



The Newsletter of the Indiana Association for Institutional Research

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President's Message (Sherry Woosley)

Despite the cold weather and multiple demands that this time of year brings, I am enjoying the start of a new semester and am anticipating our March conference. As the outgoing President, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the current board members for their diligence and hard work. Our meetings have been both productive and enjoyable, making them a great place to spend some time. INAIR truly has the best members (hardworking, collegial, and fun), and the board reflects that. I am also appreciative of Todd Schmitz and his folks for their planning, organization, and efforts related to this year's conference. The keynote speaker, theme, sessions, and facilities look to be outstanding. Plus, a few days away from the frantic pace of our offices should help rejuvenate us all.

Let's hope for beautiful weather on March 6 & 7 in Bloomington. Looking forward to it...

Sherry Woosley, INAIR President

Vice President's Message (Todd J. Schmitz)

Friends,

Planning an INAIR conference is not for the timid or indecisive. As such, I have surrounded myself with brave, decision makers to insure that this year's conference is a great success! Seriously, I hope you are planning on joining all of us at the 22nd annual INAIR conference coming up March 6th-7th at the Indiana Memorial Union (IMU).

Our keynote speaker is Jerry Conover, the director of the Indiana Business Research Center. Given the importance of higher education to the state's economy, and the many ways we try to measure that influence, Dr. Conover's presentation will be sure to offer many ideas and methods to consider. The remaining conference program is replete with interesting and informative topics to suit newcomers and veterans alike. My guess is you will have some tough choices to make when you look at the agenda.

Thursday night we will enjoy the historical ambience of the Tudor room for our business meeting and "fine dining." Remember to bring some institutional door prizes to share with your colleagues! After dinner, we will be entertained by Craig Brenner on the piano. If you are not exhausted by this point, the IMU offers game rooms and bowling for the competitive, and Kirkwood Avenue is a short stroll away if you care to enjoy some adult libations and conversation.

So, for education, entertainment, and networking, the INAIR conference is the place to be! You still have time to register using the online form at <http://www.inair.org/page.asp?page=2411>. Please do make your room reservations directly with the IMU/Biddle Hotel by 2/15 at 1-800-209-8145 or 812-855-2536.

I look forward to seeing all of you at the INAIR conference!

Todd J. Schmitz, INAIR Vice President

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From the Membership Committee (Maggie Dalrymple)

This past fall over 150 postcards were sent to previous members and prospects. Last week, 145 membership letters were sent to prospects. Why do we bother? Because INAIR's organizational goals include:

- Contributing to the professional development of institutional researchers.
- Helping institutional researchers function more effectively.
- Providing networking opportunities for members.
- Increasing the awareness of institutional research.

However, the best way to gain new members is through YOU. Tell your colleagues about INAIR. Members may be anyone, including graduate students, interested in institutional research. Membership fees are \$25 annually; the membership form is on-line at <http://www.inair.org> and in the conference registration material.

Questions regarding membership may be directed to Maggie Dalrymple, Membership Committee Chair, at mld@purdue.edu or 765-494-7108.

From the Publications Committee (Iryna Johnson)

Thanks to everyone who contributed to this newsletter. Hope you will find the information provided in it useful.

As many of you know, the INAIR web site has been updated to include the registration for the upcoming conference. The registration form is available at <http://www.inair.org/page.asp?page=2411>.

If you have information (upcoming events, job postings, publications, presentations, awards, etc.) that could be posted on the website or included in the Spring Newsletter, please let me know.

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Please direct questions/suggestions related to the INAIR web site and newsletters to Publications Committee Chair, Iryna Johnson, at iryjohns@indiana.edu.

EVENTS CALENDAR

27th Annual Conference on the First-Year Experience will be held on February 15-19, 2008 in San Francisco, California. Further information on the meeting is available at <http://www.sc.edu/fye/events/annual/index.html>



INAIR 22nd Annual Conference will be held on March 6-7, 2008 at the Indiana Memorial Union in Bloomington, Indiana.

On-line registration is available at INAIR website. Mail registration form and payment to Ann F. Trost, University Registrar, Valparaiso University, 1700 Chapel Dr., Valparaiso, Indiana 46383 (FAX: 219-464-5381) Registration must be postmarked by February 15, 2008 to qualify for early registration fee. For more information, see www.inair.org.

113th Annual Meeting of The Higher Learning Commission will be held on April 11-15 in Hyatt Regency, Chicago. For more information, see <http://www.ncahlc.org>.

The 2008 SunGard Summit will be held on April 13-16, 2008 in Anaheim, California.

The Association for Institutional Research (AIR), 48th Annual Forum entitled *Adapting to Meet New Challenges* will be held on May 24-28, 2008 in Seattle, Washington. For more information, see <http://www.airweb.org>.

2008 Student Affairs Assessment Conference (ACPA) will be held on June 18 - 21, 2008 in Indianapolis, Indiana.

INAIR NEWS

The Office of Institutional Research and Assessment at University of Southern Indiana has published its first Fact Book. This 500+ page document includes data at the university, college and department level for the past 10 years. The fact book can be viewed at www.usi.edu/ir. Congratulations!

PUBLICATIONS

Johnson, I. (2008). Enrollment, attrition and graduation of in-state students at a public research university: Does high school matter? *Research in Higher Education*, 49(8), in print.

**The 22nd Annual Conference of the
Indiana Association for Institutional
Research**

PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOPS

Cheryl Lucas, Purdue University:

IPEDS: Data Feedback Reports, Executive Peer Tool, and the Data Cutting Tool

Jennifer Seabaugh, Indiana Commission for Higher Education:
ICHE SIS Update

Bill Tobin and Erika Knudsen, DePauw University:

Newcomers Workshop: The Really Good Stories

PRESENTATIONS

Jacque Frost, Maggie Dalrymple and Ottlie Webb, Purdue University:

Rankings: The Good, the Bad and the Ugly

Gary Pike and George Kuh, IUPUI and Indiana University Bloomington:

Relationships among Educational Expenditures, Student Engagement, and Learning Outcomes

Patricia McClintock, Indiana State University:
Driving Decision-Making with Data

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Don Sprowl and Pamela Rumsey, Indiana Wesleyan University:

Deriving a Representative Sample by Subtraction

Victor M. H. Borden and Iryna Y. Johnson, Indiana University Bloomington:

Strategies for the Constructive Use of College Rankings

Brent Drake, Purdue University:

Validity Evidence of an Empowerment Instrument for Higher Education

Bill Tobin, DePauw University:

Data Visualization Application for IR

Maggie Dalrymple, Purdue University:

The Inside Story: How Institutions Really Evaluate Their Strategic Plans

Sherry Woosley, Amy Brandebury, and Donald Whitaker, Ball State University and the University of Evansville:

MAP-Works: The Indiana Express

Chris Maxwell, Purdue University:

Factors Influencing Item Non-response in the NSSE Survey: Why do Students Skip so Many Questions?

John Novak, Indiana University South Bend:

The Next Steps Towards Institutional Effectiveness

Cheryl Lucas, Purdue University:

IPEDS Update

Daniel R. Flowers, Ball State University:

Fact Check: Wikipedia and the Accuracy of Institutional Data

Kelly Lessel and Amy Crane, Ball State University:

A Review of Mental Health Issues in Higher Education Journals over the Past 15 Years