



Newsletter

Texas Association for Institutional Research

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INSIDE THIS ISSUE

President's Message

TAIR Officers

2011 Program Committee Chairs

Appointed Committees

Election Results

TAIR 2010 – Waco

TAIR 2010 Evaluations Summary

2010 Awards

Vice President's Message

TAIR Travel Grant Information

TAIR Summer Workshop

Awards Committee News

Save The Date

Call for Conference Participation

Call for Nomination Participation

From the Desk of the President - Kristi Fisher



Our TAIR Executive Committee formally convened on April 15, 2010 in Austin, Texas to initiate plans for Summer Workshops and the 2011 Annual TAIR Conference. The 2011 conference will be hosted by our colleagues in Austin (St. Edwards University, Austin Community College, and UT Austin) who have joined forces to coordinate hotel accommodations, meals, and entertainment to ensure continued success for our annual symposium. I want to welcome suggestions from our constituency regarding any improvements to the conference arrangements or logistics, volunteer opportunities, or even to share a kind word and thank you for the hard work from our TAIR program committee members. Contact information is listed on our TAIR website <http://www.texas-air.org> and on page two of this letter.

From the Treasurer's Report for the 2010 TAIR Conference in Waco, a budget just under \$45,000 was sufficient to cover all expenses (including travel grants). As president, I want to convey personal and corporate thanks to Allen Clark for such a successful conference, and also Marcelo Paredes, as he led the charge for over \$8,650 in sponsorships from vendors. Way to go Marcelo. Additionally, I want to thank all of our talented TAIR family members who presented sessions, coordinated events, and worked behind the scenes to make the Waco conference a resounding success.

TAIR member evaluations from the 2010 conference have been received and are being reviewed. Ratings were positive in all areas, including variety of sessions offered, diversity of the general sessions, networking opportunities, and our special events. Still, the 2011 planning committee will work on a couple of areas for improvement, such as the placement of the vendor fair and a few session timing issues. A more detailed report is forthcoming and will be posted on the TAIR website.

Appointments to posts within the non-elected TAIR committees were announced at the April Executive Committee meeting. (The appointees may be viewed on our website and are also listed in the TAIR newsletter.) Additional discussion topics included a review of the 2010 conference evaluation summaries and various conference logistics; a review of the prior two years' budgets; summer workshop location, topics and logistics; future conference locations, and potential roles and initiatives for the TAIR Data Advisory Committee. Minutes from this meeting will be posted on the TAIR website, but please feel free to contact any one of the Executive Committee Members if you have questions or would like more information.

Summer workshops were held in San Marcos this year and were well received and well-attended, in spite of the travel budget pinch that we are all feeling of late. Four workshops were offered on July 16, and were led by Soon Merz, Associate Vice President for Institutional Effectiveness & Accountability at Austin Community College; Joseph Meyer, Director of Institutional Research at Texas State University-San Marcos; Gail Ryser, Director of Testing, Research Support & Evaluation at Texas State University-San Marcos; and Susan Thompson, Senior Research Analyst in Institutional Research at Texas State University-San Marcos. Many thanks go to these members for volunteering their time and talents. I want to extend special thanks to Susan Thompson, our member-at-large for Professional Development, and her colleagues at Texas State for a well-organized and cost-effective summer professional development opportunity that greatly benefitted our membership.

On July 20th, the TAIR Data Advisory Committee (DAC), chaired by Tom Martin, met in Austin to discuss upcoming initiatives. Agenda topics included various accountability data initiatives, collaborations with THECB, race/ethnic code changes, the 18 Characteristics of Doctoral Programs, and the Texas Report Reduction Initiative. Minutes will be posted on the TAIR website.

I'd like to extend my appreciation to several TAIR DAC members who have diligently served the membership since the inception of the DAC and whose terms on the DAC have now expired. Chief among these is Maryann Ruddock, DAC co-chair, for her pivotal role in helping to define the scope and work of this group within the organization. Maryann also played a key role in drafting white papers on the Federal Ethnicity and Race Code Changes, which can be found on the TAIR website. I also want to thank Cindy Dutschke, Leona Urbish, and Larry Redlinger for their service on the TAIR DAC and for their willingness to lend their expertise to the development and work of this committee.

Thank you.

Kristi Fisher

TAIR Officers and Editor

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TAIR 2011 Program Committee Chairs

VP and Program Chair....Darline Morris, Texas State Tech. College
Concurrent Sessions Mary Barton, University of North Texas
EvaluationsDelton Moore, Amarillo College
Financial Review..... Jim O'Donnell, Mountain View College
General Sessions Kerri Ford, Texas Tech University
Local Arrangements..... Lincoln Holmes, UT Austin
Program Brochure Rosy Bynum, San Jacinto College District
Registration/Secretary Kate Amorella, Texas Woman's University
Resource FairMarcelo Paredes, UT Pan Am
Roundtables.....Rita Caso, Sam Houston State University
SIGs..... Soon Merz, Austin Community College District
Workshops/Prof Develop...Susan Thompson, Texas State University
TechnologyBao Huynh, Richland College

Appointed Committees

TAIR Data Committee:

Tom Martin-Collin County Community College, Chair

Public 4-Year: Vicki West, Texas Tech University,
Roy Matthew, University of Texas-El Paso,
Kate Amorella, Texas Woman's University,
Carol Tucker, University of Houston-Downtown

Public 2-Year: Kathy Friedrich, College of the Mainland,
Darline Morris-Texas State Tech College,
Martha Oburn-Houston CC System

Private 4-Year: Sue Herring-Baylor University,
Phil Rhodes-Houston Baptist University

Professional Development Committee:

Susan Thompson-Texas State University, Chair
Tom Corll-Midland College,
Salma Ferdous-University of Texas-San Antonio,
Danica Frampton-St. Edward's University,
Joe Meyer-Texas State University-San Marcos

Awards Committee:

Allen Clark-University of North Texas, Chair
Joseph Meyer-Texas State Univ.-San Marcos,
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:

Roy Philbrook-UT Pan American, Chair
Linda Perez-San Jacinto College,
Karen Laljjani-El Centro College,
Tom Corll-Midland College

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

Darline Morris, Texas State Technical College



Secretary,

Kate Amorella,
Texas Woman's University



Professional Development, (2 yr term)

Susan Thompson



Nominating Committee

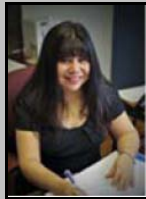
Roy Philbrook
UT Pan American, Chair



Karen Laljiani
El Centro College



Linda Perez
San Jacinto College



Tom Corll
Midland College



...And Other TAIR Officers

President,

Kristi Fisher, The University of Texas at Austin



Treasurer

Rick Leyva, El Centro
Texas State University –
San Marcos



Member-At-Large

Technology (2 year term)

Bao Huynh, Richland College

Appointments

Electronic List Manager & Webmaster –
Bao Huynh

Liaison to AIR – Kristi Fisher

Newsletter Editor – Johna May

TAIR 2010 - 32nd Annual Conference Attendees

2-year public	83
2-year proprietary	0
4-year public	72
4-year private	24
Other	<u>11</u>
Total	190

2010 Awards

Best Fact Book:

Houston Community College

Best Electronic Fact Book:

Del Mar College

Best Mini Fact Book:

Texas Tech University

Best Presentation:

Colby Stoeber, THECB

TAIR 2010 Evaluations Summary

Thank you to all TAIR members for helping make the 2010 conference in Waco a huge success.

Forty-eight attendees responded to the Overall Conference Survey. About 25% of the respondents have worked in IR for 2 or less years and the same number of respondents have worked in IR for 3-5 years, while the rest (a little more than 50%) have worked in IR for 6 or more years.

As in past TAIR conferences, satisfaction with the general sessions, concurrent sessions and roundtable sessions remains high. The overall satisfaction with the conference showed 100% excellent or good responses (69% excellent and 31% good). Attendees rated the general sessions as very interesting with 62% strongly agreeing and 35% agreeing for a total score of 98% for both of these categories. Most of the comments indicated that the speakers were well received and very interesting, while some thought that they should have been more relevant to IR.

The location of the vendors scored a little above satisfactory with several comments about the space being tight, but the number of vendors, scheduling, and quality of vendors/materials were rated as between satisfied and very satisfied. In addition, the evaluation of the conference location, conference information on the TAIR website, and the conference registration were high as well. The areas that indicated the need for the most improvement were the location of the vendors, the usefulness of the Special Interest Group Sessions (SIGS), and the overall quality of the roundtable sessions.

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

Thank you for your responses. The survey results will continue to be of great value in planning for the 2011 TAIR conference.

A Letter from your Vice President - Darline Morris



TAIR 2010 in Waco was terrific! Special thanks to Sue Herring - Baylor University and the Waco local arrangements committee, Allen Clark, TAIR President, Kristi Fisher TAIR 2010 Program Chair, and each member of the planning committee for all their hard work in supporting a professional and inspirational 2010 TAIR Conference in Waco. Evidenced at the conference were many informative workshops, concurrent sessions, inspirational general sessions, roundtables, vendors, special interest groups and opportunities to network with peers. A big thanks of appreciation towards Trish Norman, Secretary and Rick Leyva, Treasurer for their great job of registering participants, distributing packets and running interference when needed. Thanks to Bao Huynh - Richland College and Sue Herring - Baylor University who provided great technical support where it was needed throughout the conference. Marcelo Paredes and

Leroy Philbrook of the University of Texas Pan American took terrific care of our vendors who financially supported our conference in so many ways. Please do not allow me to forget to thank all the members/leaders of a workshop, concurrent session, roundtable, vendors, and special interest groups. After all, because of their self-less spirits as volunteers we all came away richer in knowledge that was shared to the benefit of all participants. What an enjoyable special event for a successful conference was our evening spent on the Baylor University Campus at the Mayborn Museum Complex! Good Food, Good Music, and Good Fellowship.

Looking to the future, the 2011 TAIR Conference will be in AUSTIN on February 15-18, 2011. Be sure to mark your calendar now and reserve that date. The conference theme will focus on "*Capital Ideas for Institutional Effectiveness During Challenging Times.*" The local arrangements and program committees are already busy working on the preparations for a dynamic conference. Lincoln Holmes and the Austin Local Arrangements Committee will be looking for great food, and entertainment opportunities to ensure us a terrific 2011 TAIR Conference in Austin.

The TAIR Conference is one of the greatest professional development opportunities we have each year. Let me encourage you to be an active participant by volunteering to be a presenter or facilitator at the 2011 TAIR Conference. TAIR is always looking for those knowledgeable members who are willing to share their solutions or technical expertise with many of your peers. If you haven't volunteered before, now is the time. TAIR is the perfect environment to be a 1st time presenter or facilitator! The sessions are informal and the smaller groups lend themselves to be comfortable environments.

A call for Proposals has gone out from Mary Barton, our concurrent session chair for TAIR 2011. Proposals/abstracts may be submitted online at <http://www.texas-air.org/conference/2011/callforpart.html>. The due date for submissions is September 30, 2010. We welcome your session ideas! Your input is important and valued. If you have questions or are uncertain about how a given presentation topic might fit in, please don't hesitate to contact me at darline.morris@tstc.edu or (254) 867-3063 to discuss options.

IN 2011 HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE
AT TAIR!

TAIR Travel Grants

TAIR wants to be sure that funding is not the reason that you or your staff will miss TAIR 2011 and will be awarding eight travel grants at \$300 each to help cover expenses. Travel grants are available to both active members and those becoming new members in 2011 http://www.texas-air.org/assets/pdf/Travel_Grants_Application.pdf

TAIR Summer Workshop

July 16, 2010

Expand your IR knowledge and skills with a summer workshop!

The annual TAIR professional development summer workshop will be held on Friday, July 16, 2010 on the Texas State University-San Marcos campus.

A range of topics will be offered to appeal to the beginning institutional research professional as well as those who are more “seasoned”:

- Creating a Dashboard with Excel
- SPSS: Beyond the Basics
- Effective Presentations
- A Review of Best Practices for Using On-Line Databases and Glossaries in Higher Education Research

This year’s workshop will follow the same format that has been used for the past two years, with two topics offered in the morning and two in the afternoon. Look for an announcement on the TAIR discussion list with more details about the workshop and information about how to register.

We hope to see you in San Marcos 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 2010 Awards Committee was composed of Joseph Myer (Chair)-Texas State University, Susan Griffith-University of Texas – Pan American, Marilyn Greer-UT M.D. Anderson, Tom Martin-Collin County Community College District, and Ruben Garcia-Texas Workforce Commission. Maryann Ruddock and Leona Urbish also assisted with the Awards Committee.

Verna L. Dewees of The Texas A&M University System office received the 2010 TAIR Outstanding Service Award. She served as Vice President/President in 1997-1998; served on several TAIR Program Committees as General Sessions Chair and Local Arrangements Chair; and presented at several annual conferences. Verna retired shortly before the 2010 TAIR Conference and was presented the award by past presidents Marilyn Greer and Joseph Meyer at her retirement ceremony in College Station.

Colby Stoever of The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board won the Best Presentation award for the presentation *"Pathways: A Data Driven Project to Increase Successful High School to College Transition."* Colby will present the TAIR 2010 Best Presentation at the Association for Institutional Research (AIR) Forum in Toronto in 2011.

The winning theme for the TAIR 2011 conference is *"Capital Ideas for Institutional Research During Challenging Times"* and was submitted by Susan Griffith from University of Texas – Pan American.

There were many outstanding fact books submitted for the Best Fact Book competition in Waco. 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 – Houston Community College
- Best Mini Fact Book – Texas Tech University
- Best Online/Interactive Fact Book – Del Mar College

Congratulations to all the winners and thank you to the 2010 TAIR Awards Committee for all their hard work.



Call for Proposals

2011 TAIR Conference
February 15-18, 2011
Sheraton Austin Hotel at the Capitol
Austin, Texas

Dear Colleagues,

Come join friends and colleagues at the 33rd annual TAIR Conference. 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, roundtables and Special Interest Groups. This is an excellent opportunity for newcomers to IR to pair with experienced professionals from their institutions and present at the conference.

This year's conference theme "**Capital Ideas for Institutional Research During Challenging Times**" allows for a variety of topics including:

- Assessment
- IT/Technology
- Enrollment
- IR Best Practices
- Data Warehousing
- Survey Research
- Legislative Mandates
- Reporting

At the conference planning session in April, the committee identified several topics for which they thought presentations would be of interest. Some of the topics were:

- Evolution of IR and how to deal with the change
- Lessons learned in IR
- Panel discussion on guidelines for making presentations and preparing an IR paper
- IR definitions (for example, how to define FTE)
- Strategies for determining which surveys are the most important to complete
- Common Data Set

So, if you or someone you know has expertise in these or other areas, please share your knowledge by presenting at the conference.

See you in Austin.

The due date for submitting a proposal is September 30, 2010. The form can be found at:
<http://www.texas-air.org/conference/2011/callforpart.html>

Regards,

Mary Barton
Chair, Concurrent Sessions
TAIR
(940) 565-3863

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 2011-February 2012
 - b. President, March 2012-February 2013
 - c. Immediate Past President, March 2013-February 2014
2. Treasurer, March 2011-February 2013
3. Executive Committee, Member at Large for Technology, March 2011-February 2013
4. Members of Nominating Committee, March 2011-February 2012

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/2011/callfornom.html

THE DEADLINE FOR NOMINATIONS IS SEPTEMBER 30, 2010!!!