



SOUTHERN AIR

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SAIR AND YOU: A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

The 1979 SAIR Conference was most successful, and we are now proceeding into a new year for the relatively young Southern Association for Institutional Research. Since its establishment, SAIR has sought to provide opportunities for professional development in areas specifically requested by its membership. The concerns of SAIR members will continue to form the basis for program development.

In the coming year the officers of SAIR encourage each of you to make known your areas of particular concern to Larry Jones, who will be planning the 1980 Conference. We also urge you to participate actively in this meeting. If you have information, a study, or problem for presentation and discussion at the Conference, please respond to the "Call for Program Proposals" included in this newsletter. Finally, if you have colleagues at Southern institutions who may benefit from or contribute to SAIR, please invite them to join the organization. The greater the number of people with similar circumstances and problems, the better the opportunity for exchange of ideas.

SAIR has many active members in the national organization; in fact, the Southern region has produced four AIR presidents. With the strength of such talent and with the involvement of all its members, SAIR should continue to be a worthwhile organization for those who practice or have an interest in the profession of institutional research.

Suzanne Larsen, University of Tennessee

1979 SAIR CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS

Through the editorial efforts of Dudley Salley (Georgia State University), the proceedings of the 1979 SAIR Conference have been published and mailed to all current SAIR members. The conference theme was "The Future of Institutional Research," and the program focused on specific issues identified by the SAIR members attending the AIR Forum in San Diego the previous spring.

The Proceedings contains a message from the 1979 SAIR president, Norman Uhl; full text of Marvin Peterson's insightful keynote address (which will provide the context for the 1980 Conference); a summary of three panel sessions; and abstracts of papers presented during the three table topic sessions. The 1979 SAIR Conference, hosted in Orlando by Ilona Turrissi (Florida State University), was considered a great success because of the workshops, the program, the papers, the facilities, and, in the words of conference program chair, Suzanne Larsen, "because so many of you chose to be in attendance."

Additional copies of the 1979 Proceedings, *The Future of Institutional Research*, are available for the nominal charge of \$1.00 from Larry G. Jones, SAIR, 310 New College, The University of Georgia, Athens, Georgia 30602. Checks or money orders should be made payable to The Southern Association for Institutional Research.

1980 CONFERENCE PLANS

The 1980 SAIR Conference is scheduled for October 30-31, 1980 in Louisville, Kentucky, with workshops planned for Wednesday, October 29. The conference site is in the Louisville Inn (formerly Stouffer's Inn), conveniently located in the heart of "The Derby City" just a short distance from many local attractions: the acclaimed Actor's Theatre of Louisville, J.B. Speed Art Museum and Natural History Museum, Louisville Zoo, the historic Main Street Preservation District, Hillerick & Bradsby bat factory, and of course Churchill Downs. For those interested in seeing horses in their natural habitat, the enchanting bluegrass country is just a short drive from downtown Louisville. Greg Litaker (University of Louisville) is chairing the local arrangements committee and promises the city will be as receptive to SAIR as it is to its NCAA basketball champions.

Building on the problems identified by Marvin Peterson at the 1979 Conference, the theme of the 1980 Conference will be "Confronting the Problems Through Institutional Research." Workshops, papers, panels, and presentations are being requested and developed to deal directly with the six major problem areas Peterson expects will confront institutions and institutional researchers during the 1980s. Researchers and practitioners with ideas in any of the following areas are encouraged to submit program proposals for consideration as conference presentations:

- Institutional Planning
 - Environmental Scanning
 - Values Assessment
 - Self Assessment
 - Needs Assessment
 - Strategic Assessment
- Program Evaluation
- Program Reduction/Closure
- Measuring Quality
- Faculty and Staff Vitality
- Minority Issues
- Other Problems and Other Solutions

The attached call for "Program Proposals" provides details for submitting program ideas. Please post or circulate the "call" among your colleagues. More detailed SAIR Conference program information will be sent later in the summer, and a final conference program will be mailed with the 1980 SAIR Conference registration materials and hotel reservation cards. It certainly isn't too early, however, to reserve the dates and to make plans to attend the 1980 SAIR Conference in Louisville, Kentucky, October 30-31, 1980.

1981 SAIR CONFERENCE: CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA

The SAIR Executive Committee has accepted the invitation of the North Carolina Association for Institutional Research and The University of North Carolina-Charlotte to hold the 1981 Conference in Charlotte, North Carolina. Who might be interested in hosting the 1982 conference?

AIR/SAIR: 1980 FORUM

There was little doubt among those attending the 1980 Association for Institutional Research Forum in Atlanta that Joe Ezell (Georgia State University) and his local arrangements planning committee set the standard by which all past and future AIR forums will be judged. It is easy to understand why the Southern Region continues to provide substantial leadership for the National Association.

Those attending the Forum and SAIR special interest group were also treated to a fine program session which featured D. Parker Young, Professor of Higher Education, University of Georgia. Dr. Young spoke on the legal precedents influencing Institutional Research and generally alerted researchers to the potential problems stemming from court action. In response to a question for resource material on legal issues, Dr. Young suggested the following two publications available from College Administration Publication, Inc., P.O. Box 8942, Asheville, North Carolina, 28804: *The College Student and the Courts*, and *The College Administrator and the Courts*.

NOMINEES FOR 1981 OFFICERS

The SAIR nominating committee, chaired by past SAIR president, Norman P. Uhl (North Carolina Central University), has announced the following slate of candidates for next year:

Vice President and 1981 Program Chair

Edith Carter - New River Community College
Mike Staman - University of Missouri-Columbia

Secretary/Treasurer

Robert Lewis - Norfolk State
Denise Strenglein - University of South Florida

Members at Large (two to be elected)

Georgianna Bolden - Atlanta University
Charlie Brown - Fayetteville State University
Jeanne E. Budig - Lincoln University
Richard Howard - West Virginia University

Voting for these officers will be by mail ballot prior to the 1980 Conference.

SAIR MOVERS AND SHAKERS

The following SAIR members have recently changed positions or need to be recognized for some recent accomplishment. If you or someone you know should have been included, notify the editor so that everyone may share in the good news.

Mike Staman - To: Director, Campus Computing Services
University of Missouri
From: Christopher Newport College, Virginia

Barbara D. Holmes - To: Director of Research and Planning
Missouri Department of Higher Education
From: Fayetteville State University, North Carolina

Donald Reichard, University of North Carolina-Greensboro
Elected to: AIR Board Member-At-Large

Daniel R. Coleman, University of Central Florida
Elected to: Associate Program Chair
1980 AIR Forum

(Please Circulate and/or Post)



CALL FOR PROGRAM PROPOSALS AND CONTRIBUTED PAPERS
TO BE PRESENTED AT
THE SOUTHERN ASSOCIATION FOR INSTITUTIONAL RESEARCH
ANNUAL CONFERENCE



October 29-31, 1980 - Louisville, Kentucky

"Confronting the Problems Through Institutional Research"

This year's conference will focus attention on specific problems that institutions and institutional researchers are expected to confront in the next few years. Proposals for workshops, seminars, panels, papers, or other program presentations which relate to any of the following areas are being requested:

Institutional Planning
Program Evaluation
Program Reduction/Closure
Measuring Quality
Faculty and Staff Vitality
Minority Issues

If you are interested in sharing your skills, ideas, solutions, or alternatives in any of these areas, or other problems and solutions of interest to institutional researchers, you are encouraged to submit a program proposal.

PROGRAM IDEAS

Since most SAIR Conference participants will be attending for the purpose of listening rather than making a presentation at the meeting, suggestions for topics, speakers, issues, and problems that speak to the interests of the members are welcome. To suggest problems or issues for program consideration, briefly identify the concern and suggest the method and/or person(s) you would recommend to address the problem, and send your ideas to the program chairman.

WORKSHOPS

SAIR Conference Workshops will be conducted Wednesday, October 29. Both half-day and full-day workshops may be proposed. Workshops should be designed to increase skills and techniques of the participants or to deal directly with a given problem or set of issues in a "how to" setting. Workshop proposals must include a brief description of the problem to be studied, the resources, methods, instructional techniques to be used, and a brief resume of the workshop presenter(s).

PANELS OR SEMINARS

Seminars are intended to provide new perspectives, concepts, or analyses of institutional research issues at a fairly sophisticated level. Panels also have this objective, with an additional obligation to provide contrasting points of view. Seminar and panel proposals should identify the issue(s) to be considered, the timeliness of the topic, and the individual(s) who will be involved in the presentation. Panel and seminar presentations will be published in the Conference Proceedings.

CONTRIBUTED PAPERS

Contributed papers may report the results of a completed research project, analyze a critical problem in higher education, or present a research technique or method important to institutional research. Abstracts of all papers accepted for presentation will be published in the Conference Proceedings. Contributed paper proposals should be titled, should identify the problem, its timeliness, and the methodology used in conducting the study, but should not exceed an 8 1/2 x 11 standard page (about 500 words). A separate 3 x 5 card with the title of the paper, name(s) of author(s), their institutional affiliation(s), mailing address, and telephone number of the principal author should accompany each proposal.

PROCEDURES FOR SUBMITTED PROGRAM PROPOSALS

All program proposals should be typewritten, single-spaced, and limited to one 8 1/2 x 11 standard page (about 500 words). Two self-addressed, stamped envelopes should be included. Three (3) copies of each program proposal should be sent to the program chairman: Larry G. Jones, Institutional Research & Planning, The University of Georgia, Athens, Georgia, 30602.

DUE DATE FOR PROGRAM PROPOSALS

All program proposals must be received by July 25, 1980.