

OAIRP NEWS

January 17, 2005

Volume 1, Issue 1

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UPCOMING EVENTS

- OAIRP 2005 Spring Meeting
Monday, April 25
Marcum Conference Center
Miami University
- 2005 Annual AIR Forum
May 29-June 1
San Diego, CA
- OAIRP Group Meeting at the Forum
Tentatively Scheduled for Monday, May 30 from 5-5:40 at an as yet to be determined bar
- OAIRP 2005 Fall Meeting
Friday, October 21
Faculty Club
The Ohio State University
- OAIRP 2006 Spring Meeting
Friday, April 21
Kent State University
- 2006 Annual AIR Forum
June 10-14
New Orleans, LA
- OAIRP 2006 Fall Meeting
Friday, October 13
The Blackwell Inn
The Ohio State University
- 2007 Annual AIR Forum
June 2-6
Kansas City, MO

Reflections of a Past OAIRP President

I was honored to serve as OAIRP's President in 2003-04. Congratulations to 2004-05 President Julie Carpenter-Hubin and the new and returning members of the Executive Committee!

Julie asked me to reflect on my experience as President of OAIRP. With the help of the Executive Committee, we organized two excellent conferences with first rate speakers presenting a variety of topics of interest to our diverse membership. Although I was not personally able to attend this past May, I heard good reports about our annual gathering at AIR. Despite the fact we did not meet face to face, we were able to accomplish these tasks via e-mail and occasional phone calls.

Toward the end of my term as President, we began to discuss potential changes in the way the OAIRP leadership functions. We began to examine (or more appropriately, re-examine) the roles and responsibilities of the officers and other members of the Executive Committee. Julie and the current Executive Committee have agreed to continue this task during the current year and I know they will rise to the challenge.

Again, thank you all for your confidence in electing me and a special thank you to the 2003-04 Executive Committee for your support. I look forward to my continued involvement with OAIRP.

Sincerely,

Pete Teitelman
Director of Planning and Research
College of Mount St. Joseph
2003-04 OAIRP President

OAIRP Best Paper Competition and Process

By Robert Calloway

The 2004-2005 Executive Committee of the Ohio Association for Institutional Research and Planning (OAIRP) is in the process of implementing a "Best Paper" competition. The purpose of the "Best Paper" competition is to encourage OAIRP members to write about issues germane to the profession. The winner's paper will be forwarded to the Association for Institutional Researchers (AIR) and he or she will be provided an opportunity to present the Paper at the AIR Annual Forum.

The general process for the OAIRP Best Paper Competition will be as follows:

- Request for papers to be submitted will be sent out in June/July;

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OAIRP Best Paper Competition and Process (continued from page 1)

- The papers will be collected until the established deadline August/September;
 - A sub-committee/volunteers will review the papers and select a winner;
 - The winner will be announced at the OAIRP Fall Conference; and
- The paper will be submitted to AIR for inclusion in the May/June Forum.

The specific criteria for the selection of the “Best Paper” still need to be developed along with the development of request for proposal and communication plan. If you are interested in assisting with the development of the criteria, request for proposal, and communication plan, please contact Robert Callaway at (440) 366-7377 or rcallawa@lorainccc.edu.

NOTES & QUOTES

JUST A REMINDER

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PROPERLY. IF YOU

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RESPONSE GOES

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MEMBERS OF THE

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MORE APPROPRIATE

TO REPLY ONLY TO

THE SENDER,

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FILL IN THE

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MANUALLY.

Feedback Survey Analysis: The Fall 2004 Meeting of the Ohio Association for Institutional Research and Planning

By John Nutter

Summary of results:

- ✦ Overall, the thirty-three respondents reported substantial satisfaction with the arrangements of the conference, including geography, convenience, and amenities.
 - ✦ “The opportunity to network with others” was the one area identified as needing improvement. This is also reflected in the respondents’ comments.
 - ✦ Presentations were generally regarded as interesting and well presented, while they differed somewhat in day-to-day usefulness.
- There is some desire to adjust the time/day, as reflected in comments.

Introduction

This isn’t a full-blown formal analysis. Anyone who wants to do that is welcome to the data set. Besides, just about any OAIRP member ought to be able to look at the tables below and draw her/his own conclusions anyway. So there.

Methodology

A survey was developed to assess the effectiveness of the Fall 2004 meeting of the Ohio Association for Institutional Research and Planning. It was deployed as a web survey, and conference attendees were invited to reply via e-mail. To save time, there was no security-validation to assure each respondent only answered the questionnaire once, but an examination of log-on addresses indicates that there were no duplicates. Tabulation was performed by John Nutter from the University of Toledo.

Results below are represented as summary statistics (mean and standard deviation), as they are generally homogeneous and there are few items that generated any substantial dispersion. Respondent comments are presented unedited.

Ideas

- ✦ To continue this OAIRP initiative toward improvement, this survey should be refined, and then fielded at future meetings. This will include an overall assessment of the set of presentations
- ✦ We might create future surveys as scannable, and distribute and collect them at the end of the meeting.

Summary Results

Conference Arrangements

Item	N	Mean	SD
The registration process was easy	33	6.4	.79
The geographic location of the conference was convenient	33	6.2	.71
From the directions provided, I could easily get to the conference	33	5.7	1.3
The conference facilities were comfortable	33	6.2	.81
The length of the conference was appropriate	33	5.7	1.3
The selection of snacks and drinks was good	33	6.5	.83
The food provided was good	33	6.6	.66
There was ample opportunity to network with others	33	4.6	1.2
There was ample time for the council meetings	33	6.0	1.8
The scheduling of the conference was well organized	33	6.0	1.0

Presentation: Elizabeth Stasny, “{Non-sampling errors in survey samples: What are they and how do we deal with them?”

Item	N	Mean	SD
I learned a lot	33	5.9	.86
This presentation helped me think about the work I do	32	5.9	.98
I can use the information from this presentation in my	33	5.4	1.3
The presentation was understandable	33	6.5	.83
The presentation was given at the right level (not too	33	6.2	.83
I found this presentation interesting	32	6.3	.81
I learned a lot	16	5.3	1.4

Respondent Comments

I wish we could manage a little more time for networking and a roundtable to share issues, concerns, etc. with our peers. this may not be possible, given the time frame, etc. Perhaps we could set aside a specific session for roundtable ideas selected ahead of time (maybe the last concurrent session). Or perhaps we could do that once a year, and fill up the concurrent sessions as usual the other meeting.

Set date, place, and content much further in advance.

Ask elected council reps to more actively facilitate council meetings.

Provide an executive committee member to open each session and introduce the presenter.

Develop a program for welcoming new members to the association. Identify new members in advance of their first conference. Get an executive committee member to greet each new member and introduce him or her to a number of other OAIRP members.

Consider returning to a practice of the OAIR/OCCUP era: Thursday night dinner with a very senior speaker from Ohio higher education (OBR executive, legislative leader, governor's education advisor, college or university president, ex-Ohio leader now serving in another state,

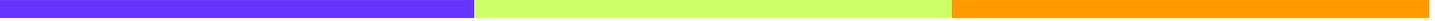
**Professional Development—
We need Your Input!**

To plan the most effective OAIRP activities, the executive committee needs to hear from you. What professional development activities would you like to participate in at OAIRP meetings?

Near the end of January, OAIRP members will receive an e-mail invitation to respond to a survey that will help guide planning for OAIRP conferences and activities. This survey will explore not only specific topics, e.g. analyzing NSSE data, but also explore your preferences for the manner of delivery,

e.g. a half day seminar the day preceding a meeting, etc. When the e-mail arrives, take your finger off the delete key and let us know what you think.

Together, we can continue to improve ourselves and our organization!



Feedback Survey Analysis: The Fall 2004 Meeting of the Ohio Association for Institutional Research and Planning (continued)

The food was very good and very abundant. The facility was comfortable and easy to find. The presentations were informative and appropriate. As a relative newcomer to IR I truly enjoy the networking and am thankful for the information presented at OAIRP conferences.

For our college, at least, assessment, institutional effectiveness measures and strategic planning are hot issues. I was happy to hear that assessment has been added to the AIR conference tracks. It would be interesting to hear what other institutions are doing relative to these topics at the state level as well.

I would suggest a change in format. For the FALL MEETING, begin with the opening session/main speaker(9:00-10:45). Next, have two concurrent sessions(11:00-12:20). Move the start of lunch back to about 12:30. Lunch would be followed by the business meeting, council meetings, closing comments and end by 2:30 or 3:00.

For the SPRING MEETING, begin with the opening session-main speaker(9:00-10:45). Next, have two concurrent sessions(11:00-12:00). Lunch from 12:15-1:00 followed by a very brief business meeting or council meetings 1:00-1:20. Then 2 concurrent sessions from 1:30 to 2:30 or 2:45.

I feel that most of the time the business and council meetings go way longer than necessary. Also, holding OAIRP meetings on Fridays is fine, but I think we should expect to arrive home by 5:00 on a Friday evening vs. 6:30 or 7:00 pm. Another possibility is to retain the current format, but hold the meeting on a Thursday. As you might sense, I dislike arriving home that late on a Friday evenings and having it conflict with family and other weekend plans. I am just trying to find ways to cut down on the weekend intrusions that all or most of us experience. Thanks for listening.

The morning session was helpful. Afternoon session was not appropriate to my discipline. She delivered a nice presentation, just not applicable for some of us. A description or objectives given to attendee's to help them select which concurrent session was appropriate would be helpful.

It would be nice to have sessions that are "here's what we're doing at (blank) university/college" in nature so that others can benefit from sharing new ideas. Also, it would be nice to have an organized get-together the evening before for those that come the night before. It's another networking opportunity.

We hope you enjoyed this edition of the OAIRP newsletter! If you would like to contribute an article or have suggestions for improving the quality or usefulness of the newsletter, please let us know. Write to Julie Carpenter-Hubin at carpenter-hubin.16@osu.edu.