awards to recognize the contributions of members to the Southern Association or to the field of institutional research.

## ***The James R. Montgomery Outstanding Service Award***

This award is given to an individual who has made a significant contribution to SAIR over an extended period of time. Nominees must have been a SAIR member for over five years and cannot be a member of, or a candidate for, the Board of Directors during the year nominated. In addition, two of the following criteria must be met:

- 1) has been a member of the Board of Directors or a chair of a conference or a presidentially appointed committee;
- 2) has been an officer of, or a recognized leader in, the establishment of a state or special interest group which has been associated with SAIR;
- 3) has made a professional contribution to SAIR by being actively involved in a combination of the following:
  - a) has presented contributed papers at a SAIR conference;
  - b) has organized, offered, or acted as a primary participant in workshops at the SAIR conference or at workshops sponsored by an affiliated SAIR organization or group;
  - c) has contributed in some other specific significant way that has advanced the professionalism of SAIR.

## ***SAIR Special Recognition Unsung Hero/Heroine Award***

This award recognizes the ongoing contributions of a member to SAIR and to the field of institutional research and planning in the broadest sense. This award honors individuals whose effort and initiative might not otherwise receive public recognition. The types of effort to be considered include management assignments, innovative projects or ideas, development of new initiatives, or other ongoing service to SAIR, *other than as an elected officer*. [For purposes of this award, "officer" is defined as President, Secretary, or Treasurer.] Officers are excluded in order to encourage initiative in fields other than political office and to insure that the award does not become an appreciation award for past presidents.

All members of SAIR are eligible to receive the award with the following exceptions:

- 1) A person who has previously won the award.
- 2) Officers of SAIR shall not be eligible for five years after leaving their last officership.

## ***Distinguished Membership Award***

Distinguished Membership may be awarded to members or former members who have made distinguished contributions to institutional research. This award is a meaningful recognition of significant effort in the field of institutional research. The award is for the lifetime of the individual. (Persons retiring from active service in institutional research may be recognized through the award of emeritus membership rather than with the Distinguished Membership Award).

A member or former member nominated for Distinguished Membership should meet the following qualifications:

- 1) Has been an active and contributing member of SAIR.
- 2) Has contributed substantially to the field of institutional research over an extended period of time, either in the practice of institutional research or in a supporting role (e.g. faculty, President).
- 3) Has influenced higher education policies and practice through work or research.

To nominate someone for one of the above award, prepare a letter of nomination addressing the qualifications specified above, provide appropriate documentation, and transmit to:

R. D. "Ike" Ikenberry  
Director – Planning, Evaluation & Institutional Effectiveness  
SAIR Awards Committee  
Mississippi State University  
PO Drawer EY  
Mississippi State, MS 39762

Call (601) 325-3920 or e-mail [ike@ir.msstate.edu](mailto:ike@ir.msstate.edu) for any questions related to these awards. Nominations may be made at any time throughout the year, but should be received by August 15 in order to be considered for the current year.

Submit your program proposal for SAIR '98!  
**Submit your program proposal for SAIR '98!**

# **SAIR FINANCIAL STATEMENT 1997 CALENDAR YEAR**

## **GET INVOLVED!**

Everyone is encouraged to get involved in some way with SAIR '98. You've already received your Call for Participation from Conference Chair Glenn James, so get busy and write that paper or organize that panel discussion! If you'd rather make your contribution in some other way, consider facilitating a session or helping out with registration. Contact Marcia Harrington (540) 231-7922 about facilitating or Hannelore Delbridge (205) 348-7205 to help with registration.

## **POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT**

Auburn University at Montgomery (AUM) is seeking a Director of Institutional Studies to oversee the collection, analysis, and reporting of internal and external data necessary for institutional policy analysis, planning, and decision making; regularly advise administration; provide information supporting enrollment development and program assessment; evaluate institutional effectiveness in accordance with SACS criteria; provide information for surveys and other requests; and ensure compliance with Federal and State reporting requirements.

Submit cover letter, resume, and names and addresses of 3 professional references to: J. K. Johnston, Financial and Administrative Services, AUM, P. O. Box 244023, Montgomery, AL 36124-4023. Review of applications will begin immediately and continue until position is filled. AUM is an EEO/AA Employer.

## **CORRECTION**

In the last issue, Kay Coleman's name was left off the list of folks on the 1997-98 Nominating Committee. Sorry for the omission, Kay.

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

**July 18-22, 1998 -- SCUP, Vancouver**  
**August 8-12, 1998 -- AIR Foundations  
Institute, San Diego**  
**October 17-20, 1998 -- SAIR, Savannah**  
**May 30-June 2, 1999 -- AIR Forum,  
Seattle**

## FROM AROUND THE REGION...

The Tennessee Association for Institutional Research (TENNAIR) met on March 19 and 20 at Fall Creek Falls in Pikeville, Tennessee, for its Spring workshop. Linda Suskie of Millersville University, and author of "Questionnaire Survey Research," conducted the workshop. Attendees of the workshop gained a better understanding of questionnaire survey research and, through networking with colleagues, new and renewed friendships and information relevant to institutional research.

Plans are under way for the annual conference, which will be held at the ClubHouse Inn and Conference Center in Nashville, Tennessee on August 10 and 11. For additional information, contact Carol Holt, TENNAIR Vice President and Program Chair, at Phone: (931) 393-1611; Fax: (931) 393-1681; or E-mail: [cholt@mscc.cc.tn.us](mailto:cholt@mscc.cc.tn.us).



### **Wedding Bells (or Another SAIR Couple Jumps the Broom!)**

Congratulations to Sam Lowther (Auburn U) and Janis Colee (AL Commission on Higher Ed) who were married on May 9. Hot Springs in October was just the right place to take a leisurely stroll with colleagues and provided a pace just slow enough to allow a certain someone to consider another someone differently than ever before! Sam and Janis follow in the happy footsteps of Debbie and Don Dailey, the first ALAIR/SAIR couple to get married.

## 1998 SAIR Conference Planning Committee Chairpersons

Program Chair	Glenn James Tennessee Technological University
Local Arrangements	Deborah Barshafsky Medical College of Georgia
Papers	Roy Ikenberry Mississippi State University
Panels	Myrtes Green Stillman College
Workshops	Jo Anne Lowe University of Georgia
Roundtables	Thomas Martin Collin County Community College
Special Interest Groups	Joyce Nottingham Morehouse College
Newcomers	Gerry Dizinno St. Mary's University
Speakers	Sharron Ronco Florida Atlantic University
Facilitators	Marcia Harrington Virginia Tech
Evaluation	Jim Purcell Our Lady of the Lake College
Registration	Hannelore Delbridge University of Alabama
Sponsors / Exhibits	Joseph Hoey North Carolina State University
Special Projects	Samuel Baldwin Clark Atlanta University
Advisors	John Kalb Florida State University  David Fleming Clemson University
IHE Representative	Larry Jones University of Georgia
TBCU Representative	Myrtes Green Stillman College

**SAIR MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION, *October 1997 to October 1998***

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Position: \_\_\_\_\_

Institution: \_\_\_\_\_

Department Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Internet/E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Membership Type: Student (\$10) \_\_\_\_ Emeritus (free) \_\_\_\_ Regular (\$20) \_\_\_\_

Please use or pass this form on to an interested colleague. The completed form and check should be mailed to:

**Hannelore Delbridge  
SAIR  
University of Alabama  
Box 870166  
312 East Annex  
Tuscaloosa, AL  
35487-0166**

**Membership Types:**

**Student Membership:** For those who are actively pursuing a graduate degree and are not employed full-time.

**Emeritus Membership:** For those who have retired and have been an active member of SAIR for at least five years immediately preceding retirement.

**Regular Membership:** For those professionals working in institutional research or a related field.

**Southern Association for Institutional Research  
c/o Mary Beth Adams  
Institutional Studies and Services  
University of Alabama at Birmingham  
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701 20<sup>th</sup> Street South  
Birmingham, AL 35294-0104  
Address Correction Requested**