



## President's Message

Karen M. Gentemann

The new year always brings change. On the national scene, we don't know yet what this new crowd in Washington is up to, but it looks suspiciously like no good. The education of America is not a central feature of the contract we have unwittingly entered into and the governors seem intent on following the national model and cutting budgets wherever possible. Many of our institutions are in a holding pattern, engaging in limited hiring at best or "reorganizing" to reduce staffs. What is a responsible educational organization to do?

Well, SAIR is not putting its collective head in the sand. Heeding the advice and wisdom of Aims McGuinness and Wilhelmina Delco in San Antonio last fall, we intend to become even more pro-active in forging alliances wherever possible in order to reinvigorate our own thinking, continually engage in best practice, and support our colleagues in higher education.

**Relations with SCUP and AIR.** As you know, SAIR continues to maintain an active relationship with SCUP. That practice will continue. Registration in San Antonio was 250, 65 of whom are also members of SCUP. More than half of the SAIR Board of Directors are also members of SCUP. This relationship has resulted in conferences which are broader in scope than they otherwise would be and has allowed all of us to better integrate the work we do. We also have begun negotiations with AIR to share conference planning resources. If all goes well in these discussions, we will continue to provide a first-rate annual conference while keeping costs down. SAIR also is working with AIR to make the AIR training modules available to our members. These two efforts will result in better service while controlling costs to members.

**Electronic Mail.** Through our relationship with the Institute of Higher Education at the University of Georgia, we are offering our members access to an electronic distribution list, which will enable members to communicate quickly with others in the region whether it's a job announcement which is sent to an appropriate audience, a workshop of interest to members outside of one's own institution, or a quick communique over some item of interest to SAIR members (*see Introducing SAIRMAIL on page 7*).

**Membership.** SAIR also is reviewing the costs and effort involved in developing a recruitment brochure, which will enable us to make our organization known to others in the region who have not yet heard of SAIR or the benefits of membership.

### In this issue:

*Minutes*

*Call for Nominations*

*Introducing SAIRMAIL*

*Conference Announcements*

*A Detective Story*

*and....much, much more*

We also are examining ways to bring the annual conference to those unable to attend through audio tapes, electronic communication, etc. Further, you will soon receive a survey from SAIR designed to help the Board make better decisions about how best to provide services to our members. The survey will contain items about conference expenses as well as professional development needs. When you receive it, please take some time to let us know how you feel.

**Becoming Active.** All of these measures are designed to enable SAIR members to anticipate and be responsive to change, and to be leaders in their own institutions. If you would like to participate in the development of this agenda or if good fellowship among colleagues sounds like a good way to handle the turbulence of the *fin de siecle*, contact one of the Board members (*see list on page 6*), SAIR members from community colleges as well as four-year institutions will find that being an active member has numerous rewards both professional and personal.

**Ethnic Diversity and SAIR Leadership.** I would like to make a special appeal to members of SAIR who are also members of ethnic minorities. SAIR needs you. The challenges of the next few years are daunting and your insights and energy are needed if we are to address the problems of the 21st century. Your commitment can be as extensive as you want it to be. Contact me or any of the Board members and volunteer. We need more diversity on our Board and one way to push that agenda is to get involved in the organization at any level so that ultimately you can be elected to office and help provide leadership and direction for SAIR.

Good luck to each of you in '95.

## Letter to the Editor

October 31, 1994

Dear Editor:

I am responding to Jim Nichols' remarks in the Fall 1994 issue (Vol. 16, No. 3) of the SAIR Newsletter. Dr. Nichols bemoaned the poor quality of elected officers and seemed to blame it on the desire to represent the diversity of SAIR on the Board (i.e., "pitting regions, genders, races against one another.")

With respect to SAIR, at least, both assumptions are faulty in my opinion. First, I've worked with or on the Board for the last five years and find it to be staffed by dedicated people willing to work for SAIR in addition to their full-time jobs. Second, the Board is not that diverse--almost all have been white.

If SAIR wants more qualified candidates for positions, establish and publish criteria for the nominating committee to use. For instance, experience working in or serving on the board of a state's organization would be a plus, several years of experience in the IR field, etc. Then evaluate and rank each person who is nominated. This would help with the competence issue.

However, I must add that diversity is a valuable criterion to include on the list. If we expect to serve researchers from different states, from different parts of the higher education organization, from different types of institutions, we must give them a voice in deciding where SAIR is going, what SAIR is doing, what it represents and fosters.

If some feel there are no qualified people from certain ethnic backgrounds, certain states, certain regions, then groom them. Actively encourage them to get involved at the state level, draft them to facilitate sessions, present, serve on program committees, etc., to get some experience that will do them well as they move into regional or national office.

Sincerely,

*S.R. Griffith*

**Dr. Susan R. Griffith**  
Assistant Vice President for Planning  
and Administration  
Southwest Texas State University

## NCES News

National Commission on Education Statistics has completed work on the 1991 IPEDS CD-ROM and expects to mail copies to all institutions by the end of January. This version of the CD has four new features:

1) New output options include SAS and SPSS control cards describing the export files. 2) Copies of the 1991 questionnaires in WordPerfect 5.1 format are included on the disk. 3) Users can now tag specific data elements for export. In the 1990 version, all analysis file variables on a given subject (e.g., finance, enrollments) had to be exported. 4) A table generator has been added to the CD-ROM.

Finally, work on the 1992 CD-ROM is underway. In order to make full use of up-to-date software, the new CD will be a Windows-based product. Any comments or suggestions for additional improvements may be e-mailed to Bill Freund at <bill\_freund@ed.gov>. Bill's phone number is (202) 219-1373.

### SAIR Officers, 1994-1995

**President:** Karen Gentemann, George Mason U.  
**Vice President:** Deborah B. Dailey, U. of Alabama  
**Past President:** James O. Nichols, U. of Mississippi  
**Treasurer:** Linda Smith, Coastal Carolina U.  
**Secretary:** Harriott D. Calhoun, Jefferson State  
**Members-at-Large:**

John M. Kalb, Florida State University  
Dianna B. Lowe, East Carolina U.  
Albert M. Searway, Jacksonville State U.  
Ann W. Tomlinson, U. of Southern Miss.

**SAIR/IHE Liaison:** Larry G. Jones, U. of Georgia

### Southern Region

#### SCUP Representatives, 1994-1995

**Southeast:** Ross A. Griffith, Wake Forest U.  
**Southwest:** Mary Marks Guillory, U. of Houston System  
**Southcentral:** Ann W. Tomlinson, U. of Southern Miss.

### SOUTHERN AIR Editor

Deb Barshafsky debb.fiss@mailgw.mcg.edu  
Office of Institutional Research and Information  
Medical College of Georgia, Augusta, GA 30912  
FAX: 706/721-4636 TEL: 706/721-2703

### DEADLINE for Submissions

Please submit material for the next issue of SOUTHERN AIR to the editor by the second week in May.

## Minutes of the SAIR Business Meeting

October 11, 1994, San Antonio, TX

The meeting was convened at 8:45 a.m. by President Jim Nichols who welcomed everyone on behalf of the Board of Directors. He distributed an agenda for the meeting and explained that Secretary Joe Marks was unable to attend the conference due to responsibilities of his job at SREB. The Minutes of the SAIR Business Meeting, November 2, 1993, in Memphis, Tennessee, were approved as submitted.

**Liaison with Institute of Higher Education (IHE), University of Georgia.** Jim Nichols expressed appreciation to the Institute of Higher Education (IHE) at the University of Georgia and Larry Jones, the SAIR liaison with IHE, for the "central office support" provided to the organization. This resource enables some people to serve as SAIR officers who might otherwise be unable to do so due to limited support from their employing institutions.

**Report from the Vice-President/Program Chair.** Karen Gentemann reported current conference registration of 263 with 120 attending the Monday night event. She introduced Gerald Dizinho, Local Arrangements Chair, and thanked him and his committee for their outstanding work. She also recognized and thanked the chairs of all program planning committees: Susan Griffith (Facilitator), Harriot Calhoun (Papers), Leslie Bielen (Panels), Al Searway (Workshops), Ken Lowe (Round Tables), Harold Farris (Equipment), George Bradley (Evaluations), Lindy Smith (Registration), Mary Korfhage (Sponsors/Exhibits), Karlease Clark (Recreation/Special Events), Sam Baldwin (TBCU Representative), and Larry Jones (IHE Liaison).

**Financial Report.** Treasurer Lindy Smith distributed financial statements for 1st and 2nd quarters, 1994, and the 1994-95 Budget Proposal. Following a motion from Roy Ikenberry, seconded by Gerald Lunney, the 1994-95 Budget Proposal was unanimously approved. Lindy Smith called attention to the declining end-of-year balance for the Association and the need to maintain a balance sufficient to cover the expenses of one year's conference. After some discussion, a motion was made by Marsha Moss and seconded by Gerald Lunney to increase the conference registration fee of \$80 by \$5 per year for three years, beginning with the 1995 conference.

During discussion on the motion, Susan Griffith requested continued caution by the Conference Planning Committees in keeping costs reasonable. Rene Toups questioned whether the increase would be adequate in light of increasing expenses. Bill Fendley expressed the view that this increase was the smallest increment possible to stop the slide in the end-of-year balance while keeping costs as low as possible for the members.

Following discussion, the motion (to increase the conference registration fee of \$80 by \$5 per year for three years beginning with the 1995 conference) was unanimously approved by voice vote. David Fleming volunteered to coordinate a membership survey regarding conference expenses (fees, hotel, airfare) and professional development needs. Lindy Smith thanked the Texas Association for Institutional Research (TAIR) for their contribution of \$500 for refreshments for workshop breaks. She also expressed appreciation to Chris Mee for the assistance that Chris provided with the handling of the registration process during Lindy's recuperation.

**Committee Reports.** Karlease Clark, Awards Committee Chair, announced that the call for nominations for SAIR awards will be going out earlier this year, so members should be thinking of those whom they wish to nominate and be conscientious in sending names to the committee. John Kalb will chair the committee next year. David Fleming, Best Paper Award Chair, announced that the winner will be given a full-length session at the AIR Forum for presentation of the paper.

Dianna Lowe, Publications Chair, announced that there are three editions of *Southern AIR* (edited by Deb Barshafsky), an *Annual Report* (edited by Nancy Ellen Soteriou), and *SAIR Essentials* (which will be out the first of the year, edited by Ray Hackett). Al Searway, Professional Development Chair, asked members to contribute their ideas and suggestions for professional development. He announced that there had been outstanding pre-conference workshops with record registrations at this conference. An e-mail newsletter is a possibility for the Association and will be under consideration by the Board of Directors during 1994-95.

**Election Results.** William (Bill) Fendley announced that 163 ballots were returned, which is an excellent return for a mailed ballot. Those elected were: **Deborah B. Dailey** (Vice-President/President-Elect), **Harriot D. Calhoun** (Secretary), **Ann W. Tomlinson** and **John M. Kalb** (Members-at-Large), and **Mary Beth Bridges (Adams)**, **Harry G. Matthews**, **David F. Allen**, **Teresa P. Hall**, and **Rene Toups** (1995 Nominating Committee).

Those elected were asked to stand and were congratulated with applause from the members. Members of the 1994 Nominating Committee were Chair Bill Fendley, Roy D. Ikenberry, Eugene F. Buckley, Myrtes Dunn Green, Ansley A. Abraham, and Theresa Y. Smith. Bill Fendley thanked all those who were on the ballot for their willingness to serve the Association and encouraged members to submit nominations for next year's elections.

(continued on page 5)

## 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 more than five years and cannot be a member of, nor a candidate for, the Board of Directors during the year nominated. In addition, two of the following criteria must be met:

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

**SAIR Special Recognition Unsung Hero Award.** This award recognizes the ongoing contributions of a member to SAIR and 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 ensure 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.

<i>Montgomery Outstanding Service</i>	
James Montgomery	1990
Glynton Smith	1990
Charles I. Brown	1990
Cameron L. Fincher	1991
Larry G. Jones	1992
Gerald McLaughlin	1993
Donald Reichard	1993
Timothy R. Sanford	1994
Marsha Moss	1994
<i>Distinguished Member</i>	
James Firnberg	1992
Joe Sutton	1994
<i>Unsung Hero</i>	
Bruce Mallette	1990
Eugene Buckley	1990
Carol S. Hollins	1991
Murriel Gilliam	1993
Gerald Lunney	1993
Tony Williams	1994
Kathy Bissionette	1994

**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 Distinguished Membership.)

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 awards, prepare a letter of nomination, addressing the qualifications specified above, provide adequate documentation, and transmit to: **John M. Kalb**, SAIR Awards Committee, Budget and Analysis Department 1044, Florida State University, Tallahassee, Florida 32306-1044. Call (904)644-1786 for any questions. Deadline for nominations: postmarked no later than April 1, 1995.

## Minutes, continued

**Future Conference Locations.** Past-President Bill Fendley announced that the facilities for the 1995 conference are excellent at the Hotel Roanoke and Conference Center and air access is very good. Local Arrangements Chair Phil Sheldon encouraged all to "Come!" October 21-24 is at the height of the fall foliage season. Program Chair Debbie Dailey asked for volunteers for committees and encouraged people to submit proposals to participate on the program.

The proposal from the Board for the 1996 conference is **Perdido Beach Resort in Gulf Shores, Alabama.** The location is on the Gulf Coast between Pensacola, Florida, and Mobile, Alabama. Tentative dates are October 26-29, 1996. The room rate is \$94, single or double. Anna Wagner described the area and facilities and assured members that "Perdido Beach is 500 times easier to get to than Pipestem!" A motion was made by Paul Brozovsky and seconded by Marsha Krotseng to approve Perdido Beach Resort for the 1996 conference with authorization for the Board to consider other possibilities. In discussion, Tim Sanford expressed concern that this puts the Board in the position of having to come back to the membership for final approval of the site. He asked if those making the motion and seconding it would consider withdrawing it. The motion and second were withdrawn.

A motion was made by Tim Sanford and seconded by Mary Sapp to approve Perdido Beach Resort for the 1996 conference. In a voice vote there were some nays, so President Jim Nichols asked for a show of hands to confirm the vote. The motion carried. Discussion resumed regarding conference planning, locations, and expenses. The Board was asked to explore options for increasing leverage for getting optimal hotel rates. Staying in the hotel rather than going to another location for the Monday night event is always a consideration. Members complimented and applauded Karen Gentemann on the success of this year's Monday night event. She pointed out that in this case, holding the event in the hotel would have been more expensive.

**Other Business.** The National SCUP conference will be held July 8-12, 1995, in San Antonio, at the Hyatt Hotel, with meetings in the Convention Center. The 1995 AIR Forum will be May 27-31 at the Boston Sheraton (Back Bay area). Everyone was invited to the SAIR Wind-down Party on Tuesday evening in Suite 4126. Everyone was reminded that the AIR ballots will be out soon and encouraged to vote. The motion to adjourn was made by Gerald Lunney, seconded by Judy Rogers, and approved by voice vote at 9:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Harriott D. Calhoun (in the absence of Joe Marks)

## Musings from TBCU

Jackie Stewart

**On the Move in 1994.** TBCUers were on the move in 1994. **George Bradley** went from Norfolk State to Piedmont Community College and back to Norfolk State (this time as Associate Director of Development). Also at Norfolk, **Terricita Sass** was promoted to Assistant Director of IR and **Gladys Bennett**, formerly Director of IR at Albuquerque Technical-Vocational Institute, was named Director of Testing. **Marcia Conston**, formerly Director of IR at Jackson State, is now at Benedict College as Associate VP for Institutional Effectiveness. **Evalee Banks**, formerly Director of IR at Coppin State, is now Executive VP at Jackson State. And, **Phyllis Edamatsu** moved from Arizona State to Director of IR at Tennessee State University.

**Busy in Boston.** TBCU President Tony Williams notes that TBCUers will be busy in Boston at the 1995 AIR Forum. Ansley Abraham is co-chair of the Newcomers' Committee. Tony and Marcia Conston are members of that committee. Michael Boatwright is chairing the Table Topics Committee. He will be working with Waddell Herron, Alice Simpkins, and Dawit Teklu. Averlyn Pedro, from Mt. St. Vincent's College in Canada, is chairing the Evaluation Committee and will be working with Sam Baldwin, Evalee Banks, and Theresa Smith (an adopted TBCUer). Myrtes Dunn-Green, George Bradley, Roland Carey, and Jewell Stewart are serving on "Track" committees. Several TBCUers, Connie Shumake, Ansley Abraham, and Gerald Gaither, also are serving on standing committees. TBCUers should look for mail about special activities in Boston. See you there!

### Nominations for SAIR Officers

Members, the 1995 Nominating Committee needs your help with the upcoming election. The positions to be filled are:

**Vice President (Program Chair/President-elect)**  
two members of the **Executive Committee**  
five members of the **Nominating Committee**  
and **Treasurer**

Forward nominations by March 15 to:

**Dr. James O. Nichols**  
Past President and Chair, Nominating Committee  
Southern Association for Institutional Research  
University Planning and Institutional Research  
University of Mississippi  
204 Lyceum  
University, MS 38677

## Conference Announcements

The 35th annual **Association for Institutional Research (AIR) Forum** will be held May 27-31 at the Sheraton Boston Hotel and Towers. The theme? "Delivering the Message... Revolution is in the AIR." Forum Chair Bill Fendley and Associate Chair Elizabeth Stanley welcome questions or program suggestions. You can contact Bill by phone (205) 348-7204 or e-mail <bfendley@ua1ua.ua.edu>. Elizabeth can be reached by phone (515) 294-1181 or e-mail <estanley@iastate.edu>.

### SAIR Activities at AIR Boston

**SAIR Board Meeting**  
Sunday, May 29, 3:00 pm to 5:30 pm

**SAIR Special Interest Group**  
Monday, May 30, 7:30 am to 8:45 am

The **Alabama Association for Institutional Research (ALAIR)** will hold its ninth annual conference April 20-21 at Troy State University at Dothan. This year's theme is "The Changing Face of Institutional Research: New Responsibilities and New Techniques." Presentations will focus on the expanding duties of IR practitioners, including SPRE and Student Right to Know. Contact Mary Beth Bridges for more information <ppa0007@uabdpdpo.uab.edu>.

The inaugural meeting of **GAIRPAQ: The Georgia Association for Institutional Research, Planning, Assessment, and Quality** will take place Friday, February 24 at Mercer University in Macon, Georgia. Attendees will be founding members of GAIRPAQ. Contact Patricia DeWitt for more information. Phone: (706) 291-2121, extension 308.

The **Louisiana Association for Institutional Research (LAIR)** will hold its annual conference April 10-11 in Baton Rouge. The conference theme is "Institutional Effectiveness NOW!" Contact Ben Showalter, LAIR President, (504) 549-2077 or FAX (504) 549-3640, for information.

The **Texas Association for Institutional Research (TAIR)** will hold its 17th annual conference February 21-24 at the St. Anthony Hotel in San Antonio. This year's theme is "Demonstrating Excellence in Higher Education Through Research and Planning." Information? Call (409) 880-8097.

The 1995 **Australasian Association for Institutional Research (AAIR)** conference will be in Perth, Australia, November 29 through December 1, with the theme of "Internationalizing Tertiary Education: The Role of Institutional Research." Direct inquiries to Raj Sharma, AAIR President, by phone (61) (3) 819-8658 or e-mail <raj@stan.xx.swin.oz.au>.

The **Southeastern Association for Community College Research (SACCR)** will hold its 1995 annual conference in Asheville, North Carolina, at the Great Smokies Holiday Inn, August 6-9. The theme for the conference is "What is Higher Education? Accountability, Institutional Effectiveness, and Accreditation Revisited." Anyone interested in participating in the program should contact Max Reichard at Delgado Community College at (505) 483-4258.

The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill is sponsoring a seminar on "**Restructuring for the Future: Changing Your College or University**," February 25-28. The seminar helps academic leaders understand why major change in higher education is necessary and how to take advantage of opportunities by making difficult changes in their own colleges and universities.

Faculty include: **George Keller**, consultant and independent scholar on higher education and editor of *Planning for Higher Education*; **David Dill**, professor of public policy and education, UNC-Chapel Hill, and past president of SCUP; **Paul Hardin**, chancellor, UNC-Chapel Hill; **William Harvey**, president, Hampton University; **Jane Margaret O'Brien**, president, Hollins College; and **Leonard Sandridge, Jr.**, executive vice president and chief financial officer, University of Virginia. For more information about the seminar, contact William Pate: (919) 962-3276. E-mail: <iapl@unc.edu>.

### Board Members and Responsibilities

Deb Dailey, *University of Alabama-Birmingham*  
1995 Program Chair

Jim Nichols, *University of Mississippi*  
Future meeting sites

Dianna Lowe, *East Carolina University*  
Publications

Ann Tomlinson, *University of Southern Mississippi*  
Newcomers, SIGs, and Travel Awards

John Kalb, *Florida State University*  
Service Awards and Best Paper Award

Al Searway, *Jacksonville State University*  
Professional Development, AIR Modules, and  
Electronic Communications

Harriott Calhoun, *Jefferson State Community College*  
Secretary

Lindy Smith, *Coastal Carolina University*  
Treasurer

## On the Horizon

**Editor's Note:** The Institute for Academic and Professional Leadership has introduced On the Horizon, a five-times-a-year newsletter and an electronic mail list. James Morrison, the editor, forwarded the following information about this resource for leaders in education.

**On the Horizon** provides educational leaders with an interactive platform for a discussion of a) emerging trends and potential developments in the social, technological, economic, environmental, and political (STEER) sectors, b) their implications for education, and c) suggestions as to what educational leaders can do now to prepare more effectively for the future. The interactive platform is via a published newsletter and an Internet list. On Horizon List, past and potential STEER articles from the printed newsletter are posted to focus discussion. Some of the resulting List discussion also is published in On the Horizon, thereby allowing the List and the Newsletter to supplement and reinforce each other.

On the Horizon has taken its service to a new level with the establishment of a World Wide Web site, where Internet users will have easy access to past issues and a futures planning database. The richness and utility of the database, however, depends upon people in different organizational and cultural settings contributing to the database. Subscribe to Horizon List by sending the following message to listserv@unc.edu: subscribe horizon <your first name> <your last name>. For a review copy of On the Horizon, contact James L. Morrison, CB 3500 Peabody Hall, The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, NC 27599-3500. Telephone: 919-962-2517. Internet: morrison@unc.edu.

### New Places, New Faces

**Jim Montgomery** is now in "general" law practice in Blacksburg, Virginia. He can be reached by e-mail at <jamontg2@bev.net>.

**Dr. Charles Harrington**, formerly of West Georgia College, is now Director of Institutional Research and Assistant Professor of Management at the University of Southern Indiana. He can be reached by phone (812) 465-1617, fax (821) 464-1956, or e-mail <cfharrin.ucs@smtp.usi.edu>.

**Leona M. Urbish** was named Director of the Office of Institutional Research for Rice University late last year. This is a new position in the university's External Affairs Division. Assisting Urbish in Rice's Office of Institutional Research is **Astrid Jernick**, Research Associate. Urbish can be reached at (713) 831-4700, ext. 103 or by e-mail at <lurbish@ruf.rice.edu>. Jernick's extension is 107. Her e-mail address is <ajernick@ruf.rice.edu>.

Formerly at Baylor University, **Glenn James** is Director of Institutional Research at Tennessee Technological University.

## SAIR Wants You!

If you **DID NOT** attend San Antonio...  
If you **DID NOT** pay SAIR dues for 1994-95...

this message is for **YOU!!**

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Don't lose touch with your colleagues.  
Membership is a bargain at only \$20.  
Contact Lindy Smith, Treasurer, to rejoin.

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If you **DID** attend the conference in San Antonio,  
you are already a member.

## Introducing SAIRMAIL

SAIR is planning its first trip down the information highway with the development of **SAIRMAIL**, an e-mail distribution list which will be used to send and forward messages to SAIR members with e-mail access. Since two-thirds of the 1994-95 SAIR membership provided e-mail addresses during the SAIR/SCUP Conference registration, it is clear that electronic mail can provide a quick and easy way to facilitate communication with, between and among SAIR members. And, ways are being explored to provide a "fax" distribution of SAIRMAIL to members with fax machines but not using the e-mail technology.

To date, two "tests" of the SAIRMAIL list have been made in an effort to confirm e-mail addresses. Two "messages" announcing positions at the West Virginia State Colleges and Universities System Office and at Spelman College have been sent to confirmed addresses. If you did not receive one of the test messages or position announcements and you have e-mail access, please send your name and e-mail address to <sair@uga.cc.uga.edu>.

To use SAIRMAIL, simply send your "appropriately professional message or question of interest to SAIR members" to <sair@uga.cc.uga.edu> and it will be forwarded to the SAIRMAIL list.

Depending on the use and success of SAIRMAIL, future e-mail possibilities include an on-line SAIR directory, a listserv (SAIRNET), an electronic newsletter and more, depending on where and how far the membership wants to go on the information highway.

## SACCR in Savannah *Edith Carter*

The Southeastern Association for Community College Research (SACCR) held its annual meeting at the Hyatt Regency in Savannah, Georgia. The theme for the conference was "Traditional and Emerging Roles for Planners and Researchers: Working with Internal and External Constituencies." **Patricia Windham**, Past President of the Florida Association for Institutional Research served as program chair. The keynote address was presented by Dr. Rosemary Guilette-Karam from North Carolina State University. Dr. Robert Stoltz from the Southern Regional Education Board was the speaker for the annual luncheon. His presentation focused on "Goals 2000: A Progress Report Toward the Goals." Other conference sessions included workshops, panels, and paper presentations. The special conference event was a 90-minute narrated trolley tour of "Old Savannah."

Two outstanding papers were selected for presentation at national meetings. **Vicki Riley**, Director of Student Services at Blue Ridge Community College, was selected to present her paper on "A Study of Financial Constraint in the Virginia Community College System: Strategies for Retrenchment" at the Distinguished Paper Session at the American Educational Research meeting in San Francisco. **Ronald Head**, Director of Institutional Research at Piedmont Community College in Charlottesville, Virginia, was chosen to present his paper on "SPRE Reviews of Community College: Collecting Data and Meeting Standards" at the Association for Institutional Research Forum in Boston.

The following were elected officers of SACCR for 1994-95. **Patricia Windham**, Coordinator of Institutional Research and Effectiveness at Tallahassee Community College, was elected President. **Max Reichard**, Director of Institutional Effectiveness at Delgado Community College in New Orleans was chosen President Elect and Program Chair. **Phyllis Myers**, Director of Institutional Research at Trident Community College in Charleston, South Carolina, was re-elected Secretary. **John Quinley**, Director of Planning and Research at Central Piedmont Community College in Charlotte, North Carolina, was elected Treasurer.

Knowledge is of two kinds.  
We know a subject ourselves, or we know  
where we can find information upon it.

**Samuel Johnson 1709-1784**

## SAIR in San Antonio: You Had to Be There

*Karen Gentemann, 1994 Program Chair*

The Southern Association for Institutional Research/Society for College and University Planners (SAIR/SCUP) annual conference remains one of the best deals around. For a still modest registration fee, there are always great ideas, delicious food, lively dance music, and good fellowship. In San Antonio, we had all of this with that special San Antonio flavor. Of the 250 participants, 62 gave papers, panel presentations, or computer demonstrations. Six workshops were available. The invited speakers did a superb job of stimulating us to think beyond our own trials and tribulations.

Mexican food lovers thought they had died and gone to heaven with the availability of so much good food. Monday night was Texas barbeque night and lots of it. For many of us, this was our first excursion into the hill country of south Texas. As if to order, the sun seemed to linger on the horizon a little longer than usual and the stars were out as requested. The planning committees worked diligently to make this conference a success.

Here I will name the heads of the various committees, but behind each one were colleagues willing to give what it takes to make these things work.

<i>Planning Committee</i>	<i>Chair</i>
Local Arrangements	<b>Gerry Dizinno</b>
Facilitators	<b>Susan Griffith</b>
Papers	<b>Harriott Calhoun</b>
Panels	<b>Leslie Bielen</b>
Workshops	<b>Al Searway</b>
Round Tables	<b>Ken Lowe</b>
Equipment/ Software Demos	<b>Harold Farris</b>
Evaluation	<b>George Bradley</b>
Newcomers/Special Interest Groups	<b>David Fleming</b>
Registration	<b>Lindy Smith</b>
Recreation/Special Events	<b>Karlease Clark</b>
Sponsors/Exhibits	<b>Mary Korfhage</b>
SCUP Regionals	<b>Lizabeth Elkins</b>
TBCU	<b>Samuel Baldwin</b>
Institute of Higher Education	<b>Larry Jones</b>

Thanks to all of you who worked so hard to produce a great conference. Special thanks to the Texas Association for Institutional Research (TAIR) for sponsoring the coffee breaks during the workshops.

And now, on to Roanoke in 1995.



## Detective Story: A Cap in Nostalgia

Charlie Brown

I've never fancied myself as being a Sam Spade or of operating a missing person bureau so in all my candor my nailing down a solution to this caper was due primarily to an insatiable curiosity as to where *he* could be. The *he* I'm referring to, as the longer tenured SAIR/AIR members will know, is Robert I. "Bob" Lewis the II.

When blustery, seemingly never tiring, tell-it-like-it-is Bob all of a sudden dropped off the horizons of SAIR/AIR, we were all mystified and wondered silently and aloud, singly and collectively, as to where *he* was and what *he* was doing with all that seemingly boundless energy and intelligence.

As so it was that at practically every SAIR Conference and AIR Forum held thereafter that we'd reminisce and chortle time and again over "Bob" exploits like:

(1) how after driving into Newport News from Little Rock and sitting up until the wee wee hours putting the starting and finishing touches on two papers and immediately after their presentation took to the road again to visit with his daughter who at the time was an undergraduate at Virginia Tech;

(2) regaling ever-so-surprised audiences in Birmingham and Little Rock with his rich baritone singing abilities;

(3) pestering the hotel management and every TBCUer he could think of as to who had the effrontery to pay his hotel bill without his consent (he never did find out and neither did I);

(4) the dressing down he put on the *maitre de* at some hotel in Fort Worth who had the gall to ask for a tip after doling out shoddy service at a TBCU affair;

(5) for initiating and editing a TBCU Newsletter that unfortunately went belly up after only two issues for lack of support from the primary intended readership and the subsequent what-do-we-do-now posture set the stage for the column *Musings from TBCU*, which I wrote for seemingly an eon before turning over the column to Jackie Stewart; and

(6) for a zillion other feats that I do not have the space or courage to recount here.

In San Antonio, it was with faint hope that I posed my perennial "Where is Bob" question to the Dinosaur Club Breakfasters and, being expectant of the usual I-don't-know shoulder shrugs and nay shaking of heads, I was so literally shakened up and as a consequence spilled hot coffee all over my best tennis warmups when Gerry McLaughlin, in a rather matter-of-fact tone, replied, "Oh, Bob's at the University of Notre Dame as its Director of Title III Programs."

After the Dinosaur Club Breakfasters has affixed at least a band-aid solution to a host of nagging SAIR problems, I was outta there to share this clue with two other amateur gumshoe operatives, Tony Williams and Maxine Allen, who had shared with me an equally longstanding concern over Robert I. "Bob" Lewis the II's whereabouts.

To shorten the story a bit, Tony was sufficiently intrigued with the probable whereabouts of Bob that upon his return to Tennessee State University he tested the validity of Gerry's clue via a series of telephone calls and happily unearthed ol' Bob not as the Director of Title III Programs at the University of Notre Dame, but as the Associate Director of **The GEM Center**, Box 537, Notre Dame, Indiana 46556.

GEM serves an invaluable function as a national consortium of more than 55 institutions for graduate degrees for minorities in engineering and science. And true to form, the foregoing position proved not to be enough to harness all of Bob's workaholic habits, so along with his work at The GEM Center, Bob also is the President and Owner of **SIWEL - Consulting/Presentations/Publishing**. In a much too abbreviated word, SIWEL is a management systems consulting firm that also provides inspirational presentations from a perspective of Christianity and the Black aesthetic. SIWEL's address is **P.O. Box 158, Notre Dame, Indiana 46556**.

My first thought and hope upon discovering Bob's new whereabouts was that I could inveigle him to rejoin the ranks of SAIR/AIR, but after a miniscule spate of telephone and mail correspondence, I was finally convinced that my thought and hope were not likely to come to fruition as I slowly began to see more clearly that BOB in his present circumstances was as busy as ever; enjoying the meaningfulness of his work and upbeat amicable personal and social interactions with his newfound colleagues; but of perhaps greater importance, the leavening spirits of independence and empowerment derived from entrepreneurship. But all is not lost as Bob seems willing, time and travel schedule permitting, to collaborate with the serious-minded on selected research projects. In this regard, I've already begun making moves to form a collaborative team between Bob and Penny Barker Wali.

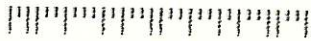
Thanks to the seminal clue provided by Gerry McLaughlin and the all important grubwork done by Tony Williams, this case is closed as the mission has been accomplished. Nevertheless, indulge me for yet another moment with the following epilogue as to what I would personally like to see and suggest that those among my readers:

(1) who know Bob or his work from his SAIR/AIR yesteryears to drop him a line;

(2) who are members of a minority American racial group and desirous of being considered for a GEM internship/scholarship to write Bob at The GEM Center;

(3) who are charged with the management system at your respective institution and have the need of a consultant write to Bob at SIWEL; and

(4) who are planners of SAIR Conference '95 to get in touch with Bob relative to either a GEM or SIWEL presentation or both.



# SAIR MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION, October 1994 to September 1995

Please use or pass this form on to an interested colleague. The completed form and check should be mailed to:  
**Linda Smith/ SAIR, Coastal Carolina University  
PO Box 1954, Conway, South Carolina 29526**

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Institution \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_

Dept. \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Position \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

DR./MR./MRS./MS. (circle one) FAX \_\_\_\_\_

Be sure to specify a membership type: (check one)

GRADUATE STUDENT\* (\$10)     EMERITUS\*\* (\$0)     REGULAR (\$20)

\* To be eligible for graduate student membership, a person must be actively pursuing a graduate degree and must not be employed full-time.

\*\* To be eligible for emeritus membership, a person must be retired and must have been an active member of SAIR for a minimum of five years immediately preceding retirement.

**REMINDER:** You are a paid member for the year following a SAIR conference registration or payment in lieu of registration.

**SOUTHERN AIR Newsletter**  
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