

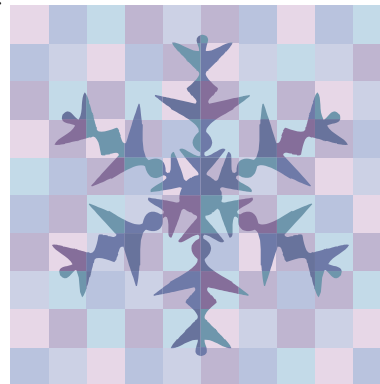
# Southern AIR

## *President's Message*

*By Bernie Braun, Louisiana State University*

Happy 2010 SAIR Colleagues. It's hard to believe how quickly the last three months have passed. It seems like only yesterday we were in Dallas "Celebrating Tradition" and "Creating Vision" at the 36<sup>th</sup> annual SAIR Conference. I was thrilled to see so many familiar faces at the conference and just as happy to welcome our 2009 newcomers into the SAIR family as a total of 368 of us attended the grand event.

Feedback reported to the SAIR Board on the conference evaluations was very positive. This success could not have been possible without the tireless efforts of over 100 of you who served on conference committees and assisted me in countless ways. Our vision for the future of SAIR is reflected in your commitment to excellence in producing the 2009 conference. I was very fortunate to receive incredible support and cooperation from my local arrangements group in Dallas. Thanks to all of out, especially Karen Laljiani, and no request made by me TAIR friends could not be surrounded by an incredible SAIR Board. Past-President Hall fielded many frantic phone calls from me asking for advice. Treasurer Boeckman handled the registration for those who joined the organization over the past two years. Secretary Morley offered support in ways too numerous to count. I cannot thank her enough for stepping up to the plate and assisting with details that were well beyond the scope of the Secretary's job description. A big round of applause must also go to Andy Clark who worked closely with our exhibitors and sponsors. Their contributions are a critical piece in keeping individual conference registration fees as low as possible, and despite early concerns with the economy, Andy recruited a full hall of exhibitors to come to Dallas. Our workshop wizard Angela Hamlin was on the spot to organize 19 pre-conference workshops on a variety of topics. On top of that, she kept the busses on schedule and got attendees to and from Richland College in a flawless manner. Bethany Bodo oversaw a fierce 2009 fact book awards competition and also solicited nominations that resulted in three special awards being presented: the Distinguished Member Award to Jim Purcell, the James Montgomery Outstanding Service Award to Tom Bohannon, and the Larry G. Jones Graduate Student Award to Emily Saleh. Dana Dalton handled travel grants, which were awarded to eleven members, and gave an enthusiastic welcome to our newcomers – including some never before seen baby pictures of SAIR Board members and past SAIR presidents!



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*"This success could not have been possible without the tireless efforts of over 100 of you who served on conference committees and assisted me in countless ways."*



## *President's Message (continued)*

There were other individuals who served in crucial capacities in planning the 2009 conference. Edwin Litolff was SAIR conference web master extraordinaire and handled all conference technology issues in the months leading up to the Dallas event. From the proposal submission and review process to slotting the program, Edwin showed time and time again how amazing technology is! In addition, the following SAIR colleagues stepped up as track chairs and spent a lot of time reviewing proposals last summer: Cara Mia Braswell, Donald Cunningham, Tara George, Julie Fulgham, Mary Harrington, and Wyatt Watson. These folks and their committees of proposal readers did an outstanding job in shaping the program that was filled with opportunities to learn new ideas in six tracks. Nerissa Rivera and Jana Marak handled evaluations and facilitators in a truly professional manner, Mary Beth Adams arranged Special Interest Groups, Cathy Tanner recruited over 20 roundtable sessions, Suzie Wible assisted with the creation of the 2009 conference logo, and Julie Clabby was always on the spot with her camera to catch those unforgettable SAIR 2009 moments. My sincere thanks to each of you! Finally, I thank my wife Jessica for her support throughout the year long planning adventure. In addition, she was our expert t-shirt saleswoman in Dallas. Without her efforts, I'd have a large inventory of leftover merchandise and many of you would not have the official SAIR t-shirt to wear as one of your layers during these recent cold weeks!

In addition to the learning opportunities at the 19 workshops and over 100 concurrent sessions and roundtables, we also found time to have a little fun. Well, more than a little. On Saturday evening, we were treated to some fine Texas fall weather as many of us gathered poolside at President Michelle Hall's reception. On Sunday evening, following an inspiring address by Adam Shepard, author of "Scratch Beginnings: Me, \$25, and the Search for the American Dream", we had a great networking opportunity at the opening reception at which we were entertained by the Joe Janes Jazz Quartet while we mingled in the exhibitors hall. Monday night, our special event at Eddie Deen's was one fantastic time! After a great BBQ dinner, we had a chance to hear some good music by the Britt Hammonds Band and to find out that SAIR has quite a few members who could rival those on "Dancing With The Stars".

I'm excited to serve you as SAIR President this year as the conference comes to my home state for the first time since 2002. New Orleans is a city that has been through a lot since Hurricane Katrina hit nearly five years ago. While there is still much recovery to be done, I can report first hand that the tourist and entertainment areas of the city are thriving. Vice President/Program Chair Ike Ikenberry and Local-Arrangements Chair Allen Gale are already hard at work preparing an amazing conference experience for us. I, along with many of my LAIR friends, look forward to welcoming you to New Orleans for what promises to be good times, good food, and of course an incredible professional development experience at the 37<sup>th</sup> annual SAIR Conference.

If you have any questions or if there is anything I can do to better our organization, please do not hesitate to contact me at 225-578-1295 or [bbraun@lsu.edu](mailto:bbraun@lsu.edu).

Sincerely,

Bernie Braun  
SAIR President

*A special "Thank You" to all of our Sponsors for their generous support of the SAIR conference in Dallas*



*Special Sponsors*

Richland College

SREB

TAIR



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- ZogoTech

### *Michelle Hall, President 2008–2009*



During 2008-2009, the Board met four times to conduct SAIR business including October 21, 2008 in Nashville, TN; January 25, 2009 in Dallas, TX; May 31, 2009 in Atlanta, GA; and October 18, 2009 in Dallas, TX. As my last Presidential duty, I ran the Business Meeting in Dallas, TX on October 20, 2009.

The main task the Board took on during the year was a revision of our By-Laws. A careful review of our By-Laws showed inconsistency (e.g., changes had been made in one part, but not in a similar section) and some “outdatedness” (e.g., sections required various items to be printed and mailed). Our goal was to make SAIR a more nimble organization that can respond to the changing needs of our membership and changing technology. Throughout the year, both at our meetings and via e-mail we reviewed, revised, and discussed the By-Laws. I would like to thank the Dinosaurs for their insights and support during this important task.



One of the benefits to serving on the SAIR Board is being able to work with an outstanding group of individuals. If you were not friends at the beginning of your service, I guarantee you will be friends by the end. I would like to thank the SAIR Officers and Board of Directors for their hard work during 2008-2009. Those who will be continuing in their service include Bernie Braun, Vice President and Program Chair; Kathleen Morley, Secretary; Bethany Bodo, Member-at-Large; and Dana Dalton, Member-at-Large. Four Board members finished their service to the organization at the end of the conference and I want to acknowledge and thank them again for their service and dedication: Donald Boeckman, Treasurer; Andy Clark, Member-at-Large; Angela Hamlin, Member-at-Large; and especially, Sandi Bramblett, Immediate Past President. Thank you all for all your work during the year!

*“Our goal was to make SAIR a more nimble organization that can respond to the changing needs of our membership and changing technology”*

The Board (and in particular, Vice President Braun) was nervous about the 2009 conference because of the budget situation in most states. However, it was apparent just how important SAIR is to individuals by the turn-out in Dallas. We exceeded our expectations and I heard from several people who paid for all or a large portion of their attendance out of their own pocket. Their message was that SAIR is too important to them professionally to not attend. Bernie put on a great conference and I know that Ike will also have a great one in New Orleans, so be sure to put it on your calendar now.

Finally, I also want to thank you, the members of SAIR, for providing me with this opportunity to serve you. Serving on the Board does require time and effort on my part, but I have gotten so much more out of the experience than I have put in. If you have ever considered running for a position in SAIR, please do it this year, I promise you will not regret it.





## 2008 -2009 Annual Report

### *Sandi Bramblett, Past-President 2008 –2009*

**SAIR 2009 Election:** I was privileged to work with a wonderful Nominating Committee who was diligent and purposeful in providing the SAIR membership with a full slate of nominees. Special thanks to Cornelia Willis, Cathy Tanner, John Milam, Andrew Luna and Margie Hobbs for their work as the 2009 Nominating Committee!

If you cast your ballot, you were one of 145 members (26% of the eligible SAIR voters) who helped us chart the course for a very bright future! Please join me in congratulating our new SAIR Board members and the 2010 Nominating Committee:

The 2009-2010 Board is an exceptional group of people who will continue to lead SAIR and I know that you will give them your full support. I want to extend my sincerest gratitude to all of our candidates who ran for office. It's not easy to step up to the plate but they did in a big way and I am grateful to each of them. Finally, kudos to Michelle Hall and Vinay Ramachandra at Southeastern Louisiana University as well. They were instrumental in keeping the elections website up and running and I thank them for going above and beyond the call yet again.

**SAIR 2012 Site Selection:** Based on the membership survey conducted last year, conference sites in Daytona Beach and Orlando, Florida were visited during August 2009. A contract with the Grand Floridian at Walt Disney World in Orlando, Florida has been approved by the Board and signed by me for the SAIR 2012 Conference. The conference dates are September 22-25, 2012. For more information about the Grand Floridian, please visit: <http://disneyworld.disney.go.com/resorts/grand-floridian-resort-and-spa/>

**Committee on Mission and Goals:** During the Nashville and Dallas conferences, the Dinosaurs discussed how we might be able to better educate newcomers about the need to contribute to the profession beyond the workshare. It seemed that there were higher rates of workshares being turned into scholarly research which could, in turn, be presented at conferences such as SAIR and the AIR Forum. There was also a discussion about the desire to have two keynote speakers for the conference as had been done previously. It was explained that higher speaking fees coupled with more worthy proposals led to the four most recent conferences having only one speaker. Because we have so many good proposals, we were able to give more members an opportunity to present their work by using only one keynote speaker. If we were to go back to having two speakers, it would be prudent to consider extending the length of the conference although the financial impact of such a decision should be carefully studied.

Finally, I want to express my sincere gratitude to the membership and the Board for this opportunity to serve you over the past five years. The friendships I have made and the collegiality of the SAIR organization overshadow anything that remotely resembled a trial or tribulation. I am humbled (and still utterly shocked) that the membership elected me to this leadership path but it's been a wonderful ride and I am grateful to each and every SAIR member, past and present. I wish you all the best as the journey continues. Rock on!

#### 2009 Election Results

##### Board Members

Roy "Ike" Ikenberry,  
Vice President & Program Chair

Ruth Salter  
Treasurer

Cara Mia Braswell  
Member-at-Large

Nerissa Rivera  
Member-at-Large

##### Nominating Committee

Jim Eck  
Denise Gardner  
Nancy James  
Joachim "Joe" Knopp  
Alice Simpkins



**Congratulations!**

### *Donald Boeckman, Treasurer 2008—2009*

One of my first duties in the spring of 2009 was to continue to accept membership applications. SAIR ended the 2008-2009 membership year, which runs from the Nashville conference to the start of the Dallas conference, with 543 members. The top six states with the highest members are: Georgia 72, Texas 68, Tennessee 59, Alabama 52, Louisiana 38, and Florida 36.

At the January Conference Planning meeting in Dallas the final 2008 Calendar Year Financial Statement was presented. The 2009 budget was also presented. During the planning meeting the SAIR Board met with the Marriott's management staff and reviewed the facilities and needs for the conference.

In the Spring time we worked on arrangements with Eddie Deen's for the Special Event, AV services, the guest speaker, Joe Jane's Music and many other aspects of the conference.

In late spring and early summer, quarterly financial statements were prepared and distributed to the board and to the membership through the SAIR Newsletter. I worked with local CPAs to prepare and submit SAIR's annual tax returns. Also during this time we continued to work with Cvent to prepare the registration site for the upcoming Dallas conference. In early summer, we started working with and registering our vendor partners.

In late summer and early fall we opened the registration for the Dallas conference to our membership. We worked with Cvent on a daily basis preparing for the Dallas conference. Cvent provided an easy and convenient vehicle to manage both on-line payments and payments made by check. In October preparations for the conference kicked into high gear. Last minute arrangements with the hotel, buses, Monday night event were made. Registration packets, name badges, and a plethora of registration counts were made. By the end of the conference we had a total of 368 of our colleagues registered.

After Dallas, we continued to process payments for the conference. We also started taking registrations for memberships. As of the end of December we had a total of 377 memberships, not bad in these hard economic times.

I ended the calendar year looking forward to handing the honor as Treasurer over to Ruth Salter.



*"As of the end of December, we had 377 memberships—not bad in these hard economic times."*



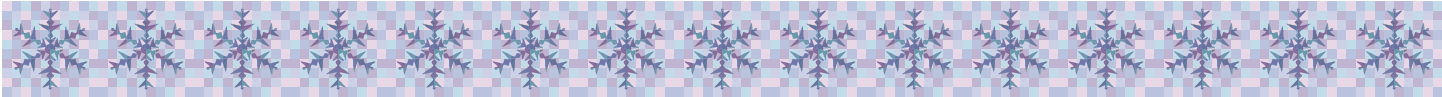
# 2008 -2009 Annual Report

## Kathleen Morley, Secretary 2008—2009

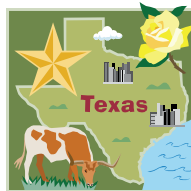
It has been my pleasure to serve on the SAIR Board as secretary during this past year.

Highlights of the year include

- Attending the 2009 conference planning meeting and winter board meeting in January in Dallas, Texas.
- Attending the spring SAIR board meeting at the AIR Forum in Atlanta in May.
- Attending the pre-conference board meeting and post-conference board meeting in October in Dallas, Texas.
- Composing minutes of all aforementioned meetings and disseminating those minutes to the Board for review.
- Recording minutes at the 2009 Annual Business Meeting and Awards Breakfast during the conference.
- Assisting Dana Dalton, member-at-large, in the selection of SAIR Travel Grants recipients for the 2009 conference.
- Providing support to Program Chair Bernie Braun for the 2009 conference.
- Serving as liaison for the state affiliate groups.



**The saying goes “everything’s bigger in Texas.”  
The fun we had at the 2009 conference was no exception!**





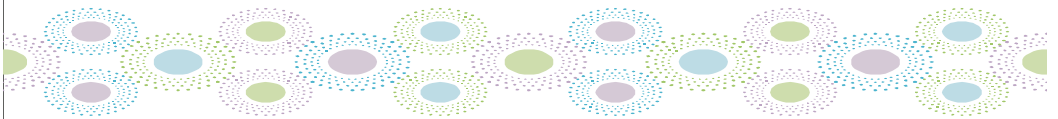
### *Andy Clark, Member-at-Large 2008–2009*



We had a great year recruiting vendors, exhibitors, and sponsors (given the state of the economy) for the 2009 conference. There were a total of 22 booths and of these 20 were tiered sponsors (4 Gold, 9 Silver, 7 Bronze). Six Companies provided brand awareness item for conference tote bags. In addition TAIR gave a generous donation to support the Sunday Reception. Richland College opened their computer labs and provided refreshments for the off-site workshops. Thank you to all of our vendors, exhibitors, and sponsors. Your financial support is crucial to the success of the conference. I look forward to seeing each of you at the 2010 conference in New Orleans.



If you know of any other companies that may be interested in being a sponsor for SAIR 2010 please have them contact Bethany Bodo, Vendor Relations Chair for 2010.



### *Dana Dalton, Member-at-Large 2008–2009*

#### **2009 Travel Grants**



SAIR again was fortunate to be able to offer ten Travel Grants and the Bill Fendley Travel Grant. Twenty-one applications were received in early August, 2009. The grantees were selected and then notified. Each recipient was very excited to receive the grant. The committee gave special consideration to applicants who were presenters and newcomers to SAIR. Thanks to Kathleen Morley for her valuable assistance.

#### **2009 Newcomer's Reception**

Our newest members arrived in Dallas raring to go and to get involved with SAIR. We played several round of "IPEDS", otherwise known as BINGO, but much more fun. The Newcomers were able to meet their SAIR colleagues and gain valuable insights and of course share a laugh and the delicious ice cream treats. Baby pictures of the Dinosaurs and SAIR officers scrolled throughout the reception and we all tried to figure out who each other was. Fun was had by all. Thanks to Lee Sanders for his cheerful support. We look forward to the 'Big Easy' in September.





*Angela Hamlin Member-at-Large 2008 –2009*



First, a big THANK YOU to everyone who assisted in making our SAIR pre-conference workshops in Addison, Texas run smoothly and a huge success. There were many local area representatives who assisted us in this journey. These wonderful volunteers assisted with many of the logistics before we even set foot in Addison, a few were working hard behind the scenes at our off site locations during the sessions, and others made sure our attendees got to the correct places (from personal shuttle services, to directing folks down the halls). Also a special thanks to Richland College (Go Thunderducks!), for hosting 6 of our pre-conference technology workshops.

We also had 30 of our members volunteer their time preparing and conducting the pre-conference workshops, and I can never say enough about their dedication to our field by helping others to learn and grow. This allowed us to offer a wide spectrum of topics within IR, Planning, Accreditation and Assessment through 18 SAIR pre-conference workshops and 1 joint SAIR/AIR IPEDS workshop. Some of our most popular workshops were “Nuts and Bolts of Assessment within Student Affairs,” “Everything with Access,” and “A Training Workshop for Institutional Effectiveness Evaluators.” Our free “Newcomers” workshop was also as popular as ever with our newest members. Overall this year, we ended up with 207 registrations in all of our SAIR workshops and 41 in the joint SAIR/AIR workshop. This level of active participation by our members in the preconference workshops warmly reminds me how enthusiastic our members, new and seasoned, are to learn new strategies, techniques, and tips & tricks of the trade.

Lastly, thanks to Bernie for buying the yummy workshop break treats for us! Those cookies make all the difference in the middle of the day!

And remember there are lots of great workshop topics out there that haven’t been covered yet, and I know we have many accomplished experts within our ranks with knowledge to share! So let Cara Mia Braswell know about your great workshop ideas for next year! And if there is something you have been wishing SAIR would offer as a workshop, send her an email and let her know!

*“This level of active participation by our members in the preconference workshops warmly reminds me how enthusiastic our members, new and seasoned, are to learn new strategies, techniques, and tips & tricks of the trade.”*



## Bethany Bodo, Member-at-Large 2008–2009

In 2008-2009 I served as the Awards Chair for the SAIR organization. The Awards Chair is responsible for handling the 2008 Best Paper Award, the 2009 Conference Publication Awards (Best Fact Book, Best Mini Fact Book, Best IR Website, and Best Electronic Fact Book), and the 2009 Conference Recognition Awards (James Montgomery Outstanding Service Award, Distinguished Member Award, Unsung Hero Award, and the Larry G. Jones Graduate Student Travel Grant).

The 2008 Best Paper Award committee was chaired by Bethany Bodo and all papers were rated by: Suzanne Simpson, L. Lee Tarrant, Tace Crouse, Julie McAdams, and Mary Lucas. The award went to **Gerald W. McLaughlin from DePaul University and Joretta S. McLaughlin from Roosevelt University** with their paper entitled: “Using Student Financial Status to Form Comparator Groups: A New Perspective.”

This year the two 2009 Conference Publication Awards that are electronic were conducted differently. Submissions were solicited prior to the Dallas conference and voting was completed off site. Each IR website and Electronic Fact Book was evaluated by three raters and the winners were:

### *Best Electronic Fact Book:*

- 1<sup>st</sup> place - University of Georgia*
- 2<sup>nd</sup> place - University of West Florida*
- 3<sup>rd</sup> place - Kentucky Community and Technical College System*

### *Best IR Website:*

- 1<sup>st</sup> place - University of South Carolina*
- 2<sup>nd</sup> place - University of Georgia*
- 3<sup>rd</sup> place - University of Memphis*

Two 2009 Publication Awards were collected and voted on while at the Dallas conference. Again, each item had three members conducting ratings. The winners for Best Fact Book and Best Mini Fact Book were:

### *Best Fact Book:*

- 1<sup>st</sup> place - University of Georgia*
- 2<sup>nd</sup> place - Mississippi State University*
- 3<sup>rd</sup> place - The University of Texas System*

### *Best Mini Fact Book:*

- 1<sup>st</sup> - Mississippi State University*
- 2<sup>nd</sup> - University of West Florida*
- 3<sup>rd</sup> - Southeastern Louisiana University*

In 2009 SAIR awarded three of the four recognition awards for the organization. The winners of the 2009 Recognition Awards were:

**Larry G. Jones Graduate Student Travel Grant – Emily C. Saleh**  
**James Montgomery Outstanding Service Award – Tom Bohannon**  
**Distinguished Member Award – Jim Purcell**  
**Awards not given: Unsung Hero was not awarded.**



## *Welcome 2009 SAIR Conference Newcomers !*

Provided by Donald Boeckman, 2008-2009 Treasurer

### **There were 140 Newcomers to the 2009 SAIR conference in Dallas!**

Stephanie Anoff, Brian Apperson, Eric Atchison, Yan Avram, Paula Bales, Elizabeth Bard, Matt Bartel, Monique Baucham, Lori Blake, Mary Bold, Charles Bowling, Allison BrckaLorenz, Karlton Brown, Laura Brown, Nijah Bryant, Richard Burnette, Britt Canada, Matthew Capps, Denise Cason, Candace Castillo, Cathi Chambers, Iris Champion, Minjie Chen, Allen Clark, Dana Clark, Donna Cumbie, Jun Davantes, Nicole Deese, Mary Jo Dondlinger, James Dunham, Raifu Durodoye, Ulrica Edwards, Vanitha Elango, George Ellenberg, Carolyn Evert, Kristi Fisher, Jeanie Foster, Nathan Francis, Phil Freed-Golden, Natalia Gaponenko, Ruben Garcia, Myrtes Green, Sharon Green, Tiffany Gregory, Keenan Grigg, Rebecca Guthrie, Edward Hanley, Brooks Harrington, Leslie Hawkins, Pam Haws, Christina Heritage, Bryan Hood, Brian Hopewell, David Horton, Edward Hummingbird, Rick Jenkins, jiahuang ji, Cassandra Johnson, Scott Johnson, Lounceny Kaba, Ashok Kabisataphy, Karen Kate Kellum, Jacqueline Kennedy, Patricia Kessler, Faron Kincheloe, Christi Klyn, Carol Kominski, Sue Kornfeld, Howard Kummerman, Karen Kusler, Rebecca Lewis, Rick Leyva, Qiyu Li, Bob Lorick, Christine Luce, Qiao Luo, Douglas Mains, Jennifer Manegold, Joe Martinez, Linda Medina, Jacquelyn Messinger, Greg Mika, Tom Milholland, Jennifer Mitchell, Cynthia Moore, Delton Moore, Anna Moses, Terry Nixon, David O'Brien, Leslie Odom, Greg Ohlenforst, John Orange, Isaiah O'Rear, Fay Parham, Richard Plott, Mary Poe, Anna Lois Puffer, Denise Raney, Christina Recascino, Jimmy Roberts, Patrick Roberts, Debra Rockefeller, Jacci Rodgers, Tina Rummel, Mansour Salami, Emily Saleh, Sabrina Sattler, Eric Seifert, Allison Shaskan, Leonard Simpson, Lee Skinkle, Cassie Slaybaugh, Marina Slemmons, Cary Smith, Robbin Steen, Tracy Stegmair, Sandra Stewart, Sheilynda Stewart, Cindy Strawn, Samual Strother, Richard Sutton, Kim Tatalick, Howard Taylor, Margaret Taylor, Stephanie Tully-Dartez, Michael Turpin, Jennifer Ustanik, L. Louise VanOsdol, Kent Wagoner, Leslie Wasson, Melissa B. Weston, Chuck Wharton, Abby Wilcox, Karen Wiley, Julie Williams, Bert Wilson, Gail Wisan, Jason Womick, Betty Zelada, Deborah Zizzo





**What's happening  
in your neck  
of the woods?**

## *SAIR Regional Scoop!*



### **Florida—FAIR**

The FAIR annual conference will take place February 24-26, 2010 in the beautiful conference facility at the Cocoa Beach Courtyard by Marriott! Pre-conference workshops will be conducted all day Wednesday, followed by a reception on Wednesday evening where you can meet up with all your FAIR friends. The conference will conclude at noon on Friday, February 26 with a business meeting. A complete schedule of events and presentations will be posted on the FAIR website as soon as they are available. (<http://www.florida-air.org/conf.htm>)

### **Maryland—MdAIR**

MdAIR is having a winter drive-in technology training on Friday, January 29. Topics to be covered are SPSS and Excel. The training will be held at Laurel College Center in Laurel, MD. (<http://www.laurelcollegecenter.org/LCCContent/maps.html>)

### **Mississippi—MAIR**

The MAIR spring conference will be held April 8-9 on the Mississippi University for Women campus in Columbus, MS. For further information check the MAIR website: [www.ihl.state.ms.us/mair/mair.htm](http://www.ihl.state.ms.us/mair/mair.htm)

### **Texas—TAIR**

The Texas Association for Institutional Research will be holding its annual conference March 1 thru March 4 in Waco Texas. More information about the conference can be found on the TAIR website: [www.texas-air.org](http://www.texas-air.org)



You are invited to the 2010 AIR Forum, *Charting our Future in Higher Education*, at the Sheraton Chicago Hotel & Towers, the same city where the very first Forum was held 50 years ago. The 2010 Forum is an ideal time to reflect with colleagues on the history of institutional research and our role in improving higher education for the future.

We are especially excited about a series of White Paper Discussion Groups that will meet on Sunday afternoon to discuss new directions in institutional research and how AIR can promote exchange of scholarship and knowledge between institutional researchers from all types of backgrounds.

Julie Carpenter-Hubin, Forum Chair  
Debbie Dailey, Associate Forum Chair



Registration for the 2010 AIR Forum is now open.

Register at  
<http://forum.airweb.org/>



***SAIR Wants You!***

## ***Coming Soon SAIR Nominations***

The site for the nominations for SAIR's 2010-2011 officers will soon be open. This year we will be electing the following positions:

Vice President (Program Chair for 2011 conference in Atlanta)  
Secretary  
Member at Large (2)  
Nominating Committee (5)

This is a great opportunity to be more involved in SAIR, give back to a wonderful organization, and the benefits far outweigh the time and effort involved. If you are interested in running for one of these positions, or know someone whom you think would do an amazing job, be on the look out for the upcoming announcements. If you have questions about the positions, please do not hesitate to contact me ([mhall@selu.edu](mailto:mhall@selu.edu)) or one of our 2009-2010 nominating committee members:

Jim Eck ([jeck@rollins.edu](mailto:jeck@rollins.edu))  
Denise Gardner ([gardnerd@uga.edu](mailto:gardnerd@uga.edu))  
Nancy James ([ntjames@clermson.edu](mailto:ntjames@clermson.edu))  
Joe Knop ([knop@gwu.edu](mailto:knop@gwu.edu))  
Alice Simpkins ([simpkinsa@mail.pain.edu](mailto:simpkinsa@mail.pain.edu))

### ***Missed SAIR 2009 in Dallas?***

#### ***You can join SAIR today!***

Even if you missed the Dallas conference, you can still become a SAIR member.

Access to the renewal form is at the following URL:

[www.sair.org/about\\_sair/Membership\\_Information/Membership\\_Information.asp](http://www.sair.org/about_sair/Membership_Information/Membership_Information.asp)

Send the form and the \$25 membership fee to

Ruth Salter, SAIR Treasurer  
Albany State University  
504 College Drive  
Albany, GA 31705





*"Please keep in mind  
that a product of your  
professional creativity  
is vital for the  
program."*



## SAIR 2010 New Orleans, Louisiana InterContinental New Orleans September 25-28, 2010

By Roy "Ike" Ikenberry, SAIR Vice President / 2010 Program Chair

Well, Bernie and his local arrangements folks really did it big in the "Big D". The 2009 conference was, without a doubt, excellent. However, it is past history and we must turn our thoughts and actions to SAIR 2010 in New Orleans, Louisiana. We will hold our annual event from September 25-28, 2010 at the InterContinental New Orleans ([www.ichotelsgroup.com/intercontinental/en/gb/locations/overview/msyha](http://www.ichotelsgroup.com/intercontinental/en/gb/locations/overview/msyha)) on St. Charles Avenue, in the heart of the Central Business district, where shopping, entertainment and great restaurants meet. The St. Charles Avenue Streetcar stops directly in front of the hotel, which is two blocks from the historic French Quarter and the famous restaurants and attractions of the Crescent City. Also within a short walking distance are: the Aquarium of the Americas/Imax Theatre, the Louisiana Superdome and New Orleans Arena, Mississippi River attractions including paddle wheelers, steamboats, and Riverwalk Festival Marketplace, Live Music Clubs, Famous Restaurants and Harrah's Casino. You will need more than a day before and a day after the conference to take all this in, and we have rooms available for those who might plan to utilize this feature of our hotel contract. Speaking of which, the hotel has lowered our per night charge to \$149 which is outstanding for the New Orleans area.

On December 11 and 12, 2009 my wife and I had the pleasure of meeting the Senior Sales Manager of the InterContinental, Beth Amadon who graciously showed us along with Allen Gale (Local Arrangements Chair) the accommodations and meeting/banquet space the hotel offers. I can promise you that you will not find many hotels with the accommodations and amenities the InterContinental offers. Of the 448 deluxe guestrooms, 65 are balcony rooms overlooking an urban garden that even on a very rainy weekend were dry. There are 30 suites and 31 Club Level rooms. Amenities include an in-room safe that will accommodate a laptop computer, a mini-bar and coffee maker, hair dryer, iron and ironing board and bathrobes and house shoes. And ladies, there is a wall-mounted, magnifying make-up mirror in every room. High speed internet access is available at a reasonable charge; there are Wi-Fi hotspots on the first three floors. The hotel offers 24 hour services: complimentary health club, laundry & valet, business center, in room dining and a multilingual concierge.

The newly renovated third floor meeting spaces are equipped with wireless internet and natural light accommodating groups up to 320 for general session and meals with six breakouts. The Executive Conference Center on the second floor has five breakouts. Accessible through the first floor atrium, the Pan Am Conference Center offers 13 breakout rooms. Bottom line, we have plenty of space and it will be ours. No other group has contracted with the hotel for these dates. There are dining facilities within the hotel that include the Veranda Café (great hazel nut and chocolate beignets), the Lobby Lounge, Pete's Pub and the Sweet Car (the latter two open five days a week).

The InterContinental is roughly 16 miles from the Louis Armstrong New Orleans International Airport; about 25 minutes by ground transportation. The Airport Shuttle, taxis, and limo services are available at reasonable rates. For those of you who intend to drive, the hotel is easily accessed off of Interstate 10, to Canal Street and on to St. Charles Avenue. The hotel offers third party valet service for \$29.00 per 24 hour period however; there are several lots and garages in the immediate area with lower daily rates.

*(Continued on page 15)*



The SAIR 2010 Planning Committee will be visiting the hotel the last weekend of January 2010 to prepare for the September event. We will make certain that all attendees will have ample opportunity to visit with SAIR friends and enjoy the New Orleans attractions. The conference program will include a variety of workshops, speakers, presentations and exhibitors that will be of interest to everyone. The Program Track Chairs have all agreed to serve, the website is ready to implement after the January meeting, the logo will be revealed at that time, and Dr. George Kuh has agreed to be our keynote address speaker. We are working on the Monday night special event; nothing finalized at this time.

The invitation I offered you in the 2009 Conference Program listed the following items that I asked you to bring to the 2010 Conference:

- ✓ Anticipatory excitement about:
  - The location
  - Rekindling old friendships
  - Making new friends
- ✓ A product of your professional creativity:
  - A paper
  - A panel
  - A workshop
  - A poster
  - A roundtable topic
- ✓ A passion for your profession with a chance to:
  - Learn
  - Teach
  - Attend the Newcomers reception
  - Explore the vast domain of higher education research
  - Facilitate a session
  - Browse the exhibitor's wares
  - Interact with colleagues who actually know what you do for a living

Please keep in mind that a product of your professional creativity is vital for the program. Start now to produce a proposal and be ready when we send out the Call for Proposals at the end of March.

I wish each of you the very best in the New Year and look forward to seeing you in the Big Easy.

Ike

Laissez Les Bon  
Temps Roulez!



*Be sure to mark your calendars for the following dates*



***SAIR 2011**  
Atlanta, GA  
October 8 - 11, 2011*



***SAIR 2012**  
Orlando, FL  
September 22 - 25, 2012*

