**Teresa Isbell
President**

this issue

A LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Hello TAIR Members,

Summer is almost here and time to provide a few updates and reminders for our organization before we take that summer break. It's been several months since we gathered in Corpus Christi for the 2018 conference. The TAIR 2018 conference provided many professional development opportunities as a result of the work performed by your Program and Executive Committees. Many thanks to Carmen Allen, Gabriela Borcoman, Amanda Clark, Soon Merz Flynn, Kara Larkan-Skinner, Rick Leyva, Lillian Marshall, Daniel O'Hanlon, Jacob Price, Marc Turner, Paul Turcotte, Teri Walker, and Al Walser for the work you did before and during the conference to ensure that TAIR 2018 was a success.

Thanks also go to our sponsor partners without whose support a conference like ours would not be possible: Evisions, Sam Houston State University, Scantron, Austin Community College, Richland College, Zogotech, eLumen, SPOL, Campuslabs, Emsi, CCCSE and RISC. A special thank you to SAS, Tableau, and Equifax for providing workshop opportunities and breaks for our members. Together our sponsors contributed $18,925 towards conference expenses which helped lower costs for TAIR members.

Finally, a thank you to all of you who attended this year. Without your participation there would not be a TAIR conference. We had 260 attendees in Corpus Christi. I hope you enjoyed the

conference at the beach and learned a new skill, made a new networking contact, or returned to your institution with renewed energy. Please consider expanding your participation next year by sharing your expertise through a workshop or concurrent session at the TAIR 2019 conference.

I hope some of you were able to join Kara Larkan-Skinner and Marc Turner in Orlando last month. They hosted our affiliation meeting at the 2018 AIR Forum. Thank you, Kara and Marc, for providing a networking opportunity for TAIR members.

The next opportunity for TAIR members to connect for professional development will be **Friday, July 27** when TAIR will host the annual **Summer Workshop at the Highland Campus of Austin Community College**. Lea Campbell, our Professional Development Officer, has been busy lining up a great set of workshops that you can read about on **page 8**.

Over the years I have watched TAIR grow and change to help meet the needs of its members. Input received through conference and workshop evaluations help the Executive and Program Committees improve the professional development opportunities in the short term, but the Executive Committee recognized the need to review TAIR priorities to better serve members moving into the future. Last year, at the request of Kara Larkan-Skinner, the Executive

Team began TAIR's strategic planning process. Paul Turcotte, serving as chair, recruited members to serve on a task force. The task force gathered information from members via an online survey and focus groups at the conference. The group has been busy turning this information into actionable goals and objectives for TAIR. You will be hearing more about TAIR's strategic plan as we move closer to our 2019 conference, and you can read more detail about the work of the task force on **page 13**.

Preparations are now underway for the 2019 conference to be held at Horseshoe Bay near Marble Falls. The Executive and Program Committees met at the resort in early May and were very impressed by the conference facilities, room accommodations and the resort staff. Vice President/Program Chair Marc Turner and his Program Committee are planning a great conference. Also plan to come early or stay late to enjoy the resort amenities in the Texas Hill Country.

This is a wonderful time to be involved with TAIR! Please feel free to contact me or another member of the TAIR Executive Committee about any concerns or questions you may have, or if you want to get involved by serving on a committee or assisting with TAIR activities. We'd love to hear from you.

Teresa

A WORD FROM YOUR VICE-PRESIDENT AND PROGRAM CHAIR

**Marc Turner
VP/Program Chair**

I am excited to announce the upcoming TAIR 2019 Annual Conference will be held at Horseshoe Bay Resort located in Horseshoe Bay, Texas on February 25th through the 28th next year. Located on the shore of Lake LBJ a few miles west of Austin, Horseshoe Bay Resort is a premier lake and golf destination providing a wide variety of family friendly amenities. This would be a great location to take your family for a get-away either before or after the conference to enjoy the full range of facilities, including a day spa, tennis courts, three award-winning golf courses, bass fishing, marina, a "Birds of the Bay" show, and more! We want to extend a special "Thank You" to Soon Flynn and Daniel O'Hanlon for their work in locating and securing this wonderful venue for us!

To go along with the beautiful hill country setting, our conference theme this year is "The Hills are alive with the Sound of Data!" Congratulations to Thomas Van Hook (North Central Texas College) and Jason Simon (University of North Texas) who both submitted this idea. The contest for a brochure cover design is currently underway, so be sure to send in your designs by August 1st, if you haven't already.

Since early May, the Program Committee has been hard at work coming up with new and innovative ideas to make this the best TAIR conference ever. This includes changes to the typical TAIR schedule and format compared to the past few years. An overview of the schedule will be available on the TAIR website within the next few weeks, but I do want to go ahead and share some of those changes with you.

The first change you will notice is that the conference will be Monday – Thursday, which is something several members have been asking for over the past few years. Monday will consist of pre-conference workshops, which will

then continue on Tuesday morning. The conference itself will begin with our first general session and keynote speaker at 1 PM on Tuesday, which is a couple of hours later than usual. We are building in the later start to give people additional time to arrive since the resort is a few miles outside of Austin. And since we will not be including lunch on the first day this year due to the later start, we will feed you dinner instead! That's right, in place of the *Meet, Munch, and Mingle* we will have a *Welcome Dinner* for all attendees. This will provide a great opportunity for you to meet new TAIR members and network with your colleagues from past conferences as you share your experiences from concurrent sessions earlier in the day. On Wednesday, you will notice that we are now including the business meeting along with the Awards Luncheon. All TAIR members are encouraged to participate in the Annual Business Meeting, so we decided that bribing you with food was a good way to get you there. The TAIR Special Event on Wednesday evening will allow you to wind down and relax after a long day of conference sessions. Finally, on Thursday, after an opportunity for breakfast and last minute sessions, we will conclude the conference with our closing general session and keynote speaker.

In addition to the schedule changes, we have also reorganized the tracks and session formats for the conference. The changes in tracks helps bring things more in line with the "Duties and Functions of Institutional Research" prepared by the Association for Institutional Research at the national level, and the changes in session formats provide new ways for members to contribute and present at the conference. Be sure to check out the Call for Participation later in the newsletter for more information.

I hope everyone has a wonderful summer and look forward to seeing you in at TAIR 2019 in February!

Marc

Horseshoe Bay Resort

TAIR TRAVEL GRANTS

The annual TAIR conference is a wonderful opportunity for learning new skills and improving your existing skills. We want to make sure that funding doesn't get in the way of the opportunity to attend TAIR. To that end, a Travel Grant program is available to assist members who need some help funding conference travel.

Travel grants of $400 each are available to help cover travel expenses for TAIR 2019. These grants are available to active members and those who will become new members for 2019.

The deadline to apply for a travel grant is December 1, 2018.

The TAIR Travel Grant Application and directions are available at https://www.regonline.com/TAIRtravelgrants2019 .

MEET THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

PRESIDENT
Teresa Isbell
Dean of Planning, Research &
Institutional Effectiveness
El Centro College DCCCD
Dallas, Texas
Office: 214-860-2016
president@texas-air.org

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT
Kara Larkan-Skinner
Assistant Vice President of Institutional
Research and Accreditation
Our Lady of the Lake University
San Antonio, Texas
past-president@texas-air.org

VICE-PRESIDENT/PROGRAM CHAIR
Marc Turner
Research Analyst
Texas State University
San Marcos, Texas
Office: 512-245-2386
vice-president@texas-air.org

COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER
Morgan Carter
Coordinator of Institutional
Effectiveness
Tarleton State University
Stephenville, Texas
Office: 254-968-1967
communications@texas-air.org
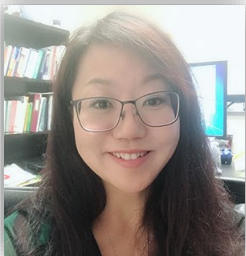
SECRETARY
Dan Su
Director of Institutional Research
Texas A&M University – Commerce
Commerce, Texas
Office: 903-468-3048
secretary@texas-air.org

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OFFICER
Lea Campbell
Director Academic Assessment
University of Houston – Downtown
Houston, Texas
Office: 713-226-5548
professional-development@texas-air.org

TREASURER
Paul Turcotte
Director of Institutional Research and
Assessment
Texas A&M University-Central Texas
Killeen, Texas
Office: 254-501-5817
treasurer@texas-air.org

TAIR PAYMENT ADDRESS

This is a great time to ensure that the address you have on file with your institution for TAIR is up-to-date. Please take a moment to check or to ask your administrative assistant to verify the TAIR payment address.

APPOINTED POSITIONS

Electronic List Manager
Faron Kincheloe
Baylor University

Newsletter Editor
Carmen Allen
University of Houston

Liaison to AIR
Marc Turner
Texas State University

Historian
To Be Appointed

Please send all payments to:

TAIR Treasurer
Paul Turcotte
Texas A&M University-Central Texas
1001 Leadership Place
Killeen, TX 76549

Send questions about TAIR payments and financial concerns to treasurer@texas-air.org .

PROGRAM COMMITTEE

Program Chair
    Marc Turner, Texas State University
Concurrent Session Coordinator
    TBD
Sponsor Liaison
    Marcelo Paredes, University of Texas-Rio Grande Valley
Conference Brochure Editor
    Ashley McPherson, Texas Tech University
Community Table Coordinator
    Grace Mineta, Southwestern University
Session Facilitator Coordinator
    Bonnie Hurford, Tarrant County College
Local Arrangements Chair
    Daniel O'Hanlon, Austin Community College
        Local Arrangements Subcommittee
        Trey Buchanan, Concordia University
        Soon Flynn, Austin Community College
Conference App
    To Be Determined
Pre-Conference Workshops
    Lea Campbell, University of Houston-Downtown
Ex-Officio
    Kara Larkan-Skinner, Our Lady of the Lake University
    Teresa Isbell, El Centro College-DCCCD
    Dan Su, Texas A&M University-Commerce
    Paul Turcotte, Texas A&M University-Central Texas
    Morgan Carter, Tarleton State University

ELECTED COMMITTEE

Nominating Committee

Chair
    Kara Larkan-Skinner, Our Lady of the Lake University
Members
    Cathy Delgado, University of Texas System
    Danica Frampton, St. Edward's University
    Sushil Pallemoni, Del Mar College
    Phil Rhodes, McLennan Community College

APPOINTED COMMITTEES

Awards Committee

Chair
    Kara Larkan-Skinner, Our Lady of the Lake University
Members
    Carmen Allen, University of Houston
    Mary Barton, University of North Texas
    Susan Brown, University of Texas - Rio Grande Valley
    Amanda Clark, Blinn College
    Guyla Davis, Richland College
    Ryan Fitzgerald, South Plains College
    Kimberly Sanders, Alamo Colleges
    Carol Tucker, University of Houston-Downtown
    Laura Wichman, McLennan Community College

Financial Review Committee

Chair
    Tracy Stegmair, Texas Woman's University
Members
    Kate Proff, Texas State University
    Jessica Smith, West Texas A&M University

Professional Development Committee

Chair
    Lea Campbell, University of Houston-Downtown
Members
    Sharon Bailey, University of Houston - Victoria
    Serkan Celtek, South Texas College
    Marian Chaney, Lone Star College
    Ryan Fitzgerald, South Plains College
    Paula Iaeger, UT MD Anderson Cancer Center

TAIR 2018 CONFERENCE EVALUATION

The TAIR 2018 conference evaluation was conducted through a Survey Monkey survey distributed via an email link and the conference app. The majority of the attendees who responded to the evaluation (91%) were from public institutions, while 9% were from private institutions. Most of the attendees were from four-year universities (52%), followed by the community/technical colleges sector (42%).   Approximately 29% of the attendees indicated that they had been working in IR or a related area three to five years, followed by 21% of the attendees who had worked in IR for six to nine years. Approximately 31% of the attendees reported working in IR or a related field ten years or more.

Overall, 81% of the respondents were satisfied or very satisfied with the quality of the TAIR 2018 conference.
Attendees were satisfied or very satisfied with the following aspects of the conference:
Onsite Registration - 93%, Hotel Staff Services and Friendliness - 92%, Number of Breaks Provided - 91%
Online Registration - 90%, Website Information - 88%, and the Conference Week Schedule - 86%.

Areas where respondents expressed lower levels of satisfaction were related to the following: Annual TAIR Conference Dates (mid-February) - 60%, Quality of Hotel Restaurant Food & Service - 63%, Variety of Refreshments at Breaks - 65%, General Session and Networking Lunch menus - 66%, Quality of Hotel Rooms - 69%, and the Quality of Social and Networking Events - 70%. TAIR conference sites are selected several years in advance, so the feedback from TAIR 2018 will be considered for future site planning, and the growth of the organization will be closely monitored to ensure that future sites are adequate for our growing association.

Regarding the concurrent sessions, 86% of the respondents felt that "the spectrum of topics was very broad," 93% agreed that "the length of the sessions was sufficient," and 94% agreed that the "session timing fit my schedule." Eighty-nine percent (89%) of the attendees felt that "the workshops are a good value for the cost" and 63% preferred pre-conference workshops while 23% didn't have a preference between a pre- or post- workshop. Most of the responses for the questions regarding the community round table sessions were "not applicable." The Executive Committee will review the purpose of the round table sessions at future conferences.

Regarding sponsors, 92% agreed that "sponsor services/products were appropriate for my field," 92% agreed that there "was plenty of time to visit the sponsors," and 83% thought that the overall quality of the Sponsor Fair was excellent. Given the importance of sponsors to our conference and our profession, the Executive Committee will continue to explore sponsor-related issues to ensure we are meeting member needs.

Thank you to all who completed the survey. Your responses are appreciated. Your input will be used to inform future conference decisions.

TAIR LISTSERV UPDATE

As a reminder, current TAIR members (2018) can post directly to the listserv at **tair-l@baylor.edu.** Those with lapsed memberships from the two prior years (2016 or 2017) will receive messages, but must renew their membership in order to post a message or participate in listserv discussions. To renew your membership, please visit http://texas-air.org/index.php/member-resources/.

AWARDS UPDATE

Congratulations go to the following award winners from the 2018 TAIR conference in Corpus Christi:

Best Presentation

After the conference, the Awards Committee selected "Fundamental Steps in Building an Effective Data Culture: Linking Planning, Ownership, Governance and Execution" as the best presentation award winner for the 2018 conference. This presentation was made by Jason Simon from the University of North Texas. Congratulations, Jason! He will receive a reserved place as the TAIR Best Presentation in the program at the 2019 Association for Institutional Research (AIR) Forum.

Outstanding Professional Practice Award

Texas State University was recognized for having the Best Visual Display of Information during the closing General Session on Wednesday morning. Congratulations to Susan Thompson for developing an award-winning visual display of information. The information displayed was NSSE data.

Susan Thompson
Texas State University

Awards Committee

The 2018 Awards Committee was chaired by Soon Merz, Immediate Past President. Members of the committee were Carmen Allen, Mary Barton, Susan Brown, Amanda Clark, Guyla Davis, Ryan Fitzgerald, Kimberly Sanders, Carol Tucker, and Laura Wichman. Thanks go to the committee for their work before, during and after the conference to identify our award winners.

The 2019 Awards Committee will be chaired by Kara Larkan-Skinner, Immediate Past President. The award for next year will again be given for the Best Visual Display of Information. Additional information regarding the Outstanding Professional Practice Award criteria for TAIR 2019 and a call for submissions will be distributed later this year via the listserv and in the fall newsletter.

A LETTER FROM THE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

A great time was had by all at the 2018 TAIR Conference! As the incoming Professional Development Officer, I'd like to extend a huge "Thank You" to all of the members of the TAIR community for leading workshops and to Marc Turner, outgoing Professional Development Officer, for his outstanding leadership.

As a volunteer organization, the content and quality of our professional development workshops depends on people like you. Without the contribution of your time and energy our professional development activities would not be what they are today.

Lea Campbell
Professional Development Officer

Speaking of workshops, registration for this summer's **TAIR Summer Workshop 2018** is now open at: http://regonline.com/tairsummer2018.

The 2018 workshops will be held **Friday, July 27** at the Highland Campus of Austin Community College, which is centrally located in Austin. Cost per half-day workshop is only $75 and includes lunch for all attendees (and presenters). This year's workshop line-up includes:

	Morning Session: 9:00am-Noon
W1	Demystifying Predictive Analytics
W2	Using Excel for Data Analysis
W3	Visualizing Data to Tell a Story: Getting Your Message Across to a Broad and Bored Audience
W4	Set Up for Success: Qualtrics Surveying Design and Functionality
W5	Data Visualizations using Power BI: for Beginners
W6	SAS Programming for Beginners
	Afternoon Session: 12:45pm-3:45pm
W7	Data Presentation and PowerPoint Use
W8	Project Management 101 - A Plan for Success
W9	Excelling at Dashboards: An Introduction to Using Macros to Create an Interactive Dashboard
W10	Assessment, Program Review, Measuring the Important and Learning Something In the Process
W11	Analysis of Variance...Plus More
W12	Creating a Coding Library

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions or would like additional information. I can be reached via email to professional-development@texas-air.org or by phone at (713) 226-5548.

I hope to see many of you in Austin this summer!

Lea

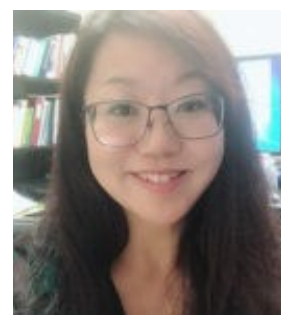## TAIR 2018 Professional Development Update

Workshops Offered at the 2018 TAIR Conference

15

Up from 13 in 2017

Members Attending 1+ Conference Workshops

90

Up from 83 in 2017

Institutions Represented

50

Certificates Awarded

24

Level 1

12

Level 2

6

Level 3

Workshop Topics

- SAS
- Visual Analytics
- Project Management
- Excel
- Google Charts
- R
- Tableau
- Newcomers
- Non-Parametic Statistics
- Focus Groups
- Accountability Board Data
- Predictive Modeling
- Indirect Program Assessment

TAIR MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Welcome TAIR members, new and old; we look forward to working with you and appreciate your participation and contribution in our organization!

TAIR 2018 Membership by Institutional/Organizational Category		
Category	**Count of Members**	**Percent of Members**
4-Year Public	109	39%
2-Year Public	101	36%
4-Year Private	37	13%
2-Year Private	5	2%
Technical	5	2%
Other	22	8%
Total	**279**	**100%**

Dan Su
Secretary

The benefits of a TAIR membership include a subscription to TAIR-L; access to summer professional development workshops; and access to leaders in higher education and high quality vendors at the annual conference. Membership is maintained annually with the TAIR conference marking the start of the membership year. For 2018, TAIR has 279 members representing a range of institutions and agencies from across the state and nationally. With the addition TAIR professional development certificate and the upcoming conference in Horseshoe Bay, we hope to see more members in the coming year!

Dan

TAIR 2019 CALL FOR PARTICIPATION

It is time again to reflect on the exciting things you have accomplished and to share your knowledge, growth, expertise, and tips and tricks with others in the field. The TAIR Program Committee invites you to contribute to the advancement of Institutional Research and Effectiveness by submitting one or more proposals for the 2019 TAIR Annual Conference February 25-28, 2019 in Horseshoe Bay, TX. This year's conference theme is "**The Hills Are Alive with the Sound of Data!**" Proposals may be submitted at: **https://www.regonline.com/tair2019cfp.**

We are actively looking for presenters for the following tracks:

> **Operations and Leadership:** Focuses on the organization and management of IR offices and functions. Sample topics include tracking requests, organizing/archiving past studies, staffing, resources, and relationships with other operational areas.

> **Plan and Evaluate:** Includes implementing assessment programs, goal setting/measuring, novel assessment ideas, accreditation topics, and program review.

> **Collect, Analyze, Interpret & Report:** Emphasis is on tools, methods, and/or sources used for internal/external reporting, dashboards, and decision support systems.

> **Stewards of Data & Information:** Deals with issues related to data accuracy, integrity, security, and institutional data strategy; data warehousing; decision support.

> **Educate Information Producers, Users, and Consumers**: Demonstrates ways of training on the use of data and information to inform decision-making and includes discussion of way to collaborate with other stakeholder groups.

> **Current Issues and Research in Higher Education**: Provides details on contemporary topics and research within higher education.

Potential session formats include:

- **Speaker Session** – A 45-minute presentation by one or more presenters allowing time for Q&A.
- **Discussion Session** – A 45-minute, moderated session that focuses on audience input and participation.
- **Panel Session** – A 45-minute, moderated discussion among 2-4 panel members, each offering a unique viewpoint or perspective on a topic or issue.
- **Poster Session** –A visual display of information on an issue or research study that will be available throughout the conference. Presenters will be available for questions during a 45-minute session in the conference schedule.
- **Pre-Conference Workshop** – Held prior to the start of the conference, a three (or six) hour, hands-on session by one or more workshop leaders designed to provide attendees with a new skill and/or application of knowledge.

Proposals are welcome from IR professionals at all levels of their career. If you are on the fence about presenting or unsure what format works best for your topic, please contact Marc Turner for more information.

The deadline for submitting a proposal is September 1, 2018.

G. Marc Turner
Program Committee Chair
gmturner@txstate.edu
(512) 245-3159

TREASURER'S REPORT

Paul Turcotte
Treasurer

The Executive Committee continued the tradition of improving the Association's financial position during fiscal year 2017 (April 2017 through March 2018) increasing reserves by $13,656 from $72,015 to $85,371 or 18 percent. The committee adopted financial policies and procedures, including an investment policy, which are published on the Association's website in the Officer's Guide (http://www.texas-air.org/assets/pdf/TAIR_Officers_Guide_2018.pdf).

The TAIR Bylaws (Section 6d) require the Association's President to appoint a Financial Review Committee each year charged with auditing the Treasurer's books no later than 60 days following the fiscal year's end on March 31st. In auditing the Association's finances, the Financial Review Committee shall reconcile the Association's financial records with bank account(s), ensure that all financial transactions were consistent with Association's purpose, policy and procedure, assess the Association's financial condition and make recommendations that address any problems or that would result in improvements in the management or use of the Association's financial resources. The chair of the Financial Review Committee shall report the Committee's findings at the next annual business meeting.

President Teresa Isbell appointed Tracy Stegmair to chair the review committee, which consists of Kate Proff and Jessica Smith. These members generously volunteered their time for a second consecutive year. The committee met on May 16, 2018, to complete their review and determined the Treasurer's books were in order. The committee issued no recommendations in their preliminary report. An official report will be presented at the business meeting during TAIR 2019.

The Executive Committee proposed and membership approved a change to the Bylaws at the business meeting on February 13, 2018. The change shifted the timing of the financial review. Previously the review was conducted weeks before the conference and nearly a year after the fiscal year's end. The revised timing of the review allows the Financial Review Committee to complete their review immediately following the fiscal year and before the Association is required to file its IRS Form 990 in August each year. The form for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2018, was filed in May and can be found on the Association's website on the Financial Report page (http://texas-air.org/index.php/member-resources/financial-reports/).

An earlier review was made possible with the conversion to all digital financial records allowing for the review to be conducted at a distance. The time to complete the review was reduced with the introduction of a streamlined accounting process and a standardized chart of accounts. These improvements are the result of a series of dedicated treasurers working diligently to ensure the Association's finances are in good order.

Paul

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

The TAIR Nominating Committee is calling for nominations for the following elected positions:

TAIR Vice President/President-Elect – this is a three year term:

- 2019-2020 Vice President/Program Chair for the 2020 TAIR Conference in San Antonio
- 2020-2021 TAIR President
- 2021-2022 TAIR Immediate Past President

TAIR Treasurer 2019 – 2021

TAIR Communications Officer 2019 – 2021

TAIR Nominating Committee Member 2019 – 2021 (multiple openings)

Please take a few minutes to submit your recommendations to the TAIR Nominating Committee by clicking on the following link: **https://www.regonline.com/TAIRcfn2019.**

Horseshoe Bay Resort

The **Vice President/President Elect**, **Secretary**, and **Communications Officer** serve on the TAIR Executive Committee. These elected positions are involved in decision-making for upcoming conferences and are responsible for the smooth operations of the organization. There is work involved with each position, but these opportunities for service are very rewarding! One benefit is getting to know IR professionals from around the state as you help guide the future of TAIR.

The **Nominating Committee members** serve a two-year term and help to ensure that we have a full and qualified slate of candidates for the following year's election.

More information about the responsibilities of TAIR officers is available in the TAIR Officer's Guide, posted on the TAIR website at **http://texas-air.org/index.php/officers/**.

Feel free to nominate yourself if you are interested in serving for one of these positions.

There are other opportunities during the year to get involved with TAIR, so please consider volunteering to serve on a committee or as a session coordinator!

All nominations will close September 30, 2018.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT LEVEL III COMPLETERS

The TAIR Professional Development Certificate of Completion Program serves as a recognition of the efforts by members to continue their education related to institutional research by learning new skills and knowledge. This program recognizes the successful completion of multiple workshops, sponsored by TAIR, covering a broad range of topics related to institutional research.

Pictured below are the first four TAIR members to be recognized as Professional Development Level III completers. Congratulations to Matthew Dabrowski (South Texas College), Savitha Eratne (San Antonio College), Bonnie Hurford (Tarrant County College District), Tracy Simms (University of Houston-Downtown), Carol Tucker (University of Houston -Downtown), and Thomas Van Hook (North Central Texas College)!

Level III Completers (left to right) Tracy Simms, Thomas Van Hook, Carol Tucker, and Bonnie Hurford.

Access to a list of workshops you have completed and your progress in the Professional Development Certificate of Completion Program is now available online!

https://texas-air.org/index.php/professional-development/certificate-of-completion-program/view-workshop-completions/

COMMUNICATIONS OFFICER UPDATE

Hello everyone and I hope this update finds you well!

As you might know, Todd Moon was TAIR's web developer for the past few years and did an excellent job keeping the website updated along with general server administration stuff. I have since been doing this but would like to give someone the opportunity to serve TAIR in this capacity. If you, or someone you know, would like to contribute to the organization in this way, please send me an email (communications@texas-air.org) and I can go over the details. It typically requires a few hours a month and a few more during the month before and after the conference. Extensive web/server administration and HTML knowledge is not required but is a plus.

Morgan Carter
Communications Officer

Secondly, our event registration system, RegOnline, was acquired by Cvent in 2016 and the Executive Committee would like to see if this and our mobile app solution are still satisfying the organization's needs. I would like to form a small ad-hoc committee to look into our current solutions and compare them against a few other solutions that are on the market. If you have experience with these types of systems, please send me an email (communications@texas-air.org) so that we can discuss this in the next few weeks.

Morgan

A NOTE FROM THE STRATEGIC PLANNING TASK FORCE

Paul Turcotte
Task Force Chair

During her TAIR presidency, Kara Larkan-Skinner charged the TAIR Strategic Planning Task Force with drafting a strategic plan to move TAIR forward and guide future Executive Committees in providing value to members.

She instructed the task force to review the mission of TAIR and update it as necessary, perform relevant environmental scanning, and solicit input from the membership in drafting a vision, goals, and strategies to guide the Association and to draft a five-year strategic plan for TAIR for membership comment at the 2019 Conference Business Meeting and consideration by the Executive Committee. The plan will be final upon the Executive Committee's approval. The Task Force began its work by planning an internal scan of membership in assessing the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats to the association. The group collected information on the members' needs, concerns, and ideas for improving TAIR. The group conducted a scan the strategic plans of other state, regional, and national associations of institutional research. Members were invited to attend forums at the conference to discuss issues facing TAIR, institutional researchers, and institutional research and ways TAIR can improve. Involvement in the planning efforts has been great. Members responses to the surveys were meaningful and provided the Task Force insight to form goals and consider various strategies.

The Task Force continues its work by refining goals and strategies and identifying measures to evaluate the plan. The work in on schedule to complete a draft to present to the Executive Committee at their September 2018 meeting.

Paul

STRATEGIC PLANNING TASK FORCE MEMBERS

Paul Turcotte, Task Force Chair
Director of Institutional Research and Assessment
Texas A&M University-Central Texas
Paul.turcotte@tamuct.edu

Ed Evans
Associate Vice President of Information Technology
Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi
ed.evans@tamucc.edu

Jenna Cullinane Hege
Deputy Assistant Commissioner
Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board
jenna.cullinanehege@thecb.state.tx.us

Soon Merz Flynn
Vice President for Institutional Effectiveness & Accountability
Austin Community College
smerz@austincc.edu

Teresa Isbell
Dean of Planning, Research and Institutional Effectiveness
El Centro College
president@texas-air.org

Kara Larkan-Skinner
Assistant Vice President of Institutional Research and Accreditation
Our Lady of the Lake University
past-president@texas-air.org

Thomas Martin
Associate Vice President of Institutional Research
Collin College
tmartin@collin.edu

Staci Martin
Vice President, Institutional Planning
Kilgore College
smartin@kilgore.edu

Jacob Price
Senior Research and Planning Associate
Baylor University
jacob_price@baylor.edu

Phil Rhodes
Vice President - Research, Effectiveness & Information Technology
McLennan Community College
prhodes@mclennan.edu

Tami Rice
Director of Institutional Research
Texas State University and Texas State University System
tr05@txstate.edu

Sukhjit (SJ) Sethi
Deputy Assistant Vice President
The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley
sj.sethi@utrgv.edu

Mark Stout
Institutional Researcher
University of Houston Victoria
stoutm@uhv.edu

Marc Turner (Ex-Officio)
Research Analyst
Texas State University
vice-president@texas-air.org
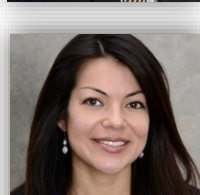
Isabel Weeden
Associate Vice Chancellor, Finance, Analytics, and Budget
Texas State Technical College
bell.weeden@tstc.edu