

Minutes of the
SAIR ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING & AWARDS BREAKFAST
Savannah, Georgia – October 13, 2015
Provided by Nancy Floyd, Secretary 2014-2016

The 2015 SAIR Annual Business and Awards Breakfast meeting was called to order at 8:04 am and followed by a welcome to attendees by President Sara Gravitt (Wake Forest University).

Secretary's Report

The minutes of the 2014 SAIR Annual Business Meeting and Awards Breakfast were presented to the membership by Secretary Nancy Floyd (no institution at time of conference). The minutes were approved with no changes upon a motion by Michael Hadley (Methodist College). The motion was seconded by Eric Atchison (Mississippi Institutions of Higher Learning) and approved by acclamation.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Paige Borden (University of Central Florida) reported that the number of registrants for the current conference included 414 regular attendees and 49 others, for a total of 463 dues paying registrants. This total was the second highest in the past ten years. Among professional and student members from the region, Georgia had the most registrants, followed by Alabama and Florida. Registrants represented fifteen states and the District of Columbia from the Southeast, and seven locations outside the region, including a participant from the United Kingdom. 98.6 percent of registration fees have been paid, and 66.5 percent were paid with credit cards. The third, fourth and final 2015 financial statements will be included in the Winter 2016 newsletter.

Past President's Report: Nominating Committee

Immediate Past President Mary Harrington (retired, University of Mississippi) recognized and warmly thanked the members of the 2015 Nominating Committee. The SAIR membership voted the following newly elected officers and Nominating Committee members: incoming Vice President/Program Chair Lisa Lord (University of Louisiana – Lafayette), Treasurer Allen Gale (Xavier University), Members-at-Large Eric Atchison (Mississippi Institutions of Higher Learning) and Alice Simpkins (Paine College). Nominating Committee members are Bethany Bodo (Virginia Polytechnic University), Andy Clark (Valdosta State University), Ada Kwanbunbumpen (Tulane University), Tracie Sapp (University of Georgia) and Urban Wiggins (Southern University).

Past President's Report: Future Conference Sites

Immediate Past President Mary Harrington (retired, University of Mississippi), announced that the 2018 SAIR conference will be held at the Marriott Norfolk Waterside in Norfolk, Virginia.

2015 SAIR Conference Report

Vice President/Program Chair Cara Mia Braswell (Auburn University - Montgomery) thanked everyone for attending and contributing to the conference. She cited the help of Michael Crow and Nijah Bryant (Savannah State University), Laura Mills (Armstrong State University) and Donna Hutcheson (Kennesaw State University) for help with local arrangements; Sandi Bramblett and Jon Acker for help with conference photography; and Marcia Allen, Tracie Sapp and Denise Gardner for stepping in as last minute replacements for track chairs who had travel difficulties. Cara Mia recognized (3) as sponsors of the 2015 Awards Breakfast. She announced the winning count of candy corn from the registration desk (1493).

Newcomers and Grant Recipients

Member-at-Large Jayne Perkins Brown (Georgia Southern University) noted that the Newcomers' Workshop provided training and orientation to 60 new IR/IE professionals with the help of over a dozen current and former Board members. Jayne presented the Bill Fendley Newcomer's Travel Grant to Elizabeth Riesser of the Kentucky Community and Technical College System and the 2015 Travel Grant Awards to the following: Elizabeth Cooper, Methodist University (NC); Shama Akhtar, University of Maryland, Graduate School (MD); Christopher Broadhurst, University of New Orleans (LA); Kathy Padgett, State University System of Florida (FL); Todd Bottom, SOWELA Technical Community College (LA); Melanie Fox, Radford University (VA); and Xia Serena Yan, Huston-Tillotson University (TX).

Awards

Member-at-Large Emily Saleh (Louisiana Community & Technical College System) served as chair of the 2015 Awards Committee and announced the following winners:

Best Paper: Marcos Velazquez (Barry University), "The Relationship Between Institutional Characteristics and First-Year Retention Rates"

Best Institutional Research Website: First Place: University of Tennessee; Second Place: Georgia Institute of Technology; Third Place: University of South Carolina

Best Electronic Fact Book: First Place: University of North Carolina Eshelman School of Pharmacy; Second Place: Texas Tech University; Third Place: University of Tennessee system.

Best Printed Fact Book: First Place: Georgia College; Second Place: University of West Georgia; Third Place: University of Georgia

Best Mini Fact Book: First Place: Florida State University; Second Place: Georgia Institute of Technology; Third Place: University of West Georgia

Special Recognition (Unsung Hero): Michael Crow, Savannah State University

James Montgomery Outstanding Service Award: Bernie Braun, Louisiana State University

Distinguished Member Award: Mary Harrington, retired, University of Mississippi

AIR 2016 Invitation

Glenn James (Tennessee Technological Institute) invited the SAIR Membership to attend the 2016 AIR Forum scheduled for late May/early June 2016 in New Orleans, Louisiana. Sara Gravitt (Wake Forest University) encouraged members to look for the SAIR SIG meeting at AIR and for SAIR gatherings at the SACSCOC meeting in November.

Recognition of Outgoing SAIR Board Members

President Sara Gravitt (Wake Forest University) spoke briefly about encouraging members to consider making nominations for upcoming elections, and recognized the outgoing members of the SAIR Board and offered appreciation for their service: Matthew Campbell (Auburn University), Member-at-Large; Mitzy Johnson (Mississippi State University), Member-at-Large; Paige Borden (University of Central Florida), Treasurer; and Mary Harrington (retired, University of Mississippi), Immediate Past President.

Mitzy Johnson took a moment to thank everyone who has helped SAIR and the Sponsor/Exhibitor support position specifically.

President Gravitt also thanked the members of the Financial Review Committee: Bernie Braun (Louisiana State University), chair, Donald Boeckman (Louisiana Board of Regents), and Sandi Bramblett (Georgia Institute of Technology), for their work in reviewing the organization's accounting, and noted that a copy of the Financial Review Committee's report would be available with the Winter 2016 newsletter.

Vice President/Program Chair Cara Mia Braswell announced session schedule changes.

SAIR 2016 in Charlotte, North Carolina

Lisa Lord (University of Louisiana – Lafayette), 2016 Program Chair, and Laverne Macon-Jamison (Livingstone College), Local Arrangements Chair, invited attendees to the 2016 SAIR conference to be held at the Westin Charlotte, and introduced a promotional video for Charlotte.

Door Prizes

Laverne Macon-Jamison invited several members of NCAIR to assist with the distribution of door prizes.

Other

No other business was discussed. Members were encouraged to attend Tuesday morning sessions and their respective SIGs.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:53 am.