



I am sure that all SAIR members have a common thought when thinking of the fall --- it's almost time for the premier professional development opportunity for IR professionals around the world. Yes, my friends, I speak of the SAIR 2007 Conference in Little Rock. Sandi Bramblett, Georgia Institute of Technology and SAIR Vice President and 2007 Program Chair, has been working diligently to bring you an outstanding conference and travel experience. Additionally, the organization is indebted to the 2007 local arrangements committee: Diane Atchison of Southern Arkansas University Tech, Wyatt Watson of the Arkansas Tech University, and June Prince of Ouachita Technical College; and the Arkansas Association for Institutional Research who along with Sandi have dedicated themselves to guarantee that your trip to Arkansas is wonderful and that SAIR 2007 is the best conference ever.

The conference will present a diverse program covering topics in accreditation, assessment, community college, institutional research, institutional planning, and technology issues that face us in our profession. On Saturday and Sunday (October 6 and 7), the conference offers an array of workshops addressing statistics, survey design, IPEDS, reaffirmation, newcomers, and much more. Plan to arrive early and take full advantage of these workshops.

In addition to the concurrent sessions, workshops, and various networking opportunities, the 2007 conference planners have scheduled a very special event for Monday evening (October 8). We will be spending the evening at the Clinton Presidential Library where we will review history and have a wonderful dinner. Do not miss this event.

If you have not done so already please:

- register for SAIR 2007 (<https://secure.airweb3.org/sair/>) by September 15 to receive the "early bird" registration fee of \$125;
- reserve your room nights at the Peabody Hotel Little Rock (<http://www.sair.org/conferences/2007-little-rock/hotel.asp>) before September 13 to get our group rate of \$118 per night; and
- make your travel arrangements for Little Rock, Arkansas.

Do it today.

On a final note, the candidate slate for the Board and committee positions was exceptional again this year. I want to thank every one who participated in our recent election. You have all done a great service for SAIR. To the election winners, I look forward to working with you this year. To those who did not win, we look forward to your serving SAIR in the future. The organization truly appreciates and needs your continued involvement. I want to express my deepest appreciation to Past President Jim Eck and the nominating committee for their stellar work.

I'll see you all in Little Rock!

# SAIR

*The Southern  
Association for  
Institutional Research*

<http://www.sair.org>

## **President**

Lorne Kuffel  
The College of William and Mary

## **Vice President**

Sandi Bramblett  
Georgia Institute of Technology

## **Secretary**

Cathy Tanner  
The University of Alabama at Birmingham

## **Treasurer**

Bernie Braun  
Louisiana State University

## **Past President**

Jim Eck  
Rollins College

## **Members-at-Large**

Jon Acker  
The University of Alabama

Michelle Hall  
Southeastern Louisiana University

Mary Harrington  
University of Mississippi

Kathleen Morley  
Baylor University

Communication Specialist  
Darla Fletcher,  
Arkansas State University

Please submit materials for the next  
issue of Southern AIR to  
[dfletcher@astate.edu](mailto:dfletcher@astate.edu) by  
**December 1, 2007.**



## **Calling All 2007 SAIR Newcomers... Be sure to attend the 2007 SAIR conference newcomers' events!**

By Jon Acker, Chair, Newcomers Committee

Are you a newcomer to SAIR or to the profession of institutional research? If your answer is yes to either question, then you are invited to participate in the following special activities that are designed to help you get acquainted with SAIR, the IR profession, and your new SAIR colleagues.

### **Saturday, October 6 - Newcomers/Early Arrivals Meet for Reception and Dinner**

A complimentary reception for Newcomers and Early Arrivals will be hosted by SAIR President Lorne Kuffel in the Arkansas Ballroom of the Peabody Hotel from 6:00 - 7:00 p.m. Immediately following the reception, please join us for a "Dutch Treat" group dinner at local restaurants within walking distance of hotel. This activity will be an opportunity for you to meet and informally network with your new SAIR colleagues.

### **Sunday, October 7 - A Newcomers' Workshop**

It pays to register early in more ways than one! SAIR is offering a free workshop to institutional researchers with one year or less of experience in the field. Registration for the workshop is first come, first serve until 45 eligible participants have registered. This workshop is not yet filled to capacity so eligible participants can still take advantage of this great opportunity. This Newcomers' Workshop will be held in the Chicot room of the Peabody Hotel from 8:30 a.m.- 4:00 p.m.

### **Sunday, October 7 - Newcomers' Reception**

You don't want to miss this one! Newcomers are invited to join the SAIR Board of Directors, Dinosaurs, SIG representatives, and other SAIR members for the Newcomers' Reception that will be held in the Riverview Room of the Peabody Hotel from 5:00 - 5:30 p.m. This event will feature refreshments and an opportunity to meet the SAIR Board of Directors, Dinosaurs (SAIR Past Presidents), Special Interest Group (SIG's) representatives, and other SAIR colleagues that will be happy to share lessons learned in the IR profession.

# Congratulations to Our Newly Elected SAIR Officers

By Jim Eck, SAIR Immediate Past President

The results of the SAIR 2007 election are indicated below. Congratulations to all 16 candidates for participating in the election. I am very thankful to the SAIR 2007 nominating committee for working with me to create such an impressive slate of qualified candidates. 581 SAIR members were invited to vote and 242 votes were cast (41.7%).



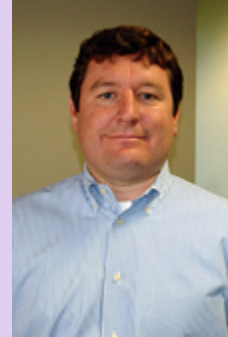
**Michelle Hall**

Vice President / Pres. Elect



**Donald Boeckman**

Treasurer



**Andy Clark**

Member-at-Large



**Angela Hamlin**

Member-at-Large



**Donald Cunningham**

Nominating Committee



**Sara Gravitt**

Nominating Committee



**Charles Hawkins**

Nominating Committee



**Joe Marks**

Nominating Committee



**Zhao Yang**

Nominating Committee



## Educate. Empower. Inspire.

By Sandi Bramblett  
SAIR Program Chair / Vice President

Conference Web Site:

<http://sair.org/conferences/2007-little-rock>

Educate. Empower. Inspire. That's the heart of institutional research, planning and assessment and that's our theme for the SAIR 2007 conference. The venue is The Peabody Hotel in Little Rock, Arkansas from October 6-9 and here's the plan:

- 18 pre-conference workshops on accreditation, assessment, software applications, statistics, institutional research and strategic planning.
- For sale: really cool SAIR 2007 t-shirts!
- A keynote address by Dr. Belle Wheelen, President of the Commission on Colleges for the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.
- An Opening Reception featuring fabulous hors d'oeuvres and music by Michael Carenbauer, Professor of Music and Director Guitar Studies at University of Arkansas at Little Rock. We will also celebrate the life of Bill Fendley.
- 80 concurrent sessions, over 20 round tables, and 18 special interest group sessions representing the conference tracks of Accreditation, Assessment, Community Colleges, Institutional Research, Planning, and Technology.
- Ducks on Parade Daily!
- Volunteer opportunities for YOU...get involved by being a facilitator!
- A fantastic Special Event on Monday night as the Arkansas Institutional Research Officers (AIRO) presents SAIR's Night to Rock! A tour of the William J. Clinton Presidential Library and Museum followed by dinner in library's The Great Hall. We'll finish the evening dancing the night away at The Peabody!

Please remember that conference presentations do not end until 11:00am on Tuesday. When planning your return travel home, do not book your arrangements too early on Tuesday or you will miss some great sessions presented by your colleagues.



**Register online today!**

<https://secure.airweb3.org/sair>

**Read the Conference Brochure at**

<http://sair.org/conferences/2007-little-rock/brochure.pdf>

## Pre-Conference workshops are filling up....Sign up for the one you want today!



SAIR pre-conference workshops are an excellent and economical professional development method. The workshops are taught by your peers who have expertise in a variety of areas. This year we have 18 workshops you can choose from. There are workshops for those who are beginning their IR career as well as those who have been in IR for a while and are looking to update some skills.

Please take advantage of these opportunities and register today before the one you want to take fills up! If a workshop is full when you try to sign up, please send Michelle Hall ([mhall@selu.edu](mailto:mhall@selu.edu)) an email to be placed on a waiting list.

**The workshops are full of great ideas that you can put into action. Sign up today!**

### Some of the workshops include the following:

- IPEDS
- Introduction to Excel PivotTables
- A Newcomers Workshop
- Getting Administrative and Educational Support Units On Board with Institutional Effectiveness
- Enrollment Forecasting by Time Series Analyses
- Designing & Implementing a Quality Enhancement Plan: Suggestions "in Medias Res"
- Introduction to Statistics (with JMP software)
- Designing a Program Assessment System to Educate, Empower, and Inspire
- Chi Square Tests and Binary Logistic Regression
- Have Qualitative Assessment of Student Work? Need to Create a Rubric?
- An Introduction to DAS Online
- Assessing Graduate Programs in Doctoral Research Universities

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## Professional Development Crisis Fund

At the SAIR SIG during the AIR Forum, the Board announced the establishment of the Professional Development Crisis Fund. While it is the Board's hope that this fund never needs to be used, over the past several years, many SAIR members have been personally impacted by natural disasters. It is an unfortunate fact of life that more members will probably be impacted in the future as well. As SAIR demonstrated in Fall 2005, as an organization and as individual members, we are concerned about our membership and want to help as much as possible.

The purpose of the fund is to provide funds to supplement professional development needs of members who are victims of natural disasters. Also, at their discretion, the Board will use this fund to help provide additional travel grants to members from areas in the Southern region that sustain significant damage. This fund was established by a \$5,000 contribution from SAIR. The goal is that the fund will grow and be maintained by donations from individual SAIR members. Currently the fund has a balance of \$5,103.16. Current SAIR members who are impacted by natural disasters can currently apply for grants up to \$750 from this fund to replace or supplement professional development needs that would otherwise be out of pocket expenses.

If you would like to make a contribution to this new fund, please send it to:

Bernie Braun, SAIR Treasurer  
Louisiana State University  
311 Thomas Boyd Hall  
Baton Rouge, LA 70803

Remember, this fund will be used to benefit your fellow SAIR members, so if you want to show your gratitude for making it through another hurricane season, this would be a perfect way of doing that.



## **Data and Decisions**

### ***Workshop for Community Colleges Austin, Texas, December 6-8, 2007***

Increasingly, college leaders base strategic decisions on data—targeted information about their own institution and up-to-date information about peer institutions when necessary. The ability to access, analyze and convert data into strategic information is critical to institutions operating in today's ever-changing educational climate. With support from the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), AIR, AACC and NCCCRP are offering a Workshop on Data for Strategic Decision-Making in Austin, Texas, December 6-8, 2007.

The team-based workshop is intended to develop the capacity of institutional leaders to use data in making decisions, recognizing that many institutions can devote only modest resources to information gathering and analysis.

The application window opens July 31 and closes September 7. For more information, visit <http://airweb.org>!

### **AIR 2008 Call for Proposals**

Share your expertise. Wow colleagues with your creativity. Promote the newest methods of IR. Submit a proposal for the 48th AIR Forum, May 24-28, 2008 in Seattle, Washington. The deadline for proposals is October 1, 2007.

The Call for Proposals is available online at: <http://www.airweb.org/?page=47>. It describes the 2008 tracks and presentation formats and provides information about the conference hotels.

Proposals for presentations, workshops, special interest groups (SIG), and affiliated groups must be submitted online. The Web-based proposal submission tools and their location are:

- Track Proposal - <http://www.airweb.org/tracks submission.html>
- Professional Development Services Workshops Proposal – <http://www.airweb.org/workshop submission.html>
- Affiliated Group or Special Interest Group Meeting - <http://www.airweb.org/agsig meeting.html>

Please give serious consideration to submitting a proposal or collaborating with colleagues to develop a presentation for the 2008 AIR Forum. It's a great way to enhance your career and expand your professional network!

### **2008 AIR/IES-NCES/NPEC/NSF Grant Guidelines**

New guidelines for the 2008 Grant program are available at <http://airweb2.org>!

2008 Grant awards will include:

- Research Grants
- Doctoral Fellowships
- Fellowships for Graduate Study
- Senior Fellowship
- Post-Doctoral Internship with NCES

All grant proposals must be received by January 16, 2008.

For more information on a particular grant, contact Sharon Lynn at [slynn@airweb2.org](mailto:slynn@airweb2.org)



## You (Yes, You!)

### Enter the SAIR Awards Competition!

By Kathleen Morley, Member-at-Large

Take this opportunity to showcase your good work! The following awards will be given in Little Rock: Best Fact Book; Best Mini Fact Book; Best Planning Document; Best Electronic Fact Book and Best IR Website. To enter the competition for Best Fact Book, Best Mini-Fact Book, and Best Planning Document, please bring at least two copies of the document to the SAIR registration desk by noon on Monday, October 8, 2007. For Best Electronic Fact Book and Best IR Website, please send the web address to Kathleen Morley ([Kathleen.Morley@baylor.edu](mailto:Kathleen.Morley@baylor.edu)) by October 4, 2007 OR write the web address on the back of your business card and leave it at the SAIR registration desk by noon on Monday, October 8, 2007. Please clearly indicate if you are entering the eFact Book competition or the IR website competition or both.

C'mon... you know you're good so what are you waiting for? Enter the competition NOW!



## SAIR 2008

October 18 – 21, 2008

Nashville, TN

By Michelle Hall, 2008 Program Chair

Be sure to mark your calendars now for October 19-21, 2008, so that you can come join your SAIR friends in Music City. We will be staying at the Sheraton Nashville Downtown, which as its name implies is located in the heart of Nashville. Attractions and activities include a variety of choices in dining from the elegant to the honky tonk, shopping for that special cowboy hat and boots, walking along the downtown riverfront, and of course enjoying the wide variety of music venues available.

The Sheraton Nashville Downtown is less than half a mile from Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum, the Historic District, Tennessee Performing Arts Center, Frist Center for the Visual Arts, and Wildhorse Saloon. In addition, it is a mile from LP Field, the home of the Tennessee Titans and two miles from Music Row.

Not only will you have an opportunity to visit with your SAIR friends in an incredible city, we will also provide an amazing slate of workshops, presentations, exhibitors, speakers and all the great things you have come to expect from a SAIR conference.

Be sure to mark your calendars, and you can find out more about the hotel at:  
<http://www.starwoodhotels.com/sheraton/property/overview/index.html?propertyID=1236>

Begin making plans now for what you want to see and do in Nashville by checking out their Convention and Visitors Bureau: <http://www.nashvillecvb.com/>

See you all in Nashville in October 2008!!!

## SAIR 2006 Papers are Online

SAIR members can access the papers that were presented at the SAIR 2006 conference via the login screen located at <http://www.sair.org/Conferences/2006-Arlington/papers/sairlogin.html>. The user name and password have not changed.

If you need the username and password to access this page, please notify Michelle Hall at [mhall@selu.edu](mailto:mhall@selu.edu) or Darla Fletcher at [dfletcher@astate.edu](mailto:dfletcher@astate.edu).



## NCAIR, SCAIR AND CCPRO JOINT 2008 CONFERENCE April 7-9, 2008

Come join the North Carolina Association for Institutional Research, South Carolina Association for Institutional Research, and College Planning and Research Organization in Asheville, NC at the Asheville Renaissance April 7-9. Featured speakers will be Dr. Belle S. Wheelan, President of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges; Dr. Eric Dey, Associate Professor in the Center of Higher and Postsecondary Education at the University of Michigan School of Education; and John Gardner, Executive Director of the Policy Center on the First Year of College. For further details check the conference website at: <http://www.clemson.edu/oir/SCAIR/2008Conference.htm>.

## 2007 SREB Fact Book on Higher Education and 16 State-Specific Featured Facts Reports Now Available

The [SREB Fact Book on Higher Education](#) is one of the nation's most comprehensive collections of data on higher education. The 50th anniversary edition continues a SREB tradition dating back to 1956 of providing comparative national, regional and state-specific data highlighting trends that affect colleges and universities. This year's highlights include historic increases in college enrollment, details on population changes that could challenge SREB states' continued education progress, and the growing college affordability gap for lower- and middle-income students. Also, updates on higher education-related data for each of the 16 SREB states are available in [individual states' Featured Facts reports](#). For decades, state leaders, policy-makers, researchers and journalists have used the *Fact Book* to find useful data quickly - and to learn more about long-term trends and developments in SREB states and across the nation.

**SAIR 2008**  
**Nashville, Tennessee**  
October 18-21, 2008

**SAIR 2009**  
**Dallas, Texas**  
October 17-20, 2009

## SAIR 2010 in New Orleans: 'Laissez Les Bon Temps Rouler'!

The SAIR 2010 annual conference will take place in New Orleans, Louisiana at the Intercontinental Hotel. The cost per room night will be \$160. The conference will take place September 26 through September 28.



To learn more about this hotel and its amenities, please click on this link:

<http://new-orleans.intercontinental.com/>





## SAIR Financial Statement 2nd Quarter of 2007

<i>Assets as of March 31, 2007</i>	SAIR	CMG	PDCF	Total
Bank balance	\$ 57,115.74	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 57,115.74
Investment balance	54,653.48	2,136.73	5,043.86	61,834.07
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$111,769.22</b>	<b>\$ 2,136.73</b>	<b>\$ 5,043.86</b>	<b>\$118,949.81</b>

### Income during the quarter:

New and Renewed Memberships	\$ 750.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 750.00
2006 Conference	250.00	-	-	250.00
2007 Conference	5,000.00	-	-	5,000.00
2006 SACS Meeting Catering Refund	91.38	-	-	91.38
CMG Contribution	-	1,135.00	-	1,135.00
Checking Interest	13.19	-	-	13.19
Investment Interest	642.52	25.12	59.30	726.94
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$ 6,747.09</b>	<b>\$ 1,160.12</b>	<b>\$ 59.30</b>	<b>\$ 7,966.51</b>

### Expenditures during the quarter:

2006 Conference (Best Paper Award)	\$ 500.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 500.00
2007 Conference	4,050.47	-	-	4,050.47
Future Conference (2010)	285.10	-	-	285.10
Communications Specialist	2,500.00	-	-	2,500.00
SAIR @ AIR (Board Meeting/SIG)	1,479.97	-	-	1,479.97
Postage	15.99	-	-	15.99
<b>Total Expenditures</b>	<b>\$ 8,831.53</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 8,831.53</b>

<b>Total net income during period</b>	<b>\$ (2,084.44)</b>	<b>\$ 1,160.12</b>	<b>\$ 59.30</b>	<b>\$ (865.02)</b>
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### *Assets as of June 30, 2007*

Bank balance	\$ 54,388.78	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 54,388.78
Investment balance	55,296.00	3,296.85	5,103.16	63,696.01
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$109,684.78</b>	<b>\$ 3,296.85</b>	<b>\$ 5,103.16</b>	<b>\$118,084.79</b>

Bernie Braun  
SAIR Treasurer  
July 20, 2007

## Remembering Bill Fendley

A Psalm of Life  
by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow  
(last three verses)

Lives of great men all remind us  
We can make our lives sublime,  
And, departing, leave behind us  
Footprints on the sands of time;  
Footprints, that perhaps another,  
Sailing o'er life's solemn main,  
A forlorn and shipwrecked brother,  
Seeing, shall take heart again.  
Let us, then, be up and doing,  
With a heart for any fate;  
Still achieving, still pursuing,  
Learn to labour and to wait.

**SAIR MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION, October 2007 to October 2008**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Office website: \_\_\_\_\_

Membership Type:  
Regular (\$25) \_\_\_\_\_ 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:

**Bernie Braun, SAIR Treasurer**  
Louisiana State University  
311 Thomas Boyd Hall  
Baton Rouge, LA 70803  
Ph: (225) 578-1231  
FAX: (225) 578-5963  
E-mail: [bbraun@lsu.edu](mailto:bbraun@lsu.edu)

**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 AIR**

**SAIR 2007 Annual Conference website**

<http://sair.org/conferences/2007-little-rock>



If you are interested in submitting any materials for Southern AIR, please send to Darla Fletcher ([dfletcher@astate.edu](mailto:dfletcher@astate.edu))