

# Southern AIR

Winter 2001-02

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## Profiles of Service

Each year SAIR identifies members who have made exceptional contributions to the organization and/or the field of institutional research and planning. These special people are recognized during the annual conference.



**Edith Carter**, currently assistant professor of Education Studies at Radford University, was the recipient of this year's **Distinguished Member Award**. Edie is a charter member of SAIR and was founding co-chair in 1973-74 of its parent organization, the Southern Conference on Institutional Research. Prior to coming to Radford, she was IR director for New Rivers Community College. She was also active in the early formation of one of SAIR's constituent groups, the Southeastern Association for Community College Research. Edie has served not only as that group's vice-chairman from 1974-75 but has also edited its newsletter since 1973. She helped strengthen and develop the National Council for Research in Planning, serving as director of the Southern Region in 1977-78 and as president from 1989-90. She has also served in numerous positions of responsibility in state and regional educational research associations. Edith has been a frequent presenter and panelist at the state, regional, and national levels for AIR.

Through more than simply service to the associations and support by her professional participation, Edie has served the personal and professional development of her colleagues in both two- and four-year institutions by her effort, her persistence, and her presence. For these and her many other contributions, SAIR recognized Edith Carter with the Distinguished Member Award.

**Mary Sapp**, executive director, Planning and Institutional Research at the University of Miami, was this year's recipient of the **James R. Montgomery Outstanding Service Award**. Mary has been a member of SAIR for approximately 15 years and has done much for her colleagues in SAIR, even beyond her productive years on the Board of Directors. Look at any program from the SAIR annual conference over the last 15 years and you will find Mary on it — presenting a paper, participating in a panel, heading a conference committee, or doing more than one of those things! Mary unselfishly shares her time and her talents with her colleagues, and her efforts have helped to make SAIR the outstanding organization that it is today.



After serving as President of SAIR, Mary continued to serve SAIR and its members in her many roles within AIR. As head of Professional Development Services, Mary brought about the AIR Institutes that serve so many in the IR community today. As AIR President, Mary continued to serve SAIR members by establishing the AIR Alerts. She received the AIR Distinguished Service Award at the Long Beach Forum in 2001. For these and many other contributions, Mary Sapp was recognized with the James R. Montgomery Outstanding Service Award.



Hanne Delbridge, assistant director of institutional research at the University of Alabama, was given the **Unsung Hero Award** for her efforts as SAIR treasurer. After serving two years as treasurer, Hanne was asked to complete the unfinished term of her successor, René Toups, whose work duties changed in a way that would not allow him to serve. The treasurer's duties make it among the most taxing of SAIR administrative positions.

Accepting the position — knowing fully the intensity of work required for managing conference registration fees, requests for refunds, membership dues, and organization expenses — takes a person of special talent with real dedication to the organization. For this Hanne was awarded the Unsung Hero Award.

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# S A I R

The Southern  
Association for  
Institutional Research  
<http://www.sair.org>

**President**

Sam Lowther  
Auburn University

**Vice President/  
President Elect**

Joseph Hoey  
Georgia Institute of Technology

**Past President**

Harriott Calhoun  
Jefferson State Community College

**Treasurer**

Ross Griffith  
Wake Forest University

**Secretary**

Christine Mee  
Coastal Carolina University

**Members-at-Large**

Jim Eck  
Samford University

Julie Fulgham  
Mississippi State University

Jim Purcell  
Georgia College & State University

Cornelia Wills  
Middle Tennessee State University

Co-Editors, *Southern AIR*  
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Please submit materials for the  
next issue of *Southern AIR* by the  
end of April 2002.

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

### from Sam Lowther

Seems like we just left Panama City Beach and yet efforts are well under way for Baton Rouge. Program Chair Joseph Hoey and his committees are putting together what looks to be an ambitious and exciting program in a unique location. Make your plans to attend now. Better yet, contact Joseph to volunteer your service.

"Your service" is a vital term. All of us are volunteers, from the president on down. Some of us are more talented than others, but we've agreed (or been cajoled) to share those abilities in service to SAIR. The board is a dedicated and hardworking group, but our time and reach is limited. We have to rely upon you to extend that reach throughout the organization.

This volunteerism is most notable at the annual conference. Dozens of you volunteer or are recruited to make presentations, facilitate, set up a/v equipment, plan events, work registration, stuff packets, run errands, and a host of activities that can't even be anticipated. Every conference program chair would crash and burn without your assistance.

But the work of SAIR volunteers extends beyond the annual conference. Many of the responsibilities of running the organization require experience and abilities that board members just may not possess. You may have experience in financial analysis or planning, conference planning, survey administration, or a variety of other areas that are vital to operating a responsive and responsible organization.

So if you have time and/or abilities that you're willing to share, let us know. (We may find you anyway.) Respond to Joseph's requests for the conference in Baton Rouge, but let me know if you can help in other ways. We have an expanding group of advisory committees that are in need of members. These will be specified in the coming weeks.

Finally, thanks to everyone who helped put on SAIR '01 in Panama City Beach. I tried to thank everyone personally, but if I missed you, it was an accident. Most of all, belated recognition to Jim Eck, who was responsible for putting together the excellent selection of panels. Somehow in the whirlwind that surrounds the conference I managed to omit him from both the web site and the printed program lists of contributors. If you benefited from a panel, let Jim know.

**"One thing I know: the only ones among you who will be really happy are those who will have sought and found how to serve."**

-- Albert Schweitzer

### General Business

At 3:15 p.m., the meeting was called to order. President Harriott Calhoun welcomed attendees and discussed the following items that had been announced during the year.

- On February 26, 2001 the SAIR Board unanimously approved the policy that "Members of the Nominating Committee are not eligible to be placed on the ballot for any position during the year in which they serve on the Nominating Committee."
- The President appointed members of the Financial Task Force: Hanne Delbridge (chair), Debbie Dailey, Bill Fendley, Bob Kuhn, Tim Sanford, and Rene Toups. At present, it is *ad hoc* but may be continued by the next president and, possibly, be included as a standing committee in the future.
- A "Registration and Refund Policy" was recommended by the Financial Task Force, distributed to the Board on July 24, 2001, and unanimously approved.
- The contract has been signed with the Sheraton Baton Rouge Convention Center Hotel for the 2002 conference.

### Secretary's Report

The business minutes from the 2000 SAIR Conference in Myrtle Beach were approved with Glenn James (Tennessee Tech) moving and Joseph Hoey (Georgia Institute of Technology) seconding approval.

### Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Hanne Delbridge stated that as of noon on October 15, 2001, 327 individuals had registered for the SAIR 2001 conference. The state of Georgia had the highest attendance and Clemson University was the university with the largest number of representatives. It was also reported that the total assets as of June 30, 2001, were \$71,127.92. Total assets as of September 30, 2001 were \$100,325.20.

### Past-President's Report

Past President Gerry Dizinno reported that the newly elected board members are:

- |                      |               |                                 |
|----------------------|---------------|---------------------------------|
| · VP/President Elect | Joseph Hoey   | Georgia Institute of Technology |
| · Treasurer          | Ross Griffith | Wake Forest University          |
| · Member-at-Large    | Jim Eck       | Samford University              |
| · Member-at-Large    | Julie Fulgham | Mississippi State University    |

The newly elected Nominating Committee members are:

- |                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| · Don Boeckman  | Southeastern Louisiana University       |
| · Kay Coleman   | University of South Carolina            |
| · Ron Hagerman  | Brenau University                       |
| · Mitzy Johnson | Northeast Mississippi Community College |
| · Cathy Tanner  | Bishop State Community College          |

Past President Dizinno announced that the 2002 SAIR Conference will be held at the Sheraton Baton Rouge Convention Center Hotel in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, October 12-15, with vice president/president elect Joseph Hoey as program chair.

### President Elect Report

President Elect Sam Lowther thanked the local arrangements committee and planning committee members for their hard work and encouraged attendees to stay until the end of the conference.

### Members-at-large Reports

Member-at-Large Teresa Hall announced that there were nine pre-conference workshops at the 2001 conference with 220 registrants. Review of the Constitution and Bylaws will continue next year.

Member-at-Large Joseph Hoey discussed the two SAIR publications – the newsletter and the web site. The web site was updated and redesigned in order to conform to Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). The web site address is [www.sair.org](http://www.sair.org).

Member-at-Large Jim Purcell stated that awards for Best Paper, Unsung Hero, and James Montgomery Service Award will be announced during the Awards Breakfast. The winner of the SAIR 2001 Conference Best Paper will present at the 42<sup>nd</sup> Annual AIR Forum, which will be held June 2-5, 2002 in Toronto, Canada.

Member-at-Large Cornelia Wills announced that we had 100 newcomers to SAIR. Activities for the newcomers included a dinner on Saturday, a workshop, and a reception.

### IHE Report

Larry Jones discussed that the SAIR/IHE Institutional Research Alliance continues to serve well the purposes of the Association and the Institute of Higher Education as set forth in the Alliance objectives. The challenge now, as it has always been, is to determine and develop the most effective ways for the Alliance to meet the professional in-service needs of institutional researchers in the SAIR states. Illustrative of some of the issues that should be addressed as the SAIR Board and the Institute review the progress of the SAIR/IHE Institutional Research Alliance as it enters its ninth year, are the following:

- Continuation of the "central" office functions provided by the Institute of Higher Education;
- Development of web-based resources for the basic IR information for practitioners and institutions;
- IHE directed workshops and seminars on issues of theoretical and practical value to the members;
- Expansion of SAIR/IHE Alliance services to SAIR affiliated groups;
- SAIR/IHE "certification" for institutional researchers and professionals in related areas;
- Increased involvement of colleagues in other offices, disciplines and professional associations in the work of institutional research.

The faculty of the Institute of Higher Education looks forward to working with the SAIR Board and members to keep the Southern region in the forefront of institutional research.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:45.

Christine Mee, SAIR Secretary



## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**April 10, 2002.** The Mississippi Association for Institutional Research will hold its annual meeting at the Education and Research Center in Jackson, MS. March 22, 2002 is the registration deadline. Please contact Kathy Huffman (kathy@ir.msstate.edu) for more information or visit the MAIR web site <http://www.ihl.state.ms.us/mair/mair.htm>.

**April 11 - 12, 2002, The Alabama Association for Institutional Research (ALAIR)** will hold its annual meeting at Samford University, Birmingham, Alabama. Please contact Jim Eck, Vice President and Program Chair, (205) 870-2484/Fax: (205) 870-2971 or [jceck@samford.edu](mailto:jceck@samford.edu) for more information.

**June 2 - 5, 2002, The Association for Institutional Research (AIR), 42nd Annual Forum,** Sheraton Centre, Toronto, Ontario, Canada. Contact the AIR Executive Office, 114 Stone Building, Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL 32306-4462; Phone: (850) 644-4470; Fax: (850) 644-8824; or [air@mailier.fsu.edu](mailto:air@mailier.fsu.edu)

**July 18-19, 2002, The Florida Association for Institutional Research (FAIR)** will hold its annual conference at the Holiday Inn Oceanfront Resort in Cocoa Beach. The conference theme is "The Role of Institutional Research in a Seamless K-20 Education System." A half-day professional development workshop on assessment will be offered on July 17. For further information check the FAIR web site at <http://iea.fau.edu/fair/fair.htm>

**August 8-9, 2002, TENNAIR Annual Conference,** Hilton Suites in Brentwood, TN. Contact Roy Ikenberry ([idenberryr@mail.belmont.edu](mailto:idenberryr@mail.belmont.edu)) or see <http://oir.memphis.edu/tennairmain> for details.

**October 12-15, 2002, SAIR Annual Conference,** Sheraton Baton Rouge Convention Center Hotel

**May 19-21, 2003, 43rd Annual AIR Forum,** Tampa, FL

**May 30-June 2, 2004, 44th Annual AIR Forum,** Boston, MA

**May 29-June 2, 2005, 45th Annual AIR Forum,** San Diego, CA

## SAIR Financial Statement 2001 Calendar Year

Total assets as of January 1, 2001:\*

\$72,316.42

\*Distribution among accounts:

Bank balance		39,636.61
Investment balance		<u>32,679.81</u>
SAIR	31,261.49	
CMG	1,418.32	

Income during the year:

Membership/Conf. Fees, 2000-2001	2,630.00
Membership/Conf. Fees, 2001-2002	34,975.00
Workshop Fees	6,200.00
Special Event Fees	5,760.00
Vendor Fees/Contributions (excl. registration fees)	1,100.00
T-Shirt Sale	1,579.00
Other Income (Reimbursements & Uncashed Checks)	2,049.64
Committee on Mission and Goals Contributions	120.00
Interest earned from Investment account	1,156.45
Interest earned from Bank account	69.47
Interest earned from CMG account	<u>52.48</u>

Total net income \$55,692.04

Expenditures during the year:

Printing	3,272.04
Postage	2,727.93
Travel Grants and Best Paper Award	2,300.00
Corporate Filing Fee, Internet Registration/Svcs Fees	455.25
2000 Conference Expenses	357.33
2001 Conference Expenses	41,312.79
Supplies	741.54
Miscellaneous	80.69
IHE - University of Georgia	299.10
Refunds 2001 Conference	3,130.00
Review/Audit SAIR Financial Records	500.00

Total expenditures 55,176.67

Total Net Income during the year \$515.37

Total assets as of December 31, 1999:\*\*

\$72,831.79

\*\*Distribution among accounts:

Bank balance		\$38,943.05
Investment balance		<u>33,888.74</u>
SAIR	32,417.95	
CMG	1,470.79	

\$72,831.79

Prepared by: Hannelore Delbridge, SAIR Treasurer

1/14/2002

# SAIR 2002 - Baton Rouge

## October 12-15

Are you ready to participate in a new learning experience? Are you ready to exchange ideas, brainstorm with your fellow colleagues, and further the endeavors of Institutional Research and Assessment? Then welcome back to what promises to be another great Southern Association for Institutional Research Conference. Held in history-rich Baton Rouge, Louisiana, October 12-15, the conference could not be set against a more eclectic and unique backdrop. From bayous, antebellum homes, and Zydeco dancing to timeless jazz music and explosive, down-home cuisine, Baton Rouge is *authentic* Louisiana.

With the creative juices flowing, we tackle this year's theme for the SAIR 2002 Conference, ***Setting the Right Tone for Institutional Research***, which introduces five new tracks certain to address many of the most important issues in IR and Assessment today. And you are invited to participate.

The *Assessment Track* will discuss appropriate and effective assessment tools, the utilization of national surveys, value-added research, and the benefits of graduate assessment.

The *Accreditation Track* sets the framework for preparing for SACS self study and discusses why IR and Assessment are absolutely essential to the new criteria, concentrating on what we can do as researchers to better facilitate the accreditation process.

The *Technology Track* looks at where IR and Assessment are heading in the face of rapid technological change and will address issues such as web programming, software applications, security, and efficient information dispersal.

Staying close to the theme, the *Institutional Research Track* looks at welcoming newcomers into the IR and Assessment field and integrating their programs into the academic matrix within which all higher education professionals must work.

A new and exciting addition at the 2002 Conference is the *Community College Track* that will emphasize the importance of funneling the benefits of IR and Assessment in the right direction. Discussions will cover designing a program of assessment that is suitable for your college and/or institution, the diverse nature of problems felt by community colleges, and developing a plan of attack that is appropriate for the specific needs of colleges.

The program will offer pre-conference workshops, paper, panel, roundtable and demonstration sessions, and ample opportunity for interaction with higher education professionals. Plan to attend the conference and share your valuable input and expertise with your colleagues. Bring your dynamic ideas and help proliferate effective IR and Assessment and be prepared to learn something new and challenging.

J. Joseph Hoey  
Program Chair

### **WANTED: EDITOR FOR SOUTHERN AIR**

The SAIR Board is looking for someone new to take over producing the SAIR newsletter. Mary Beth Adams and Jane Mathis-Hopson, who have edited the *Southern AIR* for almost five years, would be happy to talk with anyone about what's involved and how it's done (marybeth@uab.edu; janemh@uab.edu). Interested parties should contact Joseph Hoey (joseph.hoey@irp.gatech.edu).

### **Web Site for Southeast SCUP**

The inaugural electronic newsletter for the Southeast Society for College and University Planning is now available at <http://www.scup.org/scupsenews-1-1.htm>.

### **University of Alabama Staff Win SAIR 2001 Best Paper Award**

The research paper, "Implementing a recursive retention assessment system for engineering programs" by Jon Acker, William Hughes, and William R. Fendley, Jr. (all of the University of Alabama) was selected as the SAIR 2001 Best Paper.

Judges for the competition were Eleanor Nault, Clemson University; Denise Gardner, Georgia Tech; Sam Spangler, College of Health Sciences, (Roanoke, VA); Mike Schexnayder, LSU; and Analinda Moreno, Texas A&M. Jim Purcell, Georgia College & State University, served as chair of the judges' group.

Papers were reviewed using a numeric average of the following items: relevance of topic, knowledge of topic, coverage of topic, and clarity and overall quality. In addition, a categorical rating was also submitted by each judge, based upon whether the paper was deserving of the Best Paper Award when compared to the other papers. Names and affiliations of the presenters were eliminated from the papers wherever possible and papers were identified by a numeric code.

Winners receive an invitation from AIR to present their winning paper at the AIR Forum. In addition, winning authors receive travel support from SAIR to attend the 2002 AIR Forum in Toronto, Canada.

*submitted by Jim Purcell*

**SAIR MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION, October 2001 to October 2002**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Membership Type:

Regular (\$20) \_\_\_\_\_ Student (\$10) \_\_\_\_\_ Emeritus (free) \_\_\_\_\_

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

**Ross A. Griffith**  
**SAIR**  
**Wake Forest University**  
**P. O. Box 7373**  
**Winston-Salem, NC 27109**

**Membership Types:**

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

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

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

**Southern Association for Institutional Research**  
**c/o Mary Beth Adams**  
**Institutional Studies and Services**  
**University of Alabama at Birmingham**  
**420 Administration Building**  
**1530 Third Avenue South**  
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**Address Correction Requested**

**Southern AIR**