



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 Friends and Colleagues,

While it is crazy busy for everyone this time of year, we've been blessed with Indian Summer type weather and I hope you are enjoying it! This is an exciting time for your executive committee; they are very busy preparing for the upcoming conference in March and we need your help. Please be thinking about volunteering to help one of the committees; membership is looking for someone to assist with mailing letters to potential new members. In fact, there is going to be a friendly competition to see who can get the most new members. You'll be hearing more about this later in the newsletter.

INAIR would not be the vibrant organization it is without you. Your participation is valuable to your colleagues and we look forward to hearing about issues your institution is facing. Be thinking about papers, presentations, and workshops where you can share your knowledge and experiences.

The Commission has a new representative, Molly Chamberlin, who joined our most recent INAIR meeting. She is looking forward to working with INAIR and is eager to begin implementing change. She has spoken with some of you and has enjoyed getting feedback and ideas from all of you. We welcome Molly to our organization and look forward to collaborating with her!

Let us know of any topics or issues that you would like to see addressed or discussed at the upcoming conference. You will receive the official call for proposals later this fall. Please contact your Vice President, Don Sprowl, with your suggestions or ideas. He is busy planning what promises to be a great conference. I look forward to seeing you in the spring. If anyone on the executive board can assist you, please let us know!

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(Indiana University)

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(Indiana Wesleyan
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Molly Chamberlin

Vice President's Message

(Don Sprowl)

2012 Annual INAIR Forum – March 22nd and 23rd

What: 26th Annual INAIR Forum
When: March 22-23, 2012
Where: University Plaza Hotel, West Lafayette, IN
Who: Everyone, of course
Why: Meeting new friends; re-connecting with old friends; professional development; networking; supporting younger IR professionals; good food; door prizes; more fun than institutional researchers should dare to hope for.

Mark your calendars and begin planning your presentations for our 26th annual forum. The University Plaza Hotel in West Lafayette has very inviting accommodations (see photo below) and facilities perfect for our conference. Only two miles from the Purdue University campus, the University Plaza is convenient to all the attractions of Purdue and the greater Lafayette area. Thursday evening, our awards ceremony and dinner will be held in the historic Purdue Memorial Union.

So begin planning your participation and presentation for the forum. If you are planning a presentation for AIR next summer in New Orleans (submission deadline October 31), the INAIR forum is a great place to practice your talk before a friendly audience and get valuable feedback before you venture into the deep end of the pool. The deadline for INAIR proposals will be January 20. Watch for the Call for Proposals later this fall. And, of course, encourage all of your colleagues to participate as well. If you have ideas for the forum that should be included in the planning process, please drop me a line.

See you at the forum!



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 that were unable to attend the conference don't forget to renew your membership through the online membership form at www.inair.org.

Please see news about our exciting contest to refer new members on the next page.

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)

Thanks to everyone who contributed to this newsletter, please send items of interest each time. I'm completely open for suggestions, for instance you will find at the end of this newsletter the second edition of the series: How We Do IR: Taylor University by our esteemed Vice-President.

Are you on facebook? If so make sure you go to the INAIR page and like us:

<http://www.facebook.com/IndianaAIR>

You can see information out there, like a post about our new referral contest, as well as catch up with colleagues around the state

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

New Member Referral Contest

Hello everyone. We are excited to announce a new contest to drum up membership in INAIR

We have added a referral field on our membership forms, for example:

INAIR Membership Form (Pay by Check)

Name of INAIR Member(First, Middle, Last):	<input type="text"/>
Nickname or Preferred Name:	<input type="text"/>
Previous Name (previous INAIR members who have changed names):	<input type="text"/>
Title:	<input type="text"/>
Department:	<input type="text"/>
Institution:	<input type="text"/>
Street Address:	<input type="text"/>
City, State, Zip:	<input type="text"/>
Telephone number:	<input type="text"/>
Fax number:	<input type="text"/>
INAIR Member E-mail address:	<input type="text"/>
Office URL:	<input type="text"/>
Who Referred You?	<input type="text"/>

Starting now until the annual INAIR conference March 22 we will keep a running count of how many people you refer. Whoever has the most referrals as of the conference will receive a FABULOUS prize at the annual business meeting!

So get out there and start recommending our wonderful organization to you colleagues, and make sure they list your name on the membership form when they fill it out.

Announcements

Victor Borden (IUPUI) will provide the key note address for the Middle East-North African IR conference on October 13 at the American University in Cairo, Egypt.

Dr. Wenqi Shen joined the Student Analytical Research department at Purdue West Lafayette in August. She is a graduate of Purdue's Krannert Graduate School of Management (Management Information Systems). She has been a visiting professor at Miami (OH) University.

Andrea Ingle has joined the University Institutional Research and Reporting staff at Indiana University, Bloomington as Associate Director. Andrea has been involved in higher education for the past 25 years, and 15 of those years have been devoted to institutional research. She comes to IU from Ball State University where she was the Institutional Research Specialist for three years in the Academic Assessment and Institutional Research office. Prior to Ball State she was employed at Ivy Tech Community College for 22 years where her final role for the institution was Director of Institutional Research. She has been an IPEDS keyholder for about 12 years and is currently a national IPEDS Ambassador.

Erika Ryan has replaced Brandon Deckard as the Reports & Surveys Specialist for the University Institutional Research and Reporting staff at Indiana University, Bloomington. Prior to joining UIRR, she served in the Data Management and Research division of the Office of the Bloomington Registrar. Erika received her baccalaureate degree in criminal justice and sociology and her master's degree in criminal justice from Indiana University.

Calendar of Events

October 30-November 1, 2011

2011 Assessment Institute, will be held in Indianapolis, IN. For more information see: <http://www.planning.iupui.edu/>

December 3-6, 2011

38th Annual NEAIR conference, will be held in Boston MA. For more information see: <http://www.neair.org/default.asp>

Indiana is part of the NEAIR region, the annual conference is a chance to network and learn from other colleagues in the North East Region

March 22-23, 2012

26th Annual INAIR Forum, will be held in West Lafayette, IN. Look for the call for proposals soon.

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>

How We Do IR: Taylor University, Installment 2, October 2011

by Don Sprowl

Driving up to the Taylor University campus in Upland one can almost imagine what it might have looked like in 1846 at its founding. The campus is still on the edge of a small, quiet Indiana town surrounded by farm land and forest. That doesn't mean the campus is unchanged in all those years, of course. Now serving about 1900 undergraduate and 150 graduate students, Taylor's continual renewal in the fulfillment of its historic mission to educate the next generation of servant leaders is marked by a new science building and two wind turbines near the main entrance.

Supporting that renewal in the midst of rich tradition are two members of INAIR, Steve Dayton and Edwin Welch. As with so many of us in the field, Steve and Edwin followed serendipitous paths to the utopia that is institutional research. Steve's bachelor's degree from Indiana Wesleyan University is in history and education, but he was hired on as Institutional Researcher at Taylor in 2004. Steve has augmented his IR skills by earning an IR Certificate from Penn State University and has tentative plans to complete the new Penn State masters degree in IR. Edwin has served for many years as Taylor's Coordinator of Academic Support Services but is now transitioning towards IR, serving half-time as Institutional Research Analyst. Edwin holds a bachelor's degree in business from Indiana Wesleyan University and master's and doctor's degrees in instructional systems technology from Indiana University.



Figure 1: Steve Dayton (left) and Edwin Welch (right) stand before three of Taylor University's newest structures, the Memorial Prayer Chapel and the two wind turbines.

Steve and Edwin may be gathered into a single IR shop someday, but for now their offices are in separate buildings, Steve with the registrar's office and Edwin in the library. Both, however, report directly to the Provost which gives them personal contact with the strategic heart of the institution – one benefit of doing IR at a smaller school. Another given of IR at a smaller school is a generalist workload covering the breadth of the IR spectrum. Edwin has spent most of the past year double checking the accuracy of reports run on the new enterprise data system. With that complete, he is engaged in a student data stream analysis, discovering which data are captured regarding students and where those data are stored, through the entire matriculation history of the student from prospect to alum. He looks forward to increased involvement in enrollment analysis and forecasting and other data analysis in support of strategic planning and decision making. Edwin is already engaged in analysis of data from national assessment instruments, such as NSSE, and he serves as chair of the IRB. Steve handles the major data reporting functions at Taylor. He maintains the Fact Book and the Academic Report Card and serves as IPEDS Key Holder. With help from appropriate departments, he completes and submits the IPEDS reports, EADA, HLC AIDU, the common voluntary external reports such as AAUP and US News & World Report, and other reports as requested for internal and external constituencies. Steve also contributes to the AQIP process for accreditation review and oversees compliance with Clery, Student Right-to-Know, and HEOA disclosures and notifications.

Taylor University maintains the quality of its academic programs (Taylor is ranked number one again this year by US News & World Report in the Midwest Regional Colleges category) by attending to its mission, caring for its students, and measuring its performance in mission-critical domains. The institutional research function is indispensable to the analysis of quality and the strategic decisions that maintain quality. Taylor's institutional researchers are friendly, easy-going guys, but the success of the institution demonstrates that they are also skilled at their craft. They, as all INAIR members, have much to contribute to our collective wisdom.

Institutional Research Best Practices at Taylor University

The Taylor University Academic Report Card is a collection of 156 measures of academic quality. The Report Card is perfectly aligned with the institutional Academic Vision and Plan which is aligned with the institutional budgeting process. Thus, all elements of institutional advancement flow in a common direction, informed by the Report Card. In developing the Report Card, Steve Dayton was careful to personally meet with all departments and offices whose functions were being measured to vet and perfect the measures and to diffuse angst regarding the use of the Report Card. The fully developed Report Card gives everyone a chance to tell their story and gives everyone a common reference regarding quality and initiatives of improvement. The established report card fulfills its strategic purpose for the institution but also opens new lines of communication throughout the university regarding academic quality.