

IAIR Newsletter

A Publication of the Illinois Association for Institutional Research

May 2008

A Letter from the President

Flowers are blooming so that must mean it is time for the IAIR spring newsletter. I have been fortunate to be working with a great steering committee over the past few months. All of the members have been terrific in attending telephone conference calls and doing their home work. I want to give a special thanks to Pam Lowrey for putting together this newsletter.

It seems like a long time ago, but it was only six months ago we had our annual fall conference in Moline. I want to extend my thanks to Kristi Mindrup and Brian Erdman for putting together a great conference at Stony Creek.

Coming up soon is the AIR Annual Forum in Seattle. For those of you attending, IAIR will be getting together for our business meeting on Tuesday at 12:30. Please feel free to bring your lunch. We will also be having a reception on Tuesday evening. We will find an enjoyable place for drinks and appetizers and announce

it at our lunch business meeting. Since the IAIR financial status continues to be a concern, we will again ask that you pay your own way. This is a great opportunity to connect with all of your Illinois colleagues and we encourage everyone to attend.

Congratulations to Antonia Gutierrez and Janice Dantes for having their paper selected for IAIR best paper. They will be making their presentation again at AIR if you missed it when they were at Moline.

The conference this fall will be November 6th and 7th at the Pheasant Run in St. Charles. Please consider doing a presentation, you should be receiving a call for proposals soon. The good news is that Brian was able to get the rooms for only \$80 a night and there is no cost for parking. The equivalent for downtown Chicago would have been much higher. The bad news is that IAIR continues to face fiscal problems. For the second year in a row, the IAIR conference has lost money and we currently have \$1,784.43 in our treasury. The problem is the escalating cost of holding our annual conference. In an effort to build back up our reserves, we are proposing an increase in the conference fee to \$195 this year, as well as eliminating the lunch on Friday. These changes should help to begin to build up enough funds to allow us a cushion and a down payment for the conference site for the following year.

If you have any comments or suggestions for the Associations, please contact me or any member of the steering committee. See you in Seattle.

Thanks,

Nancy McNerney, President



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

(Click on title to jump to the article; click on  to return.)

1	Letter from the President
2	IAIR Officers & Contacts
2	2008 IAIR Annual Forum
2	IAIR Treasurer's Report
2	Comings and Goings
3	IAIR Membership Chair's Report
4	2008 AIR Annual Forum News

2008 IAIR Annual Forum

Please make plans to attend the 2008 IAIR Annual Forum. This year the forum will be held from Thursday November 6 to Friday November 7 at the Pheasant Run Resort in St. Charles. The resort is conveniently located in the scenic Fox River Valley less than an hour from Chicago and is easily accessible from any direction. Pheasant Run Resort is the Midwest's largest entertainment resort featuring a spa and fitness center, a 36 hole golf course, live music and comedy, Bourbon Street shopping and entertainment district, and more (<http://www.pheasantrun.com>).

You're invited to consider presenting a paper, panel demonstration, or research report at the forum. Here's a chance to share your expertise in institutional research and encourage your colleagues to do the same.

Information about the proposal process and registration will be available early this summer.

Brian Erdman, Program Chair



IAIR Treasurer's Report

(April 30, 2008)

The total cost for the 2007 IAIR conference was \$16,982.80, which included \$14,860.83 paid to Stoney Creek Inn, \$2,069.40 paid to Conference Registration Services at ISU (\$1,677.00 processing fee and \$392.40 credit card usage fee), and \$52.57 for miscellaneous gifts for the conference guest speakers. The total in payments by conference participants to ISU Conference Services was \$16,850.00, which resulted in a conference loss of \$132.80. Please note that the direct loss from the conference actually was higher given that the majority of IAIR members pay their membership fee during the conference registration process.

In January 2008 we made a \$500 deposit to Pheasant Run Resort in St. Charles, Illinois for the 2008 IAIR conference. Our balance as of April 30, 2008 was \$1,784.43.

Laura Dorman, Treasurer



The IAIR Newsletter

This newsletter is a publication of the Illinois Association of Institutional Research (IAIR). It is intended to provide information on issues and events important to members of the Association. It is produced semi-annually in October and May. The newsletter is now published exclusively in electronic form. The electronic form may be accessed via the Internet on the IAIR website at: <http://www.pir.ilstu.edu/iair/>

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PLEASE SEND NEWSLETTER IDEAS, SUBMISSIONS, INQUIRIES, OR COMMENTS TO

PAM LOWREY AT plowrey@uillinois.edu



IAIR Comings and Goings

Michelle Dufour and **Jo McCrady** have joined the Illinois Community College Board as Assistant Directors for Research and Policy Studies. Welcome!

Sharon Kristovich, Associate Vice President Accountability and Research at Parkland College will be leaving Parkland and moving on to consulting work in Institutional Research effective June 30, 2008. Best wishes to you in this new career path.

Pam Lowrey, Newsletter Editor

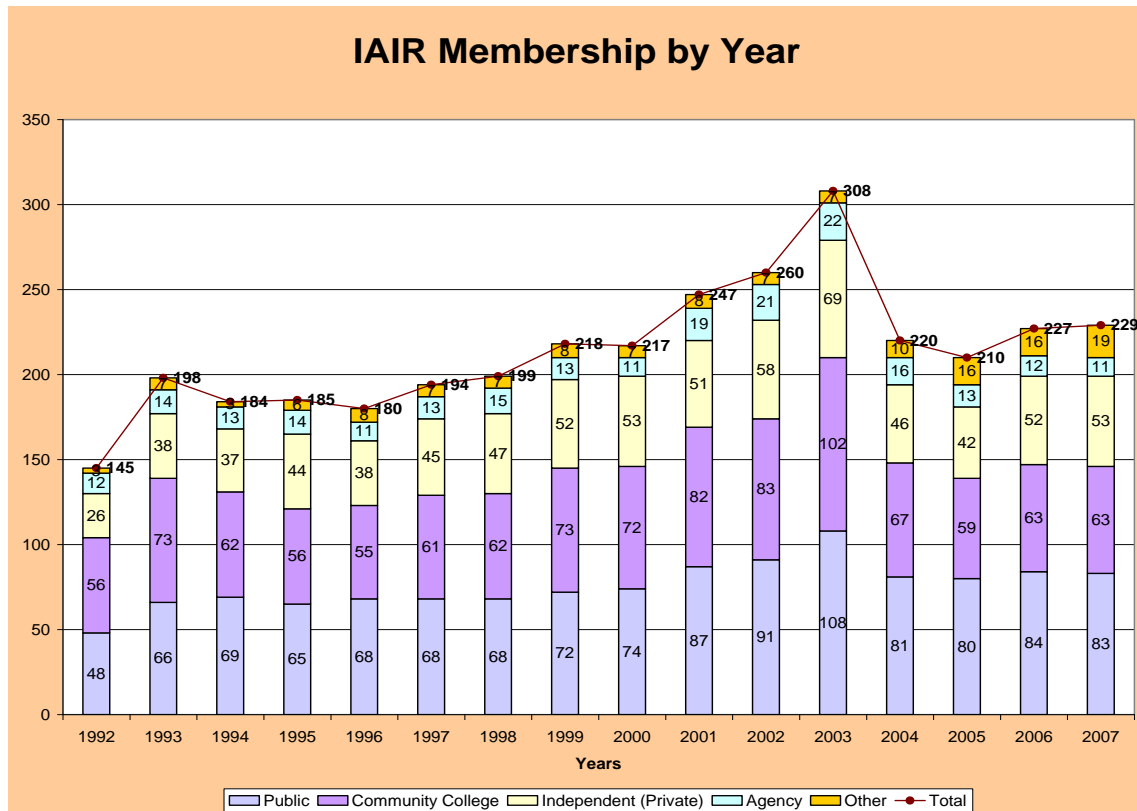


IAIR Membership Report

Membership remained flat for the Fall 2007 member drive with 229 members. The number is artificially inflated because little more than half of these members have paid for 2007-2008 membership. Individuals are considered members of IAIR and listed in the directory up to three years after they have paid for a membership.

The proportion of the membership by type of institution was approximately the same as it has been since 2004 (see figure below). Public university, community college, and independent (private) institutions represent 88% of the membership. The Other category has grown recently from 2% to 7% of the membership because many members have retired and have assumed emeritus status with IAIR.

There was a spike in membership between 2001 and 2003. Sharon Kristovich, the membership chair from 2001 to 2007, indicated the spike from 2001 to 2003 was largely due to active recruitment by the forum program chairs and careful communication with unpaid members after the annual IAIR forum. Changes in membership recruiting strategy affected the membership totals from 2004 to 2007.



There are many IR professionals in Illinois who are not affiliated with IAIR. Gail Fishman, the AIR National Manager for IPEDS Training Programs and Affiliated Group Relations provided a list of Illinois-based IR professionals who are members of AIR. A comparison of the AIR membership list with the IAIR membership list found 107 current AIR members who work at an Illinois institution, but who are not members of IAIR.

There is a great potential for additional membership among the institutional research professionals in Illinois and increased retained membership from year to year. In 2008, Membership will be encouraged through a communications campaign at the AIR forum in Seattle and coordination with the Program Chair for participation at the IAIR meeting or continued membership in the organization.

Matt Feldmann, Membership Chair



Illinois Participation at the 2008 Annual AIR Forum in Seattle

Session	Name	Institution	Day	Time	Format
W05	Joseetta McLaughlin, Gerald McLaughlin	Roosevelt University DePaul University	Saturday	12:30 – 4 pm	Workshop
139	James House, Beiling Xiao	Northern Illinois University	Sunday	5 – 6 pm	Poster
153	Joseph Maxon	William Rainey Harper College	Sunday	5 – 6 pm	Poster
279	Ellen Meents-DeCaigny	DePaul University	Sunday	5 – 6 pm	Poster
147	Gregory Kienzl	University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign	Monday	10:40 – 11:20 am	Scholarly Paper
618	John Zhang	William Rainey Harper College	Monday	11:40 am – 12:20 pm	Demonstration
721	Janice Dantes, Antonio Gutierrez	City Colleges of Chicago	Monday	11:40 am – 12:20 pm	IAIR Best Paper / Presentation
693	Liz Sanders	DePaul University	Monday	1:40 – 2:20 pm	Research in Action
312	Jaclyn Cameron, Judah Viola	DePaul University	Tuesday	8:50 – 9:30 am	Research in Action
431	Anne Foley (Facilitator)	Columbia College Chicago	Tuesday	8:50 – 9:30 am	Research in Action
703	Kristi Mindrup (Facilitator)	Western Illinois University	Tuesday	8:50 – 9:30 am	AIR Grant Paper
423	Tracy Mohr	DePaul University	Tuesday	10:30 – 11:10 am	Research in Action
447	Leah Adams-Curtis, David Cook, Aimee Cook	Illinois Central College	Tuesday	10:30 – 11:10 am	Research in Action
722	Trudy Bers (Committee Member)	Oakton Community College	Tuesday	10:30 – 11:10 am	Best Paper / Presentation
A30	Marilyn Marshall (Convener)	Illinois AIR (IAIR)	Tuesday	12:30 – 1:10 pm	Affiliated Group
103	Trudy Bers (Facilitator)	Oakton Community College	Tuesday	1:30 – 2:10 pm	Research in Action
405	M. Feldmann	Blackburn College	Tuesday	1:30 – 2:10 pm	Scholarly Paper
T14	Karolynn Horan	DePaul University	Tuesday	2:30 – 3:10 pm	Table Topic
276	Jennifer Gruening	St. Xavier University	Tuesday	3:30 – 4:10 pm	Research in Action
438	JoHyun Kim, Rhonda Kline, Rachel Smith, Charles Gilbert	Western Illinois University	Tuesday	3:30 – 4:10 pm	Scholarly Paper
T11	Joseph Baumann, John Zhang	William Rainey Harper College	Tuesday	3:30 – 4:10 pm	Table Topic
305	Sally Mikel	University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign	Wednesday	7:40 – 8:20 am	Demonstration
407	Gerald McLaughlin, Joseetta McLaughlin	DePaul University Roosevelt University	Wednesday	8:40 – 9:20 am	Demonstration
647	Beiling Xiao	Northern Illinois University	Wednesday	8:40 – 9:20 am	Scholarly Paper
291	Gary Larson	Wheaton College	Wednesday	9:40 – 10:20 am	Scholarly Paper
233	Christopher McCullough	DePaul University	Wednesday	10:40 – 11:20 am	Scholarly Paper

