



North Carolina Association for Institutional Research

Newsletter

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Carol Gosselin, Editor

Editor's Note – Carol Gosselin

Welcome to the first web newsletter from the North Carolina Association for Institutional Research. As was approved by the attendees at the conference in Greensboro, we will now be producing only a PDF version of our newsletter for our website. Members will be notified by email when the newsletter is available. This will result in a great savings for the organization in copying and postage costs, not to mention a lot of saved time for your editor. Please send any comments on this new format to me at carol_gosselin@ncsu.edu

President's Corner -- Sarah Carrigan

Greetings and Salutations! I hope summer is progressing well, or as well as can be expected in these times of fiscal uncertainty. I know many of our campuses are facing unprecedented budgetary challenges, and consequently making both hard choices and difficult sacrifices. The officers of NCAIR have set goals for the coming year to provide quality professional development opportunities at low cost to the membership.

I hope many of you will be able to attend our Summer Drive-in Workshop, once again hosted by Elon University. We will have representatives from the National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE) and the Community College Survey of Student Engagement (CCSSE). This is your opportunity to hear about these national

assessment efforts. Look for more information and instructions for registering in this newsletter.

The 2003 NCAIR conference will be our 30th anniversary meeting. While we cannot throw as big a party as we would like, this is an important milestone for our professional organization. We heard your concerns at the Greensboro conference, and we are looking at ways to pare down next year's costs to the members, both in terms of time and money. Rob Springer and his planning committee are already hard at work making plans. I am looking forward to another successful conference, and I hope you are, too!

Summer Drive-In 2002 – Robert Springer

Topic:

- CCSSE - Community College Survey Student Engagement
- NSSE - National Survey Student Engagement

Presenters:

- Judy Ouimet, PhD. (of CCSSE)
<http://www.ccsse.org>
- John Hayek, PhD. (of NSSE)
<http://www.indiana.edu/~nsse>

Date: July 24, 2002 (Wednesday)

Time: 9:30am to 2:30pm

Location: Elon University, Mosely Center (student union building). Parking is free.

Map and Directions:

Visit the following web site for a campus map:

<http://www.elon.edu/e-net/map.asp>

Visit the following web site for directions:

<http://www.elon.edu/admissions/visit.asp>

Description: These sessions will provide an overview of two national surveys that examine both institutional practice and student behaviors that are empirically related to retention and learning at two-year and four-year schools. Each instrument gathers information about good educational practices. Specifically, each instrument indicates (a) how students spend their time (b) retention and risk factors (c) how they view the campus environment (d) their perceptions of educational and personal growth, and (e) the extent to which faculty and student affairs staff engage students in effective educational practices. Findings from each survey will be shared along with a question/answer period. Come and learn how the CCSSE or NSSE survey can aid in the assessment process, promote improvements, and what students say about their educational experience.

Refreshments will be provided. Lunch is on your own. There are plenty of local establishments within walking distance.

The conference is free to NCAIR members and \$15 for non-NCAIR members.

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NCAIR 30th Conference – Robert Springer

The planning for the 30th annual NCAIR conference is underway. Unfortunately, our neighbors to the south will not be joining us. South Carolina's budget situation has postponed the possibility of a joint conference with NCAIR and SCAIR for at least another year.

Due to the severity of the budget situation in North Carolina, a proposed two-day, one-night conference is being planned in the Raleigh area during the month of March 2003. The committee members are still hammering out the details. However, the proposed schedule is that the conference will start just before noon on the first day and end around noon on the second day. That schedule will reduce lodging from 2 nights to 1 night, but will provide enough time for the same number of sessions and events as last year. Starting the conference just before noon should allow enough driving time to reach it before it begins. Raleigh is perhaps the best central site - so that no one is driving from one end of the state to the other.

The theme will be around the concept of "Making Do With Less" - an appropriate theme given numerous institutions' situations. Over the years, there appears to be a consistent need for institutional researchers to understand and conjoin a number of areas that affect an institution. To help get the creative juices flowing and as you consider your proposals for presentations, keep the following areas in mind; Technology, Institutional Research, Assessment, and Accreditation (or TIAA).

The committee is doing all it can to reduce the cost of attendance without reducing breadth, depth, or quality of the sessions or events. Please feel free to contact any of the committee members with your thoughts, suggestions, or concerns. Your hard working committee members are:

- Pat Abell abellp@gtcc.cc.nc.us
- Carol Carrere ccarrere@moc.edu
- Mark Davenport madavenp@office.uncg.edu
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