



North Carolina Association for Institutional Research

Newsletter

Volume 19
Number 8

August, 2004
Brian Rolfe, Editor

President's Corner

Anne Marie Bellamy

Our NCAIR Summer Drive-In was a tremendous success. The participants received five star training from four of SAS' top software gurus in the comfortable setting of the SAS Institute in Cary. Each of the participants left with a much clearer handle on using the SAS products they already have and an overview of the newest educational software products. Of course, NCAIR members received the full SAS hospitality with discounts on books, delicious snacks and breakfast, as well as a full luncheon. We are grateful to SAS Institute's Susan Walsh and her colleagues for a wonderful opportunity for NCAIR. Thanks to Carol Gosselin and her committee for putting on an excellent drive-in conference.

I hope to see many of our members at the upcoming SAIR Conference in Biloxi, MS, October 16 – 19. There will be a separate breakout meeting for our state researchers.

Although our next NCAIR conference isn't until March 9-11, we should identify and invite new researchers to become members of our association. Contact Treasurer Michael Hadley (mhadley@methodist.edu) for the membership application or find it on our web page.

Anne Marie Bellamy, NCAIR 2004-2005 President
bellamy@brunswick.cc.nc.us

NCAIR Summer Drive In at SAS Institute

Carol Gosselin

NCAIR and SAS Institute joined in a “first of its kind” partnership on July 23, 2004, as over 30 NCAIR members met at SAS Institute in Cary, NC for the annual Summer Drive-in meeting. This was the first meeting at the corporate campus of an organization with no direct affiliation with SAS Institute. We thank Jerry Oglesby and Susan Walsh from SAS for their strong commitment to SAS in Higher Education and Institutional Research. Four presenters from SAS Institute provided us with valuable information on SAS products.

Enterprise Guide is an integrated suite of software products that can be used to access the power of SAS without learning the SAS programming language or to create new code or modify existing programs. It provides an interface to the strength of the underlying SAS modules using drag-and-drop functionality.

SAS/STAT for Version 9 brings additional analysis tools for use with surveys and more robust regression procedures.

The Output Delivery System (ODS) provides a method of easily delivering output from SAS procedures to a variety of formats with greater flexibility. With ODS, output can be customized in both appearance and content. It is especially useful for the creation of those web pages so critical to Institutional Research.

A demonstration of using SQL (Structured Query Language) to access data in a data warehouse provided us with new insights into sub-setting and reporting on the massive quantities of data we handle as institutional researchers.

In addition to the excellent presentations by Susan Walsh, Phil Gibbs, Davetta Dunlap, and Kathy Kiraly of SAS Institute, we were treated to an excellent lunch in the SAS customer cafeteria and had the opportunity to walk around the grounds of their beautiful campus.

2005 NCAIR CONFERENCE

March 9-11, 2005

Sheraton Charlotte Airport Hotel

Charlotte, North Carolina

“The Supporting Role of Institutional Research”

From the Program Chair

Laura Boyles

Hello colleagues,

I hope you had a great summer and are ready for the Fall term. The 2005 Conference Planning Committees have completed a lot of work this summer. Thank you to the members of those committees for your work.

The Local Arrangements Committee has selected the site for the conference, the Sheraton Charlotte Airport Hotel, located just off I-85 for our conference March 9-11. We were able to secure a great rate of \$69 per night for rooms with either two double beds or one king. The staff, facilities and food are excellent. If you haven't done so already, check out the hotel website:

http://www.starwood.com/sheraton/search/hotel_detail.html?propertyID=942.

The theme for the conference, “The Supporting Role of Institutional Research,” was selected by the Program Committee to reflect the positions we hold at our institutions. We hope to highlight four important areas IR supports: administration, accreditation, assessment, and strategic planning.

The Program Committee has not only selected the theme, but has also engaged our keynote and luncheon speakers. As noted in the last newsletter, Bobby Vagt, President of Davidson College, will be the speaker for our luncheon on Thursday. We are pleased to announce that Dr. Randy Swing, Co-Director & Senior Scholar for the Policy Center on the First Year of College located in Brevard, will be the keynote speaker for our opening session on Wednesday night. More information about these speakers is provided in the brief biographical narratives that follow. Additionally, J. Keith Brown, Associate Vice President of Planning and Research for the North Carolina Community College System, will be sharing a System Update at the conference for our community college members.

The Vendor Committee has begun contacting possible vendors to attend and support our conference. The Vendor Committee is also approaching our vendors to conduct some of the pre-conference workshops.

Finally, we need your help to make this conference a success. Please consider submitting a presentation proposal. The call for proposals is included in this newsletter. If you don't have a topic in mind already, consider sharing your expertise on one of the requested topics listed in this newsletter.

Laura

Randy L. Swing, Ph.D.



Dr. Randy L. Swing is Co-Director & Senior Scholar for the Policy Center on the First Year of College. The Center's signature project, Foundations of Excellence™, is an aspirational and measurement model for the first college year developed with input from over 200 colleges and universities. His recent research and writing includes case studies of institutions of excellence in the first year (in the forthcoming from Jossey-Bass – *Achieving and Sustaining Excellence in the First College Year*), institutional assessment (in the forthcoming from Jossey Bass – *Challenging and Supporting the First-Year Student*), and benchmarking first-year seminar outcomes. He is a fellow at the National Resource Center on The First-Year Experience where he produced two monographs on first-year assessment (*Proving and Improving* – Vol I & II). His work at the Policy Center includes founding the First-Year Assessment Listserv (over 1,000 subscribers), developing the First-Year Summer Assessment Institute, and helping to establish the *Your First College Year* (YFCY) survey and the *First-Year Initiative* (FYI) benchmarking survey. Randy is a frequent speaker at national and international conferences. He is a visiting professor at Kansai University of International Studies in Japan. For two decades prior to 1999, he held various leadership positions at Appalachian State University in assessment, advising, Upward Bound, and first-year seminar. He holds a Ph.D in higher education from the University of Georgia, MA and EdS in Counseling from Appalachian State University, BA in Psychology from the University of North Carolina – Charlotte and attended Davidson County Community College.

Robert F. Vagt



Robert F. Vagt is the sixteenth president of Davidson College, and has served as president since July 1, 1997. Mr. Vagt received a B.A. in Psychology from Davidson in 1969, and a Masters of Divinity from Duke University in 1972. He was ordained to the ministry in 1972 by Concord Presbytery, the same presbytery that founded Davidson College in 1837. His early career included working as a warden with the North Carolina Department of Corrections and directing clinical programs and services at Northwest Alabama Mental Health Center. In 1974 he was appointed Deputy Commissioner of Corrections for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. He joined the New York State Division of the Budget as Assistant Director in 1975 where he helped form the Municipal Assistance Corporation, later serving as its Executive Director. He worked for three international oil and gas exploration and production companies from 1980 to 1997, as President and COO of Adobe Resources; as Chairman, President and CEO of Global Natural Resources; and as President and Chief Operating Officer of Seagull Energy Corporation. He currently serves on the boards of Lake Norman Regional Medical Center, Children's Defense Fund, North Carolina Progress Board, and Cornell Companies, Inc. Mr. Vagt and his wife have two daughters.

Ideas for Conference Presentations

The conference evaluation after the 2004 conference had a great deal of praise for the conference and yielded a number of helpful suggestions for future conferences. The evaluation also included an open-ended question asking respondents to suggest presentation(s) for future conferences. The list below contains the ideas shared by the NCAIR respondents. Please select one of these topics, submit a presentation proposal and share your knowledge with other, interested NCAIR members. The information for submitting a proposal is listed in this Newsletter.

Thank you in advance for sharing your knowledge on one of these topics or another topic. Your participation is what makes NCAIR the great resource it is to our members.

Technology:

- More on optimal use of software, tips, tricks (MS Office, SAS, SPSS, etc) to accomplish IR mission
- Data Warehouse
- How switching to SCT Banner impacts IR functions
- Use of Access and Excel pivot tables for data analysis
- Desktop Solutions

Institutional Research:

- Predictive models and statistical projection
- Delphi studies
- Solutions Showcase

Institutional Effectiveness and Assessment:

- IE, IR and institutional climate: morale issues
- Quality of Life Issues
- Dealing with Change and Challenges
- Assessment Issues
- Evaluating and improving student services

Planning:

- The Nichols model - a planning calendar example, how and why it works
- Sessions on planning models are desperately needed.
- Future Search or other planning models
- Resources about future trends

Accreditation:

- Quality Enhancement Plans
- "Tales" of SACS evaluator's experiences: fun stories, sad stories; no-no stories, do & don't kind of presentations what-do-and-what-not-to-do kind of presentations.

General:

- The Impact of the Higher Education Reauthorization Act
- College/Community Partnerships
- Team Building
- Life after Retirement
- Trends in career paths for IR practitioners

What ideas or suggestions would be appropriate for IR papers and presentations? Could there be a session to generate ideas for those campuses that do not have active researchers?

CALL FOR PARTICIPATION

You are invited to submit a proposal for presentation or serve as a facilitator at the 2005 North Carolina Association for Institutional Research. The conference will be held at the Sheraton Charlotte Airport Hotel in Charlotte, North Carolina.

The Program Committee is seeking proposals for papers, demonstrations, panels and pre-conference workshops. This conference is designed to provide an active forum for Higher Education assessment, planning, and institutional research practitioners to share ideas and develop professional and social relationships in an informal congenial environment.

The Program Committee is especially interested in proposals addressing the following areas:

Institutional Effectiveness and Assessment

IR Theory and Practice

Planning and Accreditation/OEP

To submit a Proposal:

- (1) Prepare a **Proposal Cover Sheet**. Use the form in this newsletter or prepare an equivalent document containing all information specified in the attached form.
- (2) Prepare a **Presentation Abstract** of 100 – 300 words, double-spaced, 12-point type. The closer to 100 words the better, as the abstract for all accepted proposals will be used for the conference program. Be sure to include the session title as it should appear in the Abstract. **DO NOT INCLUDE PRESENTER NAMES OR INSTITUTIONS IN THE ABSTRACT.**
- (3) E-mail or snail mail your proposal (**E-mail is strongly preferred**).

To submit via e-mail, create a message entitled "2005 NCAIR Conference Proposal" and attach the Proposal Cover Sheet **and** the abstract as one document. The attachment must be in Microsoft Word (preferred), WordPerfect, or text file format. Send to kendrick.tatum@duke.edu.

To submit via US Mail, send the completed proposal cover sheet and abstract to Kendrick Tatum, Institutional Research Analyst, Duke University, Box 90004, Durham, NC 27708-0004.

To serve as a Facilitator:

Facilitators are responsible for introducing presenters, facilitating discussion, and ensuring session evaluations are administered and collected. If you will serve as a facilitator, please contact Michael Hadley at 910-630-7550 or mhadley@methodist.edu.

PROPOSAL COVER PAGE
2005 NCAIR CONFERENCE
Deadline: November 1, 2004

All proposals should include (as applicable): the objective, purpose, key points, or issues; results and/or conclusions; methodologies; target audience and who was/is involved.

1. TITLE OF SESSION:

2. PRIMARY PRESENTER:
 POSITION:
 INSTITUTION:
 MAILING ADDRESS:
 TELEPHONE NUMBER
 FAX NUMBER
 EMAIL ADDRESS:

3. Additional Co-presenter(s)/Panelists (List Name, Title, and Institution of other authors, panelists, or presenters in this space.)

4. SESSION TRACK:

- Institutional Effectiveness and Assessment
- IR Theory and Practice
- Planning and Accreditation/QEP

5. TYPE AND LENGTH OF SESSION PROPOSED (Check only one box):

	ANTICIPATED LENGTH	
SESSION	45 minutes	90 minutes
Contributed Paper		
Demonstration		
Panel		

	ANTICIPATED LENGTH	
SESSION	2.5 hours	5 hours
Workshop		

6. TARGET AUDIENCE:

7. EQUIPMENT/TECHNOLOGY NEEDS: (An overhead projector and screen will be in each session room). Be specific in your description and include any required software. Please note any Internet connections needed.

***Contributed Papers** are sessions with one or more presenters discussing the purposes, methods, and results of an investigation or a formal project. **Demonstrations** are typically sessions in which one or more presenters illustrate the use of a tool or method for conducting assessment or institutional research. **Panel Presentations** are sessions featuring several presenters discussing collaborative work or providing multiple perspectives on a single topic. Panel presentations should feature participants from multiple institutions or agencies, and deal with projects or topics that bring together participants and perspectives from different segments of higher education. **Workshops** may last two and a half or five hours. Historically, workshops are conducted on a no fee basis. Fee workshops will be considered to cover material and production costs. If you are proposing a workshop, please list any required fees and the justification.*

Please contact Kendrick Tatum if you have any questions? kendrick.tatum@duke.edu or 919-684-2724.

Position Open

NORTH CAROLINA STATE UNIVERSITY

University Director for Assessment and Associate Director, University Planning and Analysis

Responsibilities: Lead efforts to coordinate and improve assessment activities distributed across the university. Lead focused, university-level assessment activities. Facilitate collection, analysis, and interpretation of assessment results; ensure that results are used effectively for program improvement, planning, and policy-making. Assist undergraduate, graduate, and administrative assessment professionals across campus as needed. Advise institutional research and planning colleagues on campus data needs and research design.

Requires doctoral degree in appropriate discipline: demonstrated success in program evaluation; thorough understanding of assessment theory and practice, and of student learning and development; advanced knowledge of quantitative and qualitative research design and methods; excellent communication, interpersonal, and organizational skills. Preferred qualifications include experience in higher education assessment or institutional research, faculty experience, and fluency in statistical analysis procedures (e.g., SAS).

Salary commensurate with experience: Submit materials to Carol A. Smith, University Planning and Analysis, NC State University, Campus Box 7002, Raleigh, NC 27695-7002. Include resume, references, and a sample of writing that demonstrates candidate's background related to this position. Review of applications will begin August 30, 2004, and will continue until the position is filled.

EO/AA Employer. In its commitment to diversity and equity, NC State University seeks applications from women, minorities, and persons with disabilities. All persons are welcome without regard to race, color, national origin, religion, sex, age, veteran status, disability, or sexual orientation.

NCAIR Executive Minutes

NCAIR Executive Committee Minutes, 7-23-2004 Summer Drive-in at SAS Campus – Cary, NC

Attendance: Anne Marie Bellamy, Laura Boyles, Carol Gosselin, Michael Hadley, Brian Rolfe, Alton Rucker, Adam Shick, Rob Springer, Kendrick Tatum

Meeting called to order by President Anne Marie Bellamy.

Old/New Business:

1. Planning Committee
 - a. Laura Boyles reviewed Planning Committee work (“Summary of Planning Committee Work” and “2005 Conference Planning Committee Membership” documents entered into Secretary’s notes). Laura proposed that Vendor, Travel Grant, and Mentor/Newcomer committees be stand-alone committees, rather than being governed by the conference Planning Committee. These committees will then have continuity from one conference to the next.
2. Vendor Committee
 - a. Rob Springer gave Vendor Committee update. Vendor contribution structure was discussed. Details can be reviewed in the hard copy of this report which is entered into Secretary’s notes.
 - b. Placement of vendor’s logos on NCAIR website was discussed.
 - c. Vendor Committee proposal was approved.
3. Conference Planning
 - a. Laura Boyles proposed that planning occur two years out, so that during a given conference, information for the following year’s conference can be disseminated.
 - b. Michael Hadley suggested a rotation of location: western/central/eastern.
 - c. Rob Springer indicated that the joint meeting with SCAIR must mesh with the western/central/eastern rotation.
4. Travel Grants.
 - a. “Summer Drive-In Travel Grant Committee Summary June 2004” and “Priorities for funding opportunities are as follows” documents are entered into Secretary’s notes.
 - b. Michael Hadley questioned the prioritization of travel grant funding opportunities – in particular, grants to present at the SAIR conference and the availability of travel grants to non-members.
 - c. Rob Springer suggested waiving registration fee in addition to the \$200 travel grant to attend annual NCAIR conference. It is agreed that the registration fee should be waived, and the travel grant policy will be modified accordingly.
 - d. It is agreed that the travel grant program as proposed (including the modification described in item 4-c) will be “piloted” for one year.
5. Michael Hadley presented the treasurer’s report (entered into Secretary’s notes).

President Anne Marie Bellamy adjourned the meeting.

Minutes submitted by Adam Shick, Secretary