

# MAIR

## WINTER 2018 NEWSLETTER



### The Spirit of MAIR

My grandfather taught me many things and because of his limited schooling most of them came by way of life lessons, many I'm reminded of often. After graduating with my bachelor's degree, he told me, "Whatever you do, take pride in it and do the best you can."

Working with the MAIR Executive Committee to plan MAIR 2017 brought me back to this conversation I had with him 12 years ago. The opportunities that have come out of our group and the comradery we enjoy each year further affirms that his advice was on point. We each take pride in the work we do and readily share so we can all achieve more. We are an active group with an array of backgrounds and experiences.

As you plan your professional development for 2018, remember the value of MAIR and consider contributing by presenting and assisting the Executive Team with planning. This organization needs your help to provide quality programming and further our role within higher education.

**Eric Atchison**, President



### MAIR / AIR Update

At the 2017 Forum, AIR staff held a meeting with affiliate organization (AO) leaders to discuss current and future collaborations.

Current collaborations between AIR and AOs include:

1. Scholarship/travel grants for attending the Forum
  - AIR Forum Travel Grants
  - MAIR Best Presentation automatic acceptance to present at Forum
  - AIR Forum AO meeting space/time at the Forum
2. Publicity through AIR Website and e-messaging
3. Resources for conference planning, marketing, and questions.

Future collaboration ideas include bringing AIR leaders as a plenary or workshop leader to state meetings and the ability to share quality sessions from Forum with AOs. We look forward to increasing our connections with AIR and its network of affiliates. Check out the [AIR website](#) for more information.

**Laura Damm**, Immediate Past President



**The Mississippi Association for Institutional Research (MAIR)** is composed of institutional research professionals at Mississippi's 2-year and 4-year postsecondary institutions.

*Dedicated to advancing the field of institutional research in the State of Mississippi and beyond, the organization seeks to serve, and foster cooperation among, professionals from postsecondary educational institutions and agencies whose interests include management, research, policy analysis, and planning.*

### MAIR 2018 Conference

If you or anyone you know is interested in presenting, please contact Carley Dear. More information about the conference will be released via the MAIR listserv.

**Carley Dear**

MAIR Vice President & Program Chair  
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601-857-3357



Vice President Eric Atchison presents certificates of appreciation to Treasurer Shemeka McClung and Member-at-Large Amy Cappleman for their service on the MAIR Executive Committee.

## MAIR OFFICERS 2017-18

**President:** Eric Atchison

**Past President:** Laura Damm

**Vice President:** Carley Dear

**Treasurer:** Shemeka McClung

**Secretary:** Mitzi Norris

**Member at Large:** Emily Dabney

**Member at Large:** Margaret Dixon

**Webmaster:** Eric Atchison



### Treasurer's Report

**Shemeka McClung, Treasurer**

Balance as of 11/28/17: \$15,101.15

### Research & Practice in Assessment:

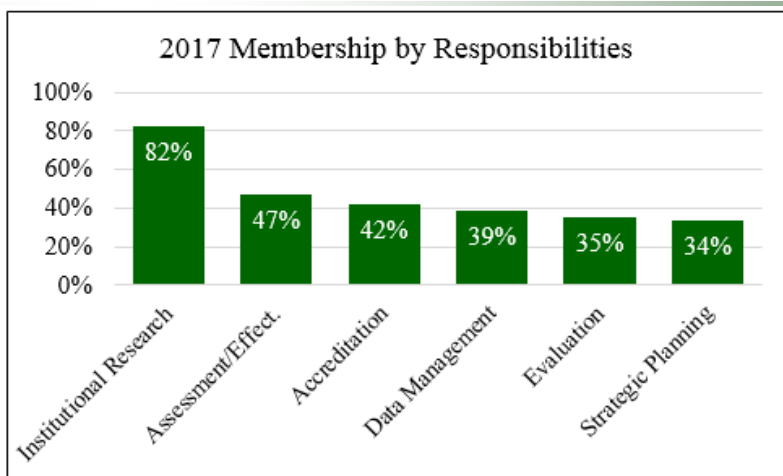
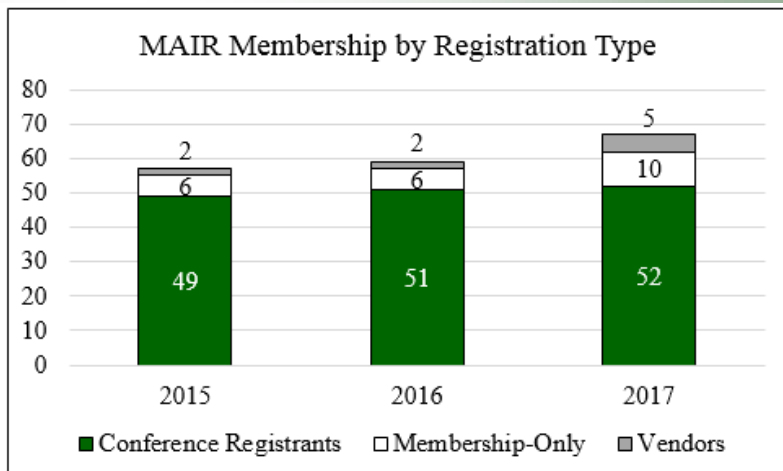
Call for reviewers/editorial staff

*Research & Practice in Assessment* is an online, peer-reviewed journal focusing on higher education assessment. RPA welcomes manuscript submissions at any time from scholars and practitioners engaged in assessment work. If you are interested in becoming more involved with RPA as a reviewer or editorial staff member, please contact **Katie Busby**, RPA editor at [editor@rpajournal.com](mailto:editor@rpajournal.com).



President Laura Damm, Past President Lee Skinkle and Member-at-Large Andrew Garner are ready to get MAIR 2017 started!

## MAIR by the Numbers



Note: Members select any responsibilities that are applicable to them during the registration process.



President Laura Damm presents Elizabeth Edwards with the 2017 Unsung Hero Award.



President Laura Damm presents Ken Thompson with the Best Presentation Award for 2016.

### MAIR Member Institutions

Alcorn State University  
Coahoma Comm. College  
Copiah-Lincoln Comm. College  
Delta State University  
East Central Comm. College  
East MS Comm. College  
Hinds Comm. College  
Holmes Comm. College  
Itawamba Comm. College

Jackson State University  
MS Comm. College Board  
Meridian Comm. College  
Millsaps College  
MS College  
MS Institutions of Higher Learning  
MS State University  
MS University for Women  
MS Valley State University  
Northeast MS Community College

Northwest MS Comm. College  
Pearl River Comm. College  
Rust College  
Southern Arkansas University  
Southwest Baptist University  
Tougaloo College  
University of MS Medical Center  
University of MS  
University of Southern MS



# MAIR 2018 Annual Conference



## MAIR 2018 Announcement

I am excited to announce that we will be meeting in **Tupelo, MS April 5th-8th, 2018!** The Tupelo Convention and Visitor's Bureau describes the town by looking at its history and great opportunities for tomorrow: "Tupelo's history is the story of American originals and original Americans – a story that crosses boundaries and bonds people together. It's a story of music and melody, of hard work and ingenuity, and, of course, it's a story of originality." I think Tupelo is kind of like MAIR. We have true 'originals' in MS's Institutional Research and Effectiveness community that cross boundaries of public and private institutions, four-year and two-year schools, and we bond people together to further education in Mississippi. We, too, have many data stories that sound like music and melody that tell of the hard work and ingenuity of our institutions.

When you are in Tupelo, I hope that you will take advantage of the networking opportunities with the Institutional Research and Effectiveness community as well as with the visitors we are inviting to join us this year. In order to engage each other in data conversations that we have at our institutions, we are encouraging practitioners and graduate students to submit poster presentations at our conference this year. These posters and our vendors will be presented during the networking reception on Thursday night.

This year we are inviting AIR to present IPEDS workshops on Wednesday and Thursday morning covering Student Financial Aid, Human Resources, and Finance. We will offer multiple full-day options for Thursday in case travel budgets are too lean to stay the night. The planning committee has some exciting presentations in the works... I can't wait to share with you all of the details! Please join us in Tupelo! For more information, see the MAIR website ([www.mair-ms.org](http://www.mair-ms.org)).

**Carley Dear**, Vice President & 2018 Program Chair

## IR/IE News & Notes

**CLCC:** **Tiffany Perryman** is the Interim Director of Institutional Effectiveness.

**EMCC:** **Laura Damm** led a session at the 2017 AIR Forum titled '*Leveraging Attendance Data for Improved Student Success*'

**IHL:** **Eric Atchison** has begun a three-year term on the National Postsecondary Education Cooperative - IPEDS. NPEC-I is responsible for developing a research and development agenda for IPEDS.

**SEBC:** **Scott Carson** was elected President in May 2017 with the inauguration held on August 3, 2017.

**UM:** **Christy Isom** was hired as the administrative coordinator. **Katie Busby** and **Lynne Crosby** (APSU) presented a pre-conference workshop, '*Strategies for Effectively Managing SACSCOC Accreditation*' and **Katie Busby** and **Margaret Walden** presented the concurrent session, '*Helping the Student to Become the Master*' at SAIR in Fort Worth, TX.

**UMMC:** **Mitzi Norris** was presented with the Joanne Olsen Award for Mission Driven Excellence from the University of Mississippi Medical Center, Office of Academic Affairs.

Send updates for the next edition of IR/IE News & Notes to [eatchison@mississippi.edu](mailto:eatchison@mississippi.edu).

