Happy spring!

This is the time of year when we are busy planting our gardens. This is also the right time of the year to consider planting some professional seeds. Professional growth is something we can all participate in.

AIR continues to offer a variety of professional growth opportunities. Hopefully you were able to attend AIR’s 50th Annual Forum in Chicago. Other upcoming opportunities are:

- **Foundations I Institute**: The Practice of Institutional Research (in Cleveland, OH, July 13-17)
- AIR IPEDS Workshop (in St. Mary’s City, MD, July 18)
- AIR webinars and other videos on demand (no need to travel!)

Another seed I would like to plant is for all of us to think about how we are able to contribute to the organization. Large or small efforts are appreciated, and all can be considered professional development.

In a few months, you will receive the Call for Proposals for the 2010 conference. Now is a good time to start thinking about how you will participate. Volunteers are always welcomed and appreciated (plus it is a great way to make new friends), or you may want to share best practices, research, or scholarly papers. Hosting a table topic is another way to contribute.

The upcoming conference will be our Silver Anniversary (25th) as an organization. We are putting together a retrospective document for the conference to celebrate our success. Please consider sharing your INAIR experiences with me (mld@purdue.edu) to add to this document. Our success has been due to your active participation.

If you have any questions or if there is anything I can do to help our organization grow, please do not hesitate to contact me. I’m excited to serve you as INAIR President this year.

Maggie
Greetings!

Let me express a huge thank you to Maggie Dalrymple and the INAIR board for planning and hosting an amazing conference this past March! And a thank you to all the presenters and participants, because without such a committed crowd an event like this one wouldn’t be possible.

Next year’s INAIR conference marks our 25th anniversary and I am looking forward to planning it. Indiana has one of the most successful state associations in the country thanks to its membership. As planning for the silver anniversary begins, I know I can count on you for some great suggestions and ideas for this special event. Please contact me with any idea, great or small, in regards to next year’s conference.

In the meantime, don’t forget to take advantage of upcoming AIR institutes and other professional development opportunities.

Enjoy your summer with colleagues, family, friends and fun in the sun.

Barbara Bunch
From the Membership Committee  
(Joseph Wingo)

Did you know that anyone can be a member of INAIR? This includes graduate students interested in Institutional Research. Please encourage those who are not yet members to join INAIR. Membership does have its privileges, such as networking and gaining an understanding of the pertinent issues facing our profession. Membership fees are only $25 annually.

For those of you who were unable to attend the conference, don’t forget to renew your membership through the online membership form at www.inair.org.

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

From the Publications Committee  
(Teresa Sanders)

Thanks to everyone who contributed to this Newsletter.

Looking for presentation materials from INAIR? They have all been posted to the INAIR website under the “Members Only” section. If you have any problems accessing the site, please contact me.

I would like to encourage everyone to use the website and the newsletters as opportunities to share the information among INAIR members. If you have information (upcoming events, job postings, publications, presentations, awards, etc.) that could be posted on the website or included in the next newsletter, please let me know.

Please direct questions/suggestions related to the INAIR web site and newsletters to Publications Committee Chair, Teresa Sanders, at tsanders@indiana.edu
Why Does CHE Need So Much SIS Data?

There are seven categories in the Student Information System (SIS) proposed file layout:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Demographics</th>
<th>Credit Hours</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Transfer</td>
<td>Degrees/Awards</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High School</td>
<td>Test Scores</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial Aid</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Demographics fields provide valuable information about the student population. Gender and ethnicity, along with other demographics (e.g., origin, residency, etc.), assist in determining the characteristics of students attending Indiana post-secondary institutions and support efforts to meet the Reaching Higher goals by ensuring all Hoosiers have access to college.

New fields proposed in the Demographics category provide data that can be utilized in tracking students and forecast outcomes. The Student Test Number (STN) is vital to the Indiana Workforce Information System (IWIS) study and is the primary link between SIS and the Department of Education (DOE). Collection of name and address will enhance the link between DOE and CHE databases where STN data collection has been weak. The Teacher Licensure Sequence and Transition to Teaching fields will be a compass for preparing and recruiting students into the teaching workforce.

Credit Hours are used to calculate full-time equivalency (FTE). The Commission needs to collect data on all students enrolled and is using successfully-earned credit hours as part of the enrollment change calculation.

The collection of credit hours of each type and hours-by-term will further the possibilities for research in student success. While this is the largest expansion proposed to SIS collection, it is a significant factor in development of student achievement, affordability and time-to-degree studies.

Inclusion of remedial, dual and distance credit hours in SIS leads to additional research in measuring student preparedness and on-time-to-degree completion. Also supporting the Reaching Higher Strategic Initiatives, by-term data allows enhanced statistical analysis of data focusing on targeted interventions, pilot programs and identification of best practices. These hours are now collected through the Supplemental file.

It is undetermined that alternative credit hours (e.g., CLEP, DSST, etc.) have been reported by all institutions consistently over the years. Identifying these hours and developing a uniform reporting definition is needed.
**ICHE Corner (cont.)**

No expansion was made to the **Transfer** category fields, but they are used frequently to assess student transfer activity. A third **Degree** field group was added to allow reporting of additional degrees that before have gone unreported. These fields will be used in support of adjustment incentive and additional performance-funding incentives in the state higher education funding formula.

The **High School** SIS fields provide information for the high school feedback report. The data measures the high school’s success in academic preparation needed to succeed in college. High School GPA is currently collected through the Supplemental file.

The **Test Scores** category, proposes expansion of 32+ new fields. ACT scores are now collected through the Supplemental file. Other test scores: PRAXIS, ASSET, etc., will provide research opportunities in student achievement and offer trend indicators to assess overall success.

Finally, **Financial Aid** expanded considerably due to the level of detail needed to track all forms of contributions to students and provides information in support of the Reaching Higher document and addresses affordability issues.

While the expansion of SIS is sizeable, all fields contribute to research and support of Reaching Higher Strategic Initiatives. CHE has met with SIS coordinators and IPDAG throughout the last three year to tighten SIS definitions, analyze reports and make SIS the most reliable source of higher education information. In the Webinars and meetings, coordinators expressed a desire to overhaul SIS and keep it stable for several years. Realizing the efforts of the institutions are labor intensive, thus costly, CHE proposes to include as many fields as necessary to establish a solid and stable SIS that would preclude layout changes year after year.

Collaboration with outside consultants and other state agencies offers many researchers and statisticians data to prepare reports and provide CHE and institutions with analysis from the proposed SIS expansion.

All components of SIS contain essential data elements and serve in research, planning and outcomes. This expansion will make Indiana’s SIS the most robust system in the nation and opens opportunities for participation in national and international studies.

**Jennifer Seabaugh, Manager of Information and Research**

**Indiana Commission for Higher Education**

ICHE’s website: [http://www.in.gov/che/index.htm](http://www.in.gov/che/index.htm)
Promotions/Appointments

Sonia Ninon has joined Ivy Tech Community College of Indiana as a Research Associate in the Department of Institutional Research as of January 2010. She was previously at Wabash College.

Jeanne McAlister has joined USI’s Office of Planning, Research and Assessment as research coordinator. Ms. McAlister will be responsible for coordinating USI’s Assessment Day testing and course evaluations.

John Novak has taken a position with the IU Northwest Campus as Assistant Vice Chancellor for Institutional Effectiveness and Research.

Retirements

At the end of June, Donald Whitaker will be retiring from his position as Executive Director of Institutional Effectiveness at Ball State University. He has been at Ball State for more than 30 years and in the Executive Director position for 9 years. The Academic Assessment and Institutional Research staff are very sad to see him go. Don and Sue, his wife who is also retiring, are looking happier and happier as the big day approaches – they are probably anticipating their upcoming Alaskan cruise.

Congratulations Don!

Publications and Web Sites

Victor M. H. Borden and Brandi M. Kernel created a new website “Measuring Quality” (http://www.airweb.org/measuringquality). From the web site: “This web site provides an inventory of resources designed to assist higher education faculty and staff in the challenging task of assessing academic and support programs as well as institutional effectiveness, more broadly”

**Job Openings**

**Indiana University—Bloomington** posted an opening for an **Associate Director of Enrollment Planning and Research in the IU Office of Enrollment Management**. For more information, see [https://jobs.iu.edu/joblisting/index.cfm?jlnum=1817 &search=2](https://jobs.iu.edu/joblisting/index.cfm?jlnum=1817 &search=2)

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**Calendar of Events**

**July 13-17, 2010**

The Association for Institutional Research's (AIR) **Foundations I Institute** will be held in Cleveland, OH. For more information, see [http://www.airweb.org/?page=2120](http://www.airweb.org/?page=2120)

**June 7-10, 2010**

23rd International Conference on The First-Year Experience will be held on July 20-23, 2009 in Maui, Hawaii. For more information, see [http://sc.edu/fye/ifye/](http://sc.edu/fye/ifye/)

**October 25-26, 2010**

The Assessment Institute will be held in Indianapolis, IN. For more information, see [http://www.planning.iupui.edu/conferences/national/nationalconf.html](http://www.planning.iupui.edu/conferences/national/nationalconf.html)

**November 1-3, 2010**

6th Annual National Symposium on Student Retention will be held in Mobile, Alabama, at the Renaissance Riverview Plaza Hotel. For more information, see [http://csrde.ou.edu/web/symposium/index.html](http://csrde.ou.edu/web/symposium/index.html)

**November 10-13, 2010**

American evaluation Association (AEA) Annual Conference will be held in San Antonio, Texas, at the Grand Hyatt San Antonio. For more information, see [http://www.eval.org/eval2010/default.asp](http://www.eval.org/eval2010/default.asp)

**November 17-20, 2010**

Annual Conference of the Association for the Study of Higher Education (ASHE) will be held in Indianapolis, IN. For more information, see [http://www.ashe.ws/?page=704](http://www.ashe.ws/?page=704)
The Windbreakers at AIR

This year at AIR The Windbreakers provided entrainment for the conference. Four of our very own were members this year (Vic Borden, Todd Schmitz, Ty Cruce and Barb Bunch). Below are a few pictures from their first performance.

The Windbreakers

Vic Borden

Todd Schmitz

Ty Cruce

Barb Bunch
AIR Presentations by INAIR Members

Ignoring It Doesn’t Make it Go Away: A workshop for Addressing Missing Data in Institutional Research
Afet Dadashova, Assistant Director for Research, Indiana University-Bloomington
Jacob Gross, Research and Planning Analyst, West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission
Mary Ziskin, Senior Associate Director Project on Academic Success, Indiana University-Bloomington
John Moore, Associate Director of Institutional Research, Temple University

Visual Basic Programming in Excel
Christopher Maxwell, Senior Research and Planning Analyst, Purdue University

An Introduction to Hierarchical Linear Modeling
Afet Dadashova, Assistant Director for Research, Indiana University-Bloomington

An Open Discussion with the AIR Ad Hoc Committee on Governance
Victor Borden, Associate Vice President, Indiana University-Bloomington
Trudy Bers, Executive Director of Institutional Research, Curriculum and Strategic Planning, Oakton Community College
C. Anthony Broh, Principal, Broh Consulting Services
Laura Saunders, Vice President for Administrative Services, Bellevue Community College
Gerard Dizinno, Associate Vice Provost for Institutional Research, The University of Texas-San Antonio
Gayle Fink, Assistant Vice President for Institutional Effectiveness, Bowie State University
Alvin Heard, Analyst Salt Lake Community College
Diby Kouadio, Director of Research and Statistical Analysis, Tennessee Higher Education Commission
Christina Leimer, Director of Institutional Research, Assessment and Planning
California State University-Fresno
Robert Toutkoushian, Professor, Institute of Higher Education, University of Georgia
James Trainer, Director of Planning and Assessment, Villanova University

Identifying and Nurturing Future Institutional Research Professionals: Building Our Future
Sherry Woosley, Associate Director of Institutional Effectiveness, Ball State University
Rebecca Pierce, Associate Professor, Ball State University
Rebecca Culbertson, Assistant Director of Institutional Research, TCS Education System

Evaluating and Improving the First College Year through Task Force Based Assessment: Two Institutions’ Experiences
Donald Whitaker, Executive Director of Institutional Effectiveness, Ball State University
Betsy Griffin, Senior Associate Vice President, John N. Gardner Institution for Excellence in Undergraduate Studies
Kurt Ewen, Assistant Vice President, Academic Learning Support, Valencia Community College

INAIR Best Paper: Prospects in Motion: Visualizing Trends in Your Institution’s Share of the College-Bound Student Market
Nick Hillman, Doctoral Candidate, Indiana University
Ty Cruce, Senior Policy Analyst, Indiana University-Bloomington

National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE): Update and New Developments
Robert Gonyea, Associate Director, Center for Postsecondary Research, Indiana University-Bloomington
Jillian Kinzie Associate Director of NSSEE Institute, Indiana University-Bloomington
AIR Presentations by INAIR Members (cont.)

Improving Retention: Assessment Data and Reporting that Supports Enrollment Management
Rebecca Pierce, Associate Professor, Ball State University
Amanda Yale, Associate Provost Enrollment Services, Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania
Darlena Jones, Director of Research and Development, Educational Benchmarking, Inc.

A Comparison of Student and Faculty Academic Technology Use Across Disciplines
Allison BreckaLorenz, Research Analyst, NSSE, Indiana University-Bloomington
Kevin Guidry, Research Project Associate, Indiana University-Bloomington

Interactive Technologies and Effective Educational Practice
Allison BreckaLorenz, Research Analyst, NSSE, Indiana University-Bloomington
Amy Garver, FSSE Project Associate, Indiana University-Bloomington

Lessons Learned from Administering a Multi-Institution Online Alumni Survey
Angie Miller, Research Analyst NSSE, Indiana University-Bloomington
Amber Lambert, Research Analyst, NSSE, Indiana University-Bloomington
Mallory Below, Project Associate, Indiana University-Bloomington
Scott Jones, Project Associate, Indiana University-Bloomington

Analysis and Communication of N.S. News Rankings using Monte Carlo Simulations: A comparison to Regression Modeling
Christopher Maxwell, Senior Research and Planning Analyst, Purdue University

Multiple Measures of Assessment: More Data is Better
Sherry Woosley, Associate Director of Institutional Effectiveness, Ball State University
Darlena Jones, Director of Research and Development, Educational Benchmarking, Inc.

Impacting Retention: Packaging Data for Effective use at Different Levels
Rebecca Pierce, Associate Professor, Ball State University
Sherry Woosley, Associate Director of Institutional Effectiveness, Ball State University

Exploring the effects of Social Networking on Students’ Perceptions of Sense of Belonging, Connectedness, Engagement and Institutional Commitment
Michele Hansen, Director of Assessment, University College, Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis
Janice Childress, Data Manager Assistant, Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis

Who are Intercampus Transfer (ICT) Students? An Examination of Intercampus Transfer Within a University System
Johnnie Meadors, Graduate Student, Indiana University

2008 INAIR Best Paper: Validation Evidence of an Empowerment Instrument for Higher Education
Brent Drake, Director, Enrollment Management and Analytical reporting, Purdue University

The Measuring Quality Inventory
Victor Borden, Associate Vice President, Indiana University-Bloomington
Brandi Kernel, Student, Indiana University-Purdue University-Indianapolis
AIR Presentations by INAIR Members (cont.)

Using Instrumental Variables to Account for Selection Effects in Research on First-Year Programs
Gary Pike, Executive Director, Information Management and Institutional Research, Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis
Michele Hansen, Director of Assessment, University College, Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis
Ching-Hui Lin, Graduate Student, Indiana University-Bloomington

NSSE’s Second Decade: An Opportunity to Contribute
Shimon Sarraf, Research Analyst, NSSE, Indiana University-Bloomington
Jillian Kinzie, Associate Director of NSSE Institute, Indiana University-Bloomington

The Survey Monkey on Our Backs: Survey Research in the Next Decade
Gary Pike, Executive Director, Information management and Institutional Research, Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis
Patrick Terenzini, Distinguished Professor and Senior Scientist, Pennsylvania State University-Main Campus
Sylvia Hurtado, Professor and Director of the Higher Education Research Institute, University of California-Los Angeles
Karen Zaruba, Senior Institutional Research Analyst, University of Michigan-Ann Arbor
Alexander McCormick, Director and Associate Professor, Indiana University-Bloomington

A National Survey of Institutional Retention Practices
Afet Dadashova, Assistant Director for Research, Indiana University-Bloomington
Mary Ziskin, Senior Associate Director Project on Academic Success, Indiana University-Bloomington
Donald Hossler, Associate Dean, Indiana University-Bloomington
Scott Schulz, Program Director, University of Southern California

Building a Psychometric Portfolio: Evidence for Reliability, Validity and Minimizing Bias in Survey Data Collection
Robert Gonyea, Associate Director, Center for Postsecondary Research, Indiana University-Bloomington
Allison BrckaLorenz, Research Analyst, NSSE, Indiana University-Bloomington
Angie Miller, Research Analyst NSSE, Indian University-Bloomington
Ali Korkmaz, Research Analyst NSSE, Indiana University-Bloomington

Preparing for the Silver Tsunami: The Demand for Higher Education among Older Adults
Ty Cruce, Senior Policy Analyst, Indiana University-Bloomington
Nick Hillman, Doctoral Candidate, Indiana University