



President's Message - Emily Campbell, 2021-22

Summer is here, and I hope this newsletter finds you taking some time to relax, enjoy time with friends and family, and maybe even taking a vacation or two. As I write this, I am packing to head out of town for the 4th of July weekend. My husband and I are heading to a small town about one hour south of our home in Baton Rouge to stay in a historic hotel and explore the cafes, antique shops, and local restaurants the town has to offer. Fourth of July is also our wedding anniversary, so we will be celebrating three years of wedded bliss as well.

While the dog days of summer bring a slower pace for many, your SAIR Board of Directors is hard at work, providing you with the Carousel of Knowledge, a series of virtual professional development opportunities (visit the registration site [here](#)). Each session is \$50.00, and recordings of the sessions will be available to registrants for 90 days following the sessions. Registration is open to anyone – SAIR members or not – so feel free to share the registration site with anyone in your professional network.

We are also busy planning the 2022 SAIR Annual Conference, which will take place October 1-4 at the historic Hotel Monteleone in New Orleans. New Orleans is a unique, culturally diverse, historic city that you will definitely enjoy visiting. Please be sure to check out SAIR Vice President and Program Chair Kristy Neal's article in this newsletter for all the details about this year's conference. It's going to be a good one, ya'll!

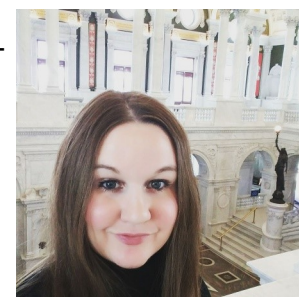
In other news, the Financial Advisory Committee will be convening soon to review the organization's financials, per the [SAIR By-Laws](#). The Committee's report will be shared with the membership at the Annual Business Meeting in October in New Orleans.

Also, Past President Dr. Suzanne Simpson has led the Nominating Committee in the selection of a wonderful slate of candidates to stand for elections in the coming weeks. To those who have accepted a nomination, thank you! Our organization is only as strong as those who step forward to lead it. I look forward to elections and to welcoming a new crop of leaders in the fall.

I hope you enjoy the remainder of the summer and I look forward to seeing you in New Orleans in October! In the meantime, stay well, productive, and healthy.

Emily Campbell

SAIR President



Inside this issue:

President's Message	1
President-Elect's Message and 2022 Conference Information	2
Past President's Message	5
Professional Development	6
Registration	7
Member Engagement and Marketing	8
Sponsors and Exhibitors	9
Treasurer's Update	10
Updates from SAIR Affiliates	12
Free Workshop Opportunity	13
New Orleans, Louisiana	14

SAIR
SOUTHERN ASSOCIATION
FOR
INSTITUTIONAL
RESEARCH

<http://sair.org/about-sair/>

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Vice President and 2022 Program Chair - Kristy Neal, 2021-22

Data, Collaboration, and all that Jazz!

We are knee-deep in planning our 2022 Conference to be held in New Orleans, LA. The conference will be held October 1-4, 2022 at the Hotel Monteleone in the heart of the famous French Quarter. New Orleans is a fun and festive place to visit with so much history. We hope you come early and stay late!

[SAIR 2022 Conference Website](#)

Reserve your hotel room

The SAIR hotel block at the Hotel Monteleone is open for your reservations. The negotiated SAIR rate is a traditional room rate of \$209.00 per night, plus tax. Parking is \$40/night, plus tax. The deadline to book your hotel room is Monday, September 5, 2022.



You can book your room by:

1. Using the designated [SAIR 2022 reservation link](#), or
2. Calling 504-323-3341 or 1-800-217-2033 to reserve by phone. Book under the "SAIR 2022 Annual Conference".

These rates are available for SAIR beginning Thursday, September 29 through Tuesday, October 4. Take advantage of this truly amazing rate at an historic hotel and extend your stay and enjoy the city.

Register for the Conference

Visit the [conference registration site](#) to register! The early bird registration rate of \$350 expires August 21, 2022. The rate after August 21 will be \$400. We also offer discounted rates for students!

Workshops

Workshops have been added to the registration site! If you've already registered, please revisit the conference registration site to see a selection of pre- and post-conference workshops we are offering. If you are new to SAIR, I strongly recommend the newcomers' workshop. It is a great place to meet other newcomers and network with your peers in a smaller group setting.

Vice President and 2022 Program Chair - Kristy Neal, 2021-22 (continued)

Plenary Speaker

I am excited to announce that Dr. Rigoberto (Rigo) Gomez will be our plenary speaker for the 2022 SAIR Conference in New Orleans!

Rigoberto (Rigo) J. Rincones Gómez

has served nationally and internationally in key leadership roles supporting student success, faculty excellence, scholarly activity, and institutional prominence. He has worked at single and multi-campus institutions; public and private; in urban, suburban, and rural settings with enrollment ranging from 600 to 65,000 students. He has co-authored several books, has designed and facilitated more than 100 workshops in 10+ countries, has published his work in prestigious refereed journal



articles, has been keynote speaker in several countries, and has served on several boards. As a trusted colleague, advisor, and facilitator with outstanding multicultural, analytical, communication, project management, organizational, and collaboration skills, he has helped institutions conceptualize and execute performance-based strategies and policies and has provided technical assistance on key national performance-based initiatives and recognitions including ASPEN Prize, Baldrige, Florida Sterling, and AQIP while using 4DX, LEAN, and Design Thinking principles and practices.

His background also includes a significant leadership role at the national level as Achieving the Dream (ATD) Founding National Director of Data Coaching. In that role, he supported ATD through growth cycles and expansion to serve over 200 community colleges across the country with a team of 80+ coaches. He currently serves as Executive Vice President of Academic Affairs and Provost at Hodges University in Fort Myers, Florida.

Dr. Rincones earned his Ph.D. in Evaluation, Measurement, and Research Design receiving a Provost's Special Recognition and an Outstanding Dissertation Award by Phi Delta Kappa Honor Society. He earned his Bachelor's in Mechanical Engineering and his Specialist and Master's degrees in Project Management in Engineering with Summa Cum Laude Honors and a President's Special Recognition for his second Master's degree in Educational Leadership.

The Three Facets of Data

This will be a highly engaging, thoughtful, and interactive session that will help attendees re-evaluate their current data practices. In a clear and simple language, Dr. Rincones will outline several key principles he has successfully used for over 25 years that have helped him excel at his personal, team, and institutions' strategic data initiatives. Learning about these data principles will certainly challenge the way IR/IE professionals have approached previous data requests, extractions, manipulations, presentations, and use. By attending this session, you may also find out the answer to the question, the ultimate question, of life, the universe, and everything.

Vice President and 2022 Program Chair - Kristy Neal, 2021-22 (continued)

New Orleans, Louisiana

New Orleans is home to many historic homes, above-ground cemeteries, and world-class museums like the National World War II Museum. New Orleans has a streetcar line making transportation to these a breeze. Below are a few links to pique your interest.



- [Talk the talk](#) (learn words like lagniappe and secondline, and how to pronounce New Orleans and street names)
- [50 Free things to do in New Orleans](#)
- [Family attractions](#)

Stay Tuned!

- We will be reviewing proposals and gathering valuable feedback in July. If you have submitted a proposal, be on the lookout for communications regarding your submission.
- The local arrangements committee is busy working on their recommendations of where to get coffee and beignets, sites to see, places to visit, etc. Be on the lookout, so you can plan your trip.
- We are also working on a list of group outings in place of a Monday evening event.

I look forward to seeing each one of you in New Orleans. You are what makes SAIR such a great organization and the annual conference a great learning and networking event. If you have ideas, feel free to reach out to me at vp@sair.org.



Suzanne Simpson - Past President, 2021-22

Suzanne Simpson, Past President, 2021-2022

SAIR Elections 2022

Representative John Lewis once stated, *"The vote is precious. It is almost sacred. It is the most powerful non-violent tool we have in a democracy."* As we strive to grow as professionals, we are also striving to grow as individuals. It is up to you to elect the next leaders of our organization. Thanks to a hard-working group of your elected peers on the 2022 nominations and elections committee, we have slated a ballot, also chosen by you, the members, to continue to move us forward. Each of the individuals on the ballot have given their time, commitment, and dedication to the organization and to the profession.



The elections are open and I encourage you to use the tools given to you. Review the candidates carefully and use your right as a member of this organization and vote for your next leaders. We are still all adapting to life in a pandemic and events happening all over our nation that impact our daily lives. These individuals are committing their time and resources and going above the call of duty to serve our organization and continue to move us forward. They all deserve our gratitude by simply being on the ballot.

I want to personally thank the 2022 Nominations and Elections Committee for their time and dedication to the organization. Thank you to, Jessica Carroll (Wallace Community College Selma, AL), Ginny Cockerill, (University of Alabama in Huntsville, AL), Samantha Nix (Florida State University, FL), G. Marc Turner (Texas State University, TX), and Margaret Freeman-Walden (University of Mississippi, MS). This group worked hard to strategically review all candidates according to our organization's bylaws, while also reaching across types of institutions, states, and a commitment to a broad range of diverse growth.

Thank you also goes out to each of you, the members, that submitted names to the committee for consideration. We value your contributions and knowledge as well. The NEC personally thanks you for your assistance with this process.

In closing, I ask that you carefully consider the options presented to you on the ballot. All of the candidates listed are deserving individuals and I am proud to call each of them, our next leaders of SAIR. As a reminder, the positions we are filling for 2023 are Vice President/Program Chair/President Elect, Secretary, Member-at-Large for Registration, Member-at-Large for Professional Development/Workshops, and (5) of your peers for the next Nominations and Elections Committee.

"Your Vote, Your Voice!"

Suzanne Simpson

2021-2022 Past President



Professional Development - Will Miller, Member-at-Large, 2020-22

Happy July, SAIR!

Summers seem to get shorter and shorter! With the speed things move in higher education, it's important to take a breath when we can and hone our skills. And, I'm happy to say SAIR has numerous opportunities to do so coming up.

First, we have a great slate of pre- and post-conference workshops coming in New Orleans in October! We will be learning from our peers about topics ranging from Power BI to Data Governance to Ensuring the Research Component of Institutional Research! Take a look at the schedule and consider joining one or more!

Likewise, be sure to check out upcoming Carousel of Knowledge Sessions! We will be talking about survey response rates, accreditation processes, and IPEDS tips and tricks plus more!

Look forward to seeing you all soon!

Will



Registration - Meaghann Wheelis, Member-at-Large, 2020-22

Just in time for summer- registration for the 2022 SAIR Conference is open! Visit the [registration website](#) to review the conference agenda and register before the early bird discount ends on August 21!

If you can't wait for October, the Carousel of Knowledge is still underway and we have sessions available every month leading up to the conference. [Register here](#) to join a session and continue your learning before we get together in New Orleans.

Have you missed seeing your SAIR colleagues in person, or are you new SAIR and would like to meet more of the membership? Volunteering at the registration desk is a great opportunity to check in with members and make new connections! Contact me at registration@sair.org if you are interested in volunteering.

Before we know it, the summer heat will have cooled (fingers crossed!) and students will be on campus for the fall semester. I hope you enjoy your summer and look forward to seeing you in New Orleans!



Member Engagement and Marketing - Molly Hall, Member-at-Large, 2021-23

SAIR Travel Grants, Best Practice Awards, and Service Awards

It was wonderful to see so many SAIR members at the 2022 AIR Forum in Phoenix! SAIR travel grant and awards season has arrived and there are multiple opportunities that we hope you will apply for. **Applications and nominations for SAIR Travel Grants, Annual Best Practice Awards, and Service Awards are due August 1, 2022.** If you have any questions or issues with the submission process, please contact me at mrhall@vt.edu.

Travel Grants

More detailed information about travel grants – including the application link – is available at <https://www.sair.org/awards/bill-fendley-travel-grant/>. There are four different types of travel grants to benefit SAIR members at all stages in their careers.

- Newcomers Grants for First-time Attendees: \$300, plus waiver of conference registration fee. To be eligible, applicants must have never attended a SAIR conference.
- Bill Fendley Travel Grant for Second-Year Attendees: \$300, plus waiver of conference registration fee. To be eligible, applicants must have attended the SAIR conference as a Newcomer the previous year.
- Larry G. Jones Graduate Student Travel Grant: \$500, plus waiver of conference registration fee. To be eligible, applicants must have submitted a scholarly paper which has been accepted for presentation at the annual SAIR conference.
- Edith H. Carter Travel Grants: \$500. To be eligible, applicants must be a member of SAIR.

Annual Best Practice Awards

More detailed information about best practice awards – including the submission link – is available at <https://www.sair.org/awards/annual-fact-book-and-electronic-document-competition/>. In 2022, SAIR will recognize outstanding work in the following four categories:

- Best Print Report: fact book, report, infographic, or other item optimized and formatted for printing.
- Best Interactive Report: fact book, report, infographic, or other item that is interactive and not primarily designed to be printed.
- Best Website: departmental website, evaluated on its overall structure, content, and design.
- Best Innovative Practice: assessment program, workflow, or other team process that has led to increased efficiencies and/or improved outcomes.

If you are interested in learning more about the great work being performed by your fellow SAIR members, we invite you to serve as a reviewer for the Annual Best Practice Awards. Please contact me at mrhall@vt.edu if you would like to volunteer.

Service Awards

Nominations are currently being accepted for the three different SAIR Service Awards. If you would like to nominate a colleague for a SAIR Service Award, please write and send a 1-2 page nomination letter to Molly Hall, SAIR Member-at-Large, at mrhall@vt.edu.

More detailed information about the SAIR Service Awards is available at the links below:

- Distinguished Member Award: <https://www.sair.org/awards/distinguished-member-award/>
- James R. Montgomery Outstanding Service Award: <https://www.sair.org/awards/james-r-montgomery-outstanding-service-award/>
- Unsung Hero/Heroine Award: <https://www.sair.org/awards/unsung-heroheroine/>

All grant and award recipients will be recognized at the 2022 SAIR Conference in New Orleans. We hope to see you there!

Sponsors and Exhibitors - Suzanne Klonis, Member-at-Large, 2021-23

SAIR 2022 Sponsorship Levels and Add-Ons!

	Bronze	Silver	Gold	Platinum
	\$1000	\$2000	\$3000	\$4000
Booth Size	8x10	8x10	8x10	16x10
Conference Registrations/Attendees	1	2	3	4
Acknowledgement in Conference Program	✓	✓	✓	✓
Hyperlink on Conference Website	✓	✓	✓	✓
Invitation to President's Reception (Saturday night)	✓	✓	✓	✓
Advertisement in Conference Program		✓ 1/4 Page	✓ 1/2 Page	✓ Full-Page
Event Sponsorship		✓	✓	✓
Mailing List of Registered Attendees (1 week prior to conference)	+\$250	✓	✓	✓
Concurrent Session Presentation			✓	✓

Sponsorship Add-Ons*

Brand Awareness	\$200 / item
Additional Sponsor Attendee	\$325
Program-at-a-Glance	\$350
Sponsor-Provided Name Badges & Lanyards	\$500
Directional Signage Branding	\$350
Hotel Room Key Branding	\$3,250
Sponsor-Provided Catchbox Microphone Cover	\$250
Tote Bags	at cost

* Pricing for some add-ons is negotiable based on sponsorship level.

SAIR 2022 Conference
Oct 1 - 4, 2022

Hotel Monteleone
New Orleans, LA

For more information please contact:

Suzanne Klonis
suzanne.klonis@furman.edu
Vendor/Sponsor Coordinator

Southern Association for Institutional Research

Balance Sheet

Accrual Basis As of June 20, 2022

James Hunt, Treasurer, 2021-23

ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
Bank	
PayPal Account	24.01
Vanguard Mutual Fund	78,664.09
Wells Fargo Account - Checking	25,385.19
Wells Fargo Savings - Savings	26,949.61
Total Banks	131,022.90
Total Bank Accounts	131,022.90
Accounts Receivable	0.00
Total Current Assets	131,022.90
TOTAL ASSETS	131,022.90
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Total Liabilities	0.00
Equity	
Net Assets	172,021.53
Retained Earnings	-37,631.38
Net Revenue	-3,367.25
Total Equity	\$131,022.90
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	\$131,022.90

Southern Association for Institutional Research
Profit & Loss
Accrual Basis, October through June 2022

Ordinary Income/Expense Income	
Revenue	
Bank Interest	1.22
Conference Revenues	6,300.00
Direct Public Support	500.00
SAIR Memberships	325.00
Webinar Registrations	850.00
Total Revenues	\$7,976.22
Gross Profit	\$7,976.22
Expenditures	
Awards	1000.00
Conference	3,585.92
Elavon Merchant Account Fees	52.51
Overhead	275.94
Total Expenditures	\$4,914.37
Net Operating Revenue	\$3,061.85
Net Revenue	\$3,061.85

A WORD FROM SAIR AFFILIATES...Updates on State AIR Conferences



The **Alabama Association of Institutional Research** 2022 Annual Conference was held March 23-25 at Springhill Suites Orange Beach at The Wharf.



The **Arkansas Institutional Research Organization (AIRO)** held an SQL Workshop on April 20 at National Park College.



The **Florida Association for Institutional Research** 2022 Annual Conference was held virtually on March 25.



The **Georgia Association of Institutional Research, Planning, Assessment, and Quality** held its 2022 Annual Conference on June 16-17 at Callaway Resort & Gardens.



LAIR held its annual conference on July 13-14 at Northwestern State University in Natchitoches, LA.



The **Maryland Association of Institutional Research (MdAIR)** - MdAIR held a virtual Spring 2022 Institute on April 29.



The **Mississippi Association for Institutional Research** will hold its 2023 Annual Conference on September 18-20 in Gulfport, MS.



The **North Carolina Association for Institutional Research - NCAIR** held its Spring 2022 Annual Conference virtually on April 7. They will hold a Summer Drive-in at the SAS Institute in Cary, NC on July 26.



The **OK-AIR** Spring 2022 Conference was held virtually on April 22.



The **South Carolina Association for Institutional Research** Spring 2022 Conference was held February 24-25 at the College Center at Trident Technical College.



The **Tennessee Association for Institutional Research** will hold its 2022 Conference on August 3-5 at Drury Plaza Hotel Nashville Franklin in Franklin, Tennessee.



The **2023 TAIR Annual Conference** will be held February 26 - March 1 at the Houston Cityplace Marriott at Springwoods Villas in Spring, Texas.

Free Workshop Opportunity

Link: https://www.reddit.com/r/ThIRsdays/comments/vnCS2f/r_for_ir_introductory_workshop/

Details:

Introduction

This free workshop occurs each Thursday at 2:30pm ET from July 14 through August 18, 2022 (six weeks). Each session is 30 minutes, and will be recorded, with links posted on the schedule below as they occur. An optional unrecorded pre-meeting will run from 2-2:30 each week to answer questions and review the optional homework problems.

The general topic is using free software (primarily R with RStudio) to automate common institutional research (IR) work. The work centers on replicating spreadsheet functions, like selecting rows and columns, modifying them, joining tables with common IDs, working with CSV files (reading and writing them).

The objective is to give you tools to automate some routine tasks and provide an introduction to more advanced reporting.

Location

Sessions are virtual on zoom, here: <https://furman.zoom.us/j/97500813682>

Files with R scripts and sample data can be found [here](#). Look for the folder called *2022 Summer Workshop* at the top.

Schedule

The schedule jumps right in with an example of usefulness in the first session, then zooms out for an overview of the benefits of switching from manual spreadsheet operations to scripts. The remaining four sessions show particular methods commonly used in IR reporting.

July 14, 2022 --Tidyverse and data operations. Comparison with Excel operations, how to work with csv files to select, filter, rename columns, save to disk.

July 21, 2022 -- Overview of benefits of automation, with examples. Notes on software installation.

July 28, 2022 -- Creating new columns with transformations and computations.

August 4, 2022 -- Groups and summaries (similar to pivot tables).

August 11, 2022 -- Joining tables together to combine data by rows using common IDs.

August 18, 2022 -- Reshaping data from long to wide or the reverse.

Contact

The workshop is hosted courtesy of Furman University's institutional research office, organized by David Eubanks . Email: david.eubanks@furman.edu. Please email if you'd like to be added to a mailing list (no spam) and get calendar invitations for the sessions.

New Orleans, Louisiana

