



Bulletin

The Newsletter of the Indiana Association for Institutional Research

INAIR Bulletin is a publication of the Indiana Association for Institutional Research, a regional affiliate of the Association for Institutional Research. Please submit direct inquiries or comments to members of the Publications Committee or via email (bmdrake@purdue.edu)

President's Message (Barb Bunch)

Greetings Colleagues! I'm sure wherever you are in this fine state of Indiana, you're either experiencing unusual balmy spring-like weather or you've been digging out from several inches of snow.

Each year seems to bring more challenges in higher education and this year is no different. INAIR is a great time to meet with colleagues and friends to brainstorm and discuss how best to face them. Consider writing a paper, doing a presentation or developing a workshop.

As you start this New Year with anticipation of new beginnings and opportunities, INAIR is a perfect place to start. We are asking you to volunteer to serve on the INAIR executive board. If you are interested in serving or if you know of someone you would like to nominate, please contact me.

We have three open positions:

Vice President
Secretary
Membership

Serving INAIR is a rewarding experience and I encourage you to leap at this exciting opportunity!

Your Vice President Don Sprowl and Tanlee Watson are busy preparing what is going to be an excellent INAIR Conference. Please let them know if you have time to help in those preparations.

I would like to take this moment to congratulate one of our very own colleagues and friend, Vic Borden. At the AIR conference last spring Vic was nominated for and presented with the Outstanding Service Award. His contributions to both AIR and INAIR (not to mention several other professional organizations) have been nothing less than incredible. Vic, we are honored to count you as one of our own!



The INAIR conference is one of my most favorite times of the year and I look forward to seeing all of you there!
Barbara

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Vice President's Message

(Don Sprowl)

The Annual INAIR Conference

26th Annual INAIR Conference

March 22-23, 2012

University Plaza Hotel, West Lafayette, IN

After three years in Indianapolis we move out-state again, this time to West Lafayette. The conference will be held at the University Plaza Hotel, perfectly sized and appointed to host us and just two miles from the Purdue University campus. On Thursday evening, we will take the short ride over to the historic Purdue Memorial Union for our business meeting and dinner. Remember to bring door prizes for the prize drawing. There will be a tour of the Purdue campus after the conference on Friday afternoon for those who are interested.

The theme for this year's conference is "Better Data, Better Decisions" focusing on the vital role of institutional research in support of strategic decision-making processes. Our keynote speaker, Dale Whittaker, will share with us from the receiving end of institutional research data – he is Vice Provost for Undergraduate Academic Affairs and a key decision maker on the Purdue campus.

Once again we will co-host an AIR/IPEDS Workshop on Wednesday before the conference. The workshop is free and travel grants are available through AIR. Registration for the IPEDS Workshop is through the AIR website (<http://www.airweb.org/EducationAndEvents/IPEDSTraining/Workshops/Pages/default.aspx>) beginning January 18. The six hours of instruction will cover the following two modules.

IPEDS Data as the Public Face of an Institution - raises the level of awareness among higher education professionals about the importance of accuracy and consistency in data reported to IPEDS. Examples of real IPEDS data used in the public domain will be incorporated, enabling participants to understand how IPEDS data are used by governmental and non-governmental entities. This module includes presentations, discussions, exercises and demonstrations utilizing IPEDS data tools and resources.

IPEDS Data and Benchmarking: Supporting Decision Making and Institutional Effectiveness-Module 1 is designed for participants with little to no experience in the area of conducting benchmarking studies or with the IPEDS Data Center. This module introduces the fundamentals of creating benchmarks to measure institutional effectiveness. The module provides an overview of the types of comparison groups that can be constructed using IPEDS data, with examples of appropriate use. Participants will use actual data from the IPEDS Surveys, including the IPEDS Data Feedback Report and Executive Peer Tool. Exercises and resources will demonstrate processes to establish key performance indicators and identify variables to refine comparison groups.

Those attending the Wednesday IPEDS workshop will want to sign up for more hands-on practice in the Thursday morning pre-conference workshop on IPEDS data tools. Three other pre-conference workshops, a variety of papers, posters, and presentations, and time spent with colleagues will make the annual conference a delight once again this year. Information and registration is on the INAIR website (<http://www.inair.org/page.asp?page=3341>).

See you in March!

From the Membership Committee

(Joseph Wingo)

Did you know that your annual dues are included with the upcoming INAIR conference costs? However, if you will not be able to attend the conference, you can still renew your membership online. Membership dues are only \$25 annually.

Questions regarding membership may be directed to Joe Wingo, Membership Committee Chair, at jwingo@usi.edu or 812-465-7107.

From the Publications Committee

(Brent Drake)

The 2012 conference website is live at <http://www.inair.org/page.asp?page=3341>. You can submit a proposal, register for the conference, and reserve a room at the conference hotel all from the conference homepage. You can also get to the conference page from the INAIR home page by clicking the large link at the top of the page.

A few reminders:

The proposal submission deadline is January 27, 2012

Early bird registration rates close February 23, 2012

Please direct question/suggestions related to the INAIR web site and newsletters to me at bmdrake@purdue.edu

Announcements

Dr. Robert B. Wilkinson has been appointed Associate Vice Chancellor for Institutional Research and Planning. Bob comes to the position after serving as Director of Analysis, Planning, and Assessment at Pittsburg State University. His responsibilities there included strategic planning, institutional research, assessment, and accreditations at the campus and program levels. He earned a D.Ed degree at The Pennsylvania State University, as well as bachelor's and master's degrees from University of Missouri-Kansas City. Bob is succeeding Jack Dahl, who is retiring at the end of January, 2012.

Jake Williams was welcomed to the central Office of Institutional Research at Ivy Tech at the beginning of October. Jake earned his MBA from the University of Southern Indiana and has worked in the Office of Planning, Research and Assessment at ISU since the fall of 2007.

University of Southern Indiana's Office of Planning, Research and Assessment (OPRA) welcomes Gregory J. Johnson to its team. Greg recently graduated from ISU with a MA in Experimental Psychology and will be our new Research Associate as of January 3rd.

The Office of Planning Research and Assessment (OPRA) at the University of Southern Indiana is expanding to include the Division of Sponsored Projects (formally known as the Office of Sponsored Research) as of January 1, 2012

Calendar of Events

January 27, 2012 Call for Proposals Deadline for INAIR 26th Conference

February 23, 2012 Early Bird Registration Deadline for INAIR 26th Conference

March 22-23, 2012

26th Annual INAIR Forum, will be held in West Lafayette, IN.

April 1-3, 2012

RosEvaluation Conference 2012, will be held at Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology, Terre Haute, IN.

For more information see:

<http://www.rose-hulman.edu/offices-services/institutional-research,-planning-and-assessment/2011-rosevaluation-conference.aspx>

June 2-6, 2012

AIR Annual Forum, will be held in New Orleans, LA. For more information see:

<http://forum.airweb.org/2012/Pages/ParticipateAndLearn/CallForProposals.aspx>