



Newsletter

Texas Association for Institutional Research

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INSIDE THIS ISSUE

President's Message

TAIR Officers

2009 Program Committee Chairs

Appointed Committees

Election Results

TAIR 2009 – Lubbock

TAIR Travel Grant Information

TAIR Summer Workshop

Awards Committee News

Call for Conference Participation

Call for Nomination Participation

From the Desk of the President - Dr. Allen Clark

Our TAIR Executive Committee formally convened on April 16th, 2009 in Waco, Texas to initiate plans for Summer Workshops and the 2009 Annual TAIR Conference. This year, the conference will be hosted by our friends and colleagues in Waco who have generously undertaken the responsibility of providing hotel accommodations, meals, and entertainment to ensure the continued success for the annual symposium. Also, we want to welcome any suggestions from our constituency as to improvements, volunteer services, or just to share a kind word and thank you for the hard work our TAIR officers graciously bestow upon our organization. Contact information is listed on our TAIR website (<http://texas-air.org/>) and on page two of this letter.

Issues under discussion in Waco included a review of the Treasurer's Report for the Annual TAIR Conference from the Galveston Convention as compared to the expense encountered at our Lubbock Conference. A budget just under \$50,000.00 was sufficient to cover all expenses at the Lubbock Conference with funds to spare. As president, I want to convey personal and corporate thanks to Rick Leyva as he led the charge for over \$9,000.00 in sponsorships from private benefactors. Way to go Rick! Additionally, I want to thank all of our talented and numerous TAIR family members who made this past conference in Lubbock a resounding success.

TAIR member evaluations from the Lubbock Conference received review focusing on areas of improvement for the Waco Conference and how implementing these upgrades will enhance the summit experience. Ratings were positive in relation to the variety of session offered, quality of food, and the excitement and good times generated at our special events. A detailed report will be forthcoming about the evaluating process at our TAIR website and within the next newsletter.

Appointments to posts within the non-elected TAIR committees were announced in Waco and the appointees may be viewed on our website and listed on the TAIR newsletter. Data Advisory Committee Chair Maryann Ruddock and other committee members are working diligently with THECB official in developing the eighteen characteristics for doctoral programs in Texas. Be sure to keep a keen eye out for upcoming developments in the continuing talks about terminal degree programs.

Executive Committee members entertained the possibility of a Graduate Student Scholarship Program, the address/redress of legislative recommendations, and the instantaneous upgrades to existent Bylaws. All proposals for change by the Executive Committee will be distributed to members of the TAIR community and brought to vote at the Annual Business Meeting as regulated in our TAIR Constitution and Bylaws.

Finally, remember our colleague Joe Meyer as he tirelessly pursues locations for our future TAIR conferences. The next three conferences are in: Austin-2011, Corpus Christi-2012, and Galveston-2013.

Please take time to preview the summer workshops in Waco this year and give thoughtful consideration as to attendance. Thank you.

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TAIR 2010 Program Committee Chairs

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Concurrent Sessions Gabriela Borcoman, THECB
Evaluations Delton Moore, Amarillo College
Financial Review Jerry Scheerer, Mountain View College
General Sessions Mary Barton, Univ. of North Texas
Local Arrangements Sue Herring, Baylor Univ.
Program Brochure Johna May, U.T. Austin
Registration/Secretary Trish Norman, UT System Office
Resource Fair Marcelo Paredes, UT Pan Am
Roundtables Carol Tucker, Univ. of Houston, Downtown
SIGs Kate Amorella, Texas Women's Univ.
Workshops/Prof Develop Paul Illich, McLennan Comm. Coll.
Technology Bao Huynh, Richland College

Appointed Committees

TAIR Data Committee:

Maryann Ruddock – UT-Austin, Chair

Public 4-Year: Kate Amorella-Texas Women's Univ., Cindy Dutschke-Texas A&M,
Larry Redlinger-UT Dallas

Public 2-Year: Cathy Friedrich, College of the Mainland, Tom Martin-Collin County
Community College District, Darline Morris, Texas State Tech College, Martha
Oburn, Houston CC System

Private 4-Year: Leona Urbish-Rice, Sue Herring-Baylor

Professional Development Committee:

Paul Illich-McClennan Community College, Chair

Tom Martin-Collin County Comm. College, Soon Merz-Austin Comm. College, Joy
Evans-McLennan Comm. College, Jana Marak-Baylor

Awards Committee:

Joseph Meyer-Texas State Univ.-San Marcos, Chair

Susan Griffith-Univ of Texas-Pan American, Marilyn Greer-UT M.D Anderson,
Tom Martin-Collin County Comm. College, Ruben Garcia-Texas Workforce
Commission

Nominating Committee:

Joseph Meyer-Texas State University, Chair

Mary Barton-Univ. of North Texas, Danica Frampton-St. Edward's Univ., Julie
Thomas-Southwest Texas Junior College, Janet Beinke-Texas Higher Ed. Co-Board

Election Results

Voting was conducted during the annual conference in March. The following election results were announced at the annual business meeting.

Vice President/President Elect

Kristi Fisher, UT Austin



Treasurer

Rick Leyva, El Centro



Member-At-Large
Technology (2 year term)



Bao Huynh, Richland College

Nominating Committee

Joseph Meyer,
Texas State Univ.



Mary Barton,
U. North Texas



Danica Frampton,
St. Edward's University



Janet Beinke,
Texas Higher Ed. Co-Board



...And Other TAIR Officers

President,
Allen Clark Univ. of North Texas



Secretary,
Trish Norman
UT System



Professional Development, (2 yr term)
Paul Illich
McLennan Community College

Appointments

Electronic List Manager & Webmaster –
Bao Huynh

Historian – Karen Laljani

Liaison to AIR – Allen Clark

Newsletter Editor – Linda Perez

31st Annual Conference Attendees

2-year public	58
2-year proprietary	0
4-year public	69
4-year private	24
Other	<u>16</u>
Total	167

2009 Awards

Best Fact Book:

University of Texas at El Paso

Best Electronic Fact Book:

Tarleton State University

Best Mini Fact Book:

Stephen F. Austin State
University

Best Paper:

Noel Landuyt, PhD.
UT Austin *The Real Value (\$)
in Employee
Engagement Surveys*

TAIR 2009 Evaluation

Once again, thank you to all TAIR members for helping make the 2009 conference in Lubbock a huge success.

Thirty-six attendees responded to the Overall Conference Survey. As in past TAIR conferences, satisfaction with the general sessions, concurrent sessions and roundtable sessions remains high. The overall satisfaction with the conference showed 96% excellent or good responses (64% excellent and 32% good). Attendees rated the general sessions as very interesting with 68% strongly agreeing and 32% agreeing for a total score of 100%

The location of the vendors received very high satisfaction ratings. In addition, the evaluation of the conference information on the TAIR web site and the conference registration remained high as well. The areas that indicated the need for the most improvement were the hotel rooms and hotel services.

A very special thanks is in order to Scantron Corporation for sponsoring the evaluation process this year. Scantron not only supplied the concurrent session surveys and overall conference surveys, but scanned the surveys and printed the results report at the end of the conference. In addition, for the first time ever, the officer elections were tabulated by Scantron and provided results much faster than ever allowing the election committee to enjoy the evening instead of counting ballots.

Thank you for your responses as the survey results will continue to be of great value in planning for the 2010 TAIR conference.

A Letter from your Vice President Kristi Fisher

The 2009 TAIR Annual Conference in Lubbock was fantastic! I'd like to extend a special THANK YOU to Kerri Ford and our hosts in Lubbock for a job very well done, and to Allen Clark and the planning committee - your tireless efforts to pull it all together really paid off! The workshops, concurrent session presentations, general sessions, roundtables, vendor fair and special interest groups were top-notch and very well organized, and the local arrangements were stellar. THANK YOU all for your hard work!!!

Now it's time to look ahead to our next conference to be held in WACO on March 1-4, 2010. The theme for 2010 is "Building a Bridge: Data to Decisions." I know that all of our offices put a great deal of effort into decision support on a daily basis through data collection, reporting, analysis, information systems management, policy analysis, and institutional effectiveness activities. I've personally found tremendous benefit in hearing about the problems and solutions employed in other IR shops through the TAIR conference presentations and informal networking. The TAIR conference is a perfect opportunity to connect with your peers and develop professionally –mark your calendars now and plan to attend!!!

I'd also like to encourage each of you to consider making a presentation or facilitating a roundtable at this conference. Has your office used an innovative approach or tool? Developed a study or report that impacts policy? Do you feel like you have identified a "best practice" from which others might benefit? If so, PLEASE SHARE IT WITH THE REST OF US!!! Do you have an idea or project to discuss but you're timid because you've not made a formal conference presentation before? TAIR is the perfect place to make your first presentation! Our colleagues are interested, compassionate, sympathetic, easy-going, and eager to hear new perspectives, and TAIR sessions tend to be more informal and have smaller audiences than other conferences you may have attended. These make for a very welcoming environment for new presenters.

A call for proposals has just gone out from Gabriela Borcoman, our concurrent session chair for 2010. Proposals/abstracts may be submitted online at <http://www.texas-air.org/conference/2010/callforpart.html> . The due date for submissions is August 15, 2009. We look forward to seeing your session ideas flow in! If you have questions or are uncertain about how a given presentation topic might fit in, please don't hesitate to contact me at kfisher@austin.utexas.edu or (512) 471-3833 to discuss options.

Please also know that Sue Herring and the Waco local arrangements committee are working hard to provide comfortable accommodations, great food, and plenty of entertainment opportunities. More information on local activities will be forthcoming. In the meantime, if you have ideas for the Executive and Planning Committees to consider, have comments or suggestions from the 2009 conference, or would like to help with session facilitation or other conference activities for 2010, please see the list of Executive and Planning Committee members in this newsletter and give one of us a call! We would welcome your help and suggestions!

Looking forward to seeing you in WACO!

Kristi Fisher
TAIR 2010 Conference Chair

TAIR Travel Grants

TAIR wants to be sure that funding is not the reason that you or your staff will miss TAIR 2010 and will be awarding eight travel grants at \$250 each to help cover expenses. Travel grants are available to both active members and those becoming new members in 2010.
http://www.texas-air.org/assets/pdf/Travel_Grants_Application.pdf

TAIR Summer Workshop

August 7, 2009

Upcoming Professional Development Opportunity

Mark your calendars for August 7, 2009.

TAIR will be hosting summer workshops in Waco, Texas. Based on positive evaluation results, the workshops will follow the same format as last summer with two concurrent sessions in the morning and two concurrent sessions in the afternoon.

The workshop topics include: data warehousing, market research, using SPSS to analyze and report data, and making a difference with IR data. The workshops are designed to enhance the skills of IR professionals so that they can make significant contributions to the management of their institutions. Within the next couple of weeks, registration for the workshops will be available via the TAIR website. The opening of the registration process will be announced via TAIR-L.

We look forward to seeing you in Waco this summer.

TAIR-L Listserv

All current members can post information directly to the listserv. Send your email directly to tair-l@texas-air.org.

Unsubscribe/Subscribe can be done at <http://texas-air.org/mailman/listinfo/tair-l> texas-air.org or requests can be sent to Bao Huynh at bhuynh@dcccd.edu

Awards Committee News

The TAIR 2009 Awards Committee was composed of Ruben Garcia (Chair), Fonda Vera, Rita Caso, Tom Corll and Jo Lynn Lloyd. Fonda Vera was unable to attend TAIR 2009 so Bao Huynh filled in on the Awards Committee.

The Outstanding Service Award was presented to Karen Laljani of El Centro College for her significant contributions over many years of service to TAIR in several different capacities including member of the Data Committee, Historian, Treasurer, Local Arrangements, Vice President, President and Past President.

Noel Landuyt of The University of Texas at Austin won the Best Presentation award for his presentation "The Real Value (\$) in Employee Engagement Surveys." Noel recently presented his TAIR 2009 Best Presentation at the Association for Institutional Research (AIR) Forum in Atlanta.

There were many outstanding fact books submitted for the Best Fact Book competition in Lubbock. The awards committee had their work cut out for them and they spent many hours reviewing the submissions. The winners of the Best Fact Book competition are:

- Best Traditional Fact Book - The University of Texas at El Paso
- Best Mini Fact Book - Stephen F. Austin University
- Best Online/Interactive Fact Book - Tarleton State University

Congratulations to all the winners and thank you to the 2009 TAIR Awards Committee for all their hard work.

TAIR 2010 Conference Call for Participation

The theme of the 2010 TAIR Conference is

“Building a Bridge: From Data to Decisions”

March 1st – 4th, 2010

Dear Colleagues,

On behalf of TAIR Conference Committee, I invite you to be an active participant in our conference by submitting one or more proposals for concurrent sessions. We encourage any IR professional, graduate student, and other researchers with an interest in Institutional Research to participate.

This year we introduced six 'tags' that may describe your submission and which will be added to the program description:

Assessment

IT/Technology

Enrollment

IR Best Practices

Survey Research

Reporting

Sharing your knowledge and expertise by presenting a paper will be very beneficial for your colleagues.

Please join us in Waco, our host next year for TAIR 2010.

Best Regards,

Gabriela Borcoman
Chair, Concurrent Sessions

DEADLINE FOR SUBMITTING ALL PROPOSALS: August 15, 2009

The proposal submission form can be found at <http://www.texas-air.org/conference/2010/callforpart.html>

Call for TAIR Nominations

Outstanding Service Award

It is time to nominate individuals for the TAIR Outstanding Service Award. The prestigious TAIR Outstanding Service Award shall be presented to a member who has made significant contributions to TAIR over an extended period of time. A nominee for the TAIR Outstanding Service Award must have been a member of TAIR for at least five years and not a member of, nor a candidate for, the TAIR Executive Committee during the year nominated. In addition, the nominee must meet at least three of the following four criteria:

1. The candidate has been a member of the TAIR Executive Committee, served on TAIR Program Committees, or been appointed by the TAIR President to service on TAIR committees or in positions of responsibility consistent with those in Section 6 of the TAIR Bylaws.
2. The candidate has presented contributed sessions at TAIR Conferences.
3. The candidate has organized, offered, or acted as a primary presenter in workshops or panels at TAIR Conferences.
4. The candidate has contributed in other specific and significant ways that have advanced the purposes of TAIR.

TAIR Elections

The Texas Association for Institutional Research (TAIR) Constitution requires the TAIR Nominating Committee to issue a call for nominations to fill upcoming vacancies in elected TAIR positions. After TAIR members submit nominations to the TAIR Nominating Committee, the members of that committee will review and discuss the nominations, recommend a slate of candidates to the TAIR Executive Committee, and ask candidates to run for elected TAIR offices. Positions on the ballot will be:

1. Vice President/President Elect and Program Chair for the following roles:
 - a. Vice President/Program Chair, March 2010-February 2011
 - b. President, March 2011-February 2012
 - c. Immediate Past President, March 2012-February 2013
2. Secretary, March 2010-February 2012
3. Executive Committee, Member at Large for Professional Development, March 2010-February 2012
4. Members of Nominating Committee, March 2010-February 2011

TAIR needs people who represent the diversity within our organization. If you are interested in being a candidate, nominate yourself—it is a rewarding way to make friends and serve your colleagues.

Please nominate candidates for elected positions and the TAIR Outstanding Service Award by using the form on the TAIR website at www.texas-air.org/conference/2010/callfornom.html

THE DEADLINE FOR NOMINATIONS IS SEPTEMBER 10, 2009!!!

You will need your user name and password. If you have forgotten them, an on-line help and request is available