

Nominees for Vice President/President Elect

Kara Larkan-Skinner, Our Lady of the Lake University

Kara Larkan-Skinner is the Assistant Vice President of Institutional Effectiveness and Accreditation at Our Lady of the Lake University where she oversees institutional research, assessment, and accreditation. Kara entered the research profession as a Research Associate at the TTUHSC in Amarillo, TX. Later, she joined the wonderful world of institutional research and assessment at Amarillo College, where she served as the Director of Institutional Research and Effectiveness. Kara has been active in both the TAIR and AIR organizations for a number of years by presenting at the annual conferences, and serving on various committees and workgroups. Kara was the concurrent sessions chair for the TAIR conference in 2014. Kara received her M.A. and B.A. in Psychology from the University of Louisville, and is a doctoral candidate (Ed.D.) at Texas Tech University. Kara recognizes the role that the TAIR organization played in her professional growth and is honored to be considered for a leadership role within TAIR.



Soon Merz, Austin Community College

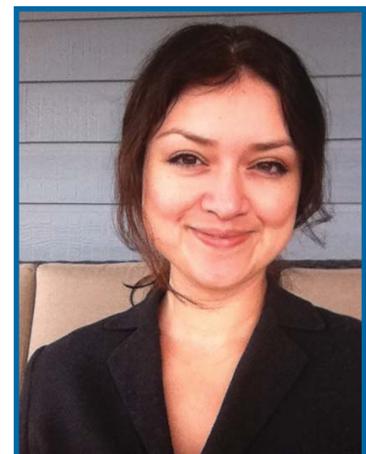
Soon is the VP for Effectiveness and Accountability at Austin Community College. She has worked in higher education for 30 years and has a varied background in institutional research, including community colleges, 4-year institutions, and at the state level in several states. Soon served at the Kansas Board of Regents in Topeka, Kansas, the Massachusetts Board of Higher Education and the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board. At the institution level, Soon directed the Faculty Affairs and Institutional Research office at the University of Kansas Medical Center and in the Office of Planning and Analysis at Oakland Community College. She is active in AIR, TAIR, and MidAIR. She served on NPEC for 4 years, the National Student Clearinghouse Customer Advisory Committee for 2 years, and the NCCBP Advisory Board for 2 years. She holds a Master of Public Administration from the University of Kansas, a Bachelor of Science in General Business from the University of Central Texas, and an Associate of Science in General Education from Central Texas College.



Nominees for Treasurer

Cathy Delgado, University of Texas System

Cathy has worked within the UT System for ten years. She is a Research and Policy Analyst with the University of Texas System's Office of Strategic Initiatives. She assists in collecting, processing, and managing a data repository for all 15 UT academic and health institutions. Cathy began working in IR in 2006 at the University of Texas at Brownsville and Texas Southmost College campus. Her eight year institutional research experience includes chairing the South Texas Consortium for Institutional Research, presenting at TAIR, SAIR, and AIR conferences, and serving as a member of the TAIR nominating committee. She would be honored to serve in the role of treasurer.



Nominees for Treasurer(continued)

Jessica Smith, West Texas A & M University

Jessica is Sr. Research Analyst at West Texas A&M University. Jessica has been with WTAMU since Fall of 2013, and has been an institutional researcher since early 2011. Prior to becoming an institutional researcher, Jessica taught math at a community college in Seattle, WA. She has previously served on the TAIR program committee and been the treasurer of a non-profit darting organization in Seattle. Jessica holds a bachelor's in mathematics and will graduate with a master's degree in mathematics, with emphasis in quantitative research and assessment, in May of 2015.



Nominees for Member-at-Large for Technology



Joe Baumann, Blinn College

Joe Baumann is Dean of Institutional Effectiveness and Enrollment Management at Blinn College. Joe has been at Blinn College and a member of TAIR for over two years. Before that, he worked in institutional research for ten years in Illinois, first as a manager at Harper College and later as director at McHenry County College. While Joe was Director of IR at McHenry, he served the Illinois Association for Institutional Research (IAIR) as Vice President/President Elect, President, and Past President. Earlier in his career, he also served on IAIR's nominating committee. What Joe likes best about institutional research is providing the information needed to make effective decisions, and fostering a culture of evidence and accountability.

Kate Proff, Texas State University

Kate has worked in institutional research for 8.8 years. She fell into IR in 2006 as a research analyst for Texas Woman's University. She has now been with Texas State University for 4.4 years. Kate credits part of her success in IR to her activity with TAIR. She was secretary from 2010-2012 and has served on the nominating committee. She has given many presentations and workshops at the annual conference. Her background in computer science should lend nicely to the position of member-at-large for technology. She briefly had a blog, but soon realized she had more fun coding the site than writing posts. Also, her adorable one-year-old son keeps her apprised of new technology by continually changing the settings on all her devices while she's not looking.



Nominees for Nominating Committee

Lea Campbell, University of Houston - Downtown

Lea Campbell is the Director of Academic Assessment at University of Houston-Downtown. Prior to coming to Houston, she served as the Associate Vice Chancellor of Developmental Education at the City Colleges of Chicago and Director of Student Success Initiatives at Lone Star College System. She holds a PhD in Higher Education Administration from University of Texas-Austin and an MA and BS in Mathematics from Eastern New Mexico University.



Amanda Clark, Blinn College

Amanda Clark is currently the Director of Institutional Research at Blinn College. She has worked in Institutional Research since 2009 and in higher education since 2004. She has been a member of TAIR and AIR since 2010. Amanda has co-presented concurrent sessions at TAIR and AIR and led roundtable discussions at TAIR. She completed her Doctorate in Educational Leadership in December 2014 from Sam Houston State University. Her dissertation topic was graduation and persistence rates in developmental education in postsecondary institutions in Texas. Amanda held a brief internship at the THECB as part of her doctoral coursework and has worked on state reports since 2008.

Frances Frey, Our Lady of the Lake

Frances Frey is the Director of Institutional Research at Our Lady of the Lake University in San Antonio. She has a bachelor's degree in psychology from Scripps College in Southern California, and a master's degree in Social Psychology from Boston College. Frances has over a decade of diverse research experience, including institutional research at both the community college and university level, program evaluation at non-profits, and independent research in social psychology. In addition, she has experience with SACSCOC accreditation, statistical analysis, and assessment.



Nominees for Nominating Committee (continued)

Faron Kincheloe, Baylor University

Faron is Assistant Director of Institutional Research and Testing. He came to Baylor 16 years ago to provide systems administration support for the IR office and help set up the infrastructure for the University data warehouse. Faron now leads the team responsible for administering and maintaining the Baylor Business Intelligence Platform. Before coming to Baylor, Faron worked almost 18 years in industry providing hardware and software support for a variety of manufacturing systems. Faron earned an associate's degree in electronic technology from Texas State Technical Institute, a bachelor's degree in business from Tarleton State University, and a master's degree in information systems from Baylor University. Faron has served on the TAIR program committee for two years and is finishing his term as the TAIR Member at Large for Technology.



Shari Koukl, UT - Tyler

Shari is the Director of Institutional Analysis at The University of Texas at Tyler and has been with that office since 1999. Prior to that, she was a Lecturer in the Department of Social Sciences, teaching Social Research Methods for nine years. A member of TAIR since 1999, she has served two terms as Vendor Coordinator and regards TAIR as a great networking and professional development resource. Shari received her Bachelor of Arts degree from Northern Illinois University and her Master of Public Administration from The University of Texas at Tyler.

Marcelo Paredes, UT - Pan America

Marcelo Paredes, University of Texas-Pan American. Marcelo Paredes began working as a Research Analyst at the Office of Institutional Research and Effectiveness (OIRE) at UTPA in December 2004. Marcelo now serves as Assistant Director at OIRE since September 2011. He is the Chief Reporting Official for UTPA and is responsible for coordinating the certification of several CBM reports. Prior to joining UTPA, Marcelo worked with Valeo Switches & Detection Systems in Rio Bravo, Mexico as the Quality Tools Coordinator from July 1999 to December 2004. Marcelo earned a Bachelor's of Science degree in Mathematics from UTPA in May 1998. He has also served as the TAIR Vendor Fair Chair from 2009 until 2013. This experience and his active membership in TAIR since 2005 make Marcelo an effective candidate for the nominating committee.



Nominees for Nominating Committee (continued)



Vanessa Sansone, UT - San Antonio

Vanessa serves as a Senior Institutional Research Analyst at The University of Texas at San Antonio. Before joining UTSA, Vanessa worked as an IR Analyst with Texas A&M University – San Antonio and as a Program Data Manager with UTSA's Office of P-20 Initiatives. As a Senior IR Analyst, Vanessa works to develop research and analysis that promotes the success of all students in their pursuit of a higher education degree. Since 2011, Vanessa has been an active member of TAIR, and has also served as a TAIR Conference Special Interest Group Program Coordinator. Vanessa has earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Sociology from St. Mary's University in San Antonio, Texas, a Masters of Education Degree in Educational Leadership and Policy Studies from UTSA, and is currently pursuing a doctoral degree in Educational Leadership with an

Tracy Stegmair, Texas Woman's University

Tracy has worked in Institutional Research since 2003 and has been a member of TAIR since 2004. She worked for six years at Texas Woman's University and later for three years at Richland College as a Senior Research Analyst. For the past two years Tracy has been back at TWU working as a Senior Business Systems Analyst. She has co-presented three concurrent sessions, two roundtables, and a workshop at past TAIR conferences plus a workshop at a SAIR conference. In addition to presentations, Tracy has served for three years on the TAIR Program Committee and is just finishing up her two-year appointment as TAIR Treasurer. She earned two Bachelor's degrees from Texas Woman's University in History and Computer Science.

