NCAIR

Newsletter

NCAIR Summer Drive-In, July 23, 2004

Carol Gosselin

The North Carolina Association for Institutional Research will hold its annual summer drive-in conference at SAS Cary Training Center at SAS Institute World Headquarters in Cary on Friday, July 23, 2004 from 9AM to 3:15 PM. My thanks go to fellow NCAIR committee members, Brian Rolfe and Alton Rucker, and to Susan Walsh and Jerry Oglesby from the Education division at SAS Institute, for all their work on the conference.

This event is offered at no charge to current NCAIR members. Due to limited seating, attendance is limited to NCAIR members and pre-registration is required. If you wish to become a member of NCAIR, please contact Michael Hadley (mhadley@methodist.edu). Members may pre-register for this event by contacting Brian Rolfe at brolfe@sebts.edu. The deadline for pre-registration is July 16th.

In addition to the fine speakers provided by SAS Institute, SAS is offering attendees the opportunity to purchase SAS publications at a 20% discount on the day of the conference. A representative from the Publications division will be available during Registration to answer any questions and take orders. Payment can be made by cash, check, credit card, or purchase order.

To "shop" for SAS publications, go to http://www.sas.com/apps/pubscat/welcome.jsp. Publications ordered during the registration time will be available for pickup at the end of the conference.

Schedule

9:00 – 9:45 – Registration
9:45 – 10:00 – Welcome and Announcements
10:00 – 11:00 – SAS for IR, using Enterprise Guide
11:00 – 12:00 – SAS/STAT for SAS9
12:00 – 1:00 – Lunch (Provided by SAS Institute)
1:00 – 2:00 – ODS for Report Writing and the Web
2:00 – 3:00 – Querying a Data Warehouse using SQL
3:00 – 3:15 – Conference evaluation, publications pickup, and wrap-up

Drive-in Sessions

SAS for IR – Using Enterprise Guide

The purpose of this presentation is to show you how SAS Enterprise Guide (EG) can be used for all your teaching and research needs – whether you are an experienced SAS user or have never used SAS before. EG is a thin client interface to the SAS system that provides you transparent access to data, point-and-click usability, a customizable user interface, and easy export of your results to other software applications. This demonstration will introduce you to EG to explore and analyze your IR data and then use the output to write reports and give presentations about your findings.

Susan Walsh is a Higher Education Consultant in the Education Division at SAS. Her primary responsibilities involve working with professors using SAS in the classroom. Sue has been with SAS since 1996. Prior to joining the Education Division at SAS she was an instructor at various community colleges and an acquisition officer in the U.S. Air Force Reserve. Sue has an M.B.A. in Management from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, and an M.S. in Applied Statistics from Wright State University.

SAS/STAT for SAS9

Version 9 of SAS/STAT software brings you a variety of new tools for your statistical computing needs. The Power and Sample Size Application (PSS) provides sample size and power computations for a variety of analyses through a web interface. Experimental software in Version 9 moves SAS/STAT in new directions, including robust regression, which is supported by the ROBUSTREG procedure, and logistic regression for sample survey data, available with the SURVEYLOGISTIC procedure. In response to user requests, a number of procedures have been enhanced significantly. Conditional logistic regression is available in the LOGISTIC procedure through the new STRATA statement, and scoring of data sets is available through the new SCORE statement. New features in several other procedures are also discussed.

Phil Gibbs is a Senior Statistician in the Technical Support division of SAS. He supports the SAS/STAT and SAS/OR modules, focusing on linear/nonlinear mixed models and mathematical optimization. He has been with SAS Technical Support for 12 years and has used SAS software for over 20 years. Prior to joining SAS, he worked as a statistician with Pratt-Whitney Aircraft and Michelin Tire Corporation. He also worked as a statistical consultant to the EPA. Phil has a Bachelor's Degree from Vanderbilt University and an M.S. in Statistics from Clemson University.

ODS for Report Writing and the Web

This presentation will introduce you to the Output Delivery System and answer the question, "What is ODS?". You will see how to use ODS to generate HTML, PDF, and RTF files and how to make customizations to the file. You will also see how to use ODS to create OUTPUT data sets from the results of procedures.

Davetta Dunlap, a SAS Technical Training Specialist, is an experienced user of nearly 14 years. She has over seven years experience with SAS Technical Training and three years experience with Research and Development. Prior to joining SAS, Davetta worked in the Pharmaceutical and clinical trials Industry as an

Assistant Biostatistician. Davetta holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Statistics from North Carolina State University in Raleigh, North Carolina.

Querying a Data Warehouse using SQL

Data Warehousing is the process of making your operational data available to your business managers and decision support applications. SAS/ACCESS libname engines allow you to connect to any data in your warehouse, such as Oracle, and the SQL procedure in Base SAS allows you to efficiently query and manipulate that data. This presentation will show you how to connect to Oracle and process Oracle data within SAS.

Kathy Kiraly, the Data Access and Manipulation Curriculum Manager for the Education Division at SAS, is responsible for developing and teaching courses featuring DATA step programming, data access, and the SQL procedure. She has been an instructor since 1993 and a SAS user for over 18 years. Kathy is a SAS Certified Professional and holds a Bachelor of Science degree as well as a Master's Degree in Business Administration from East Carolina University.

Directions to SAS Institute

From I-40, exit on Harrison Avenue (Exit 287). From 40 East, turn right on Harrison Avenue at the end of the ramp. From 40 West, turn left. At the first light, turn left onto SAS Campus Drive. Our meeting will be in the Training Center, Building F, the second building on the right. Parking is directly behind Building F on the SAS campus. Go past the building and turn right at the next intersection to access this parking lot. Overflow parking is available in front of Building H (across SAS Campus Drive).

A map is available at http://support.sas.com/training/fyi/ca_map.pdf

Position Open

Director, Institutional Research and Assessment
Guilford College

This position represents the central point for collecting, organizing, interpreting, assessing, and communicating data about Guilford College to the college community and external agencies. Works closely with all academic and administrative departments on data collection functions, development of survey instruments, and data analysis. Is responsible for communicating data and reports to consortia, government and accreditation agencies that require them and for advising senior administrators on institutional effectiveness.

Required:
- Master's degree in higher education or management or equivalent
- Five or more years experience in higher education, preferably dealing with institution-level data
- Experience with collection and analysis of quantitative and/or qualitative data
- Knowledge of tools necessary for the collection and analysis of data, including Microsoft Access and Excel, a statistical package such as SPSS, and an information system such as Banner
- Experience with development of qualitative survey instruments

- Strong written and oral communication skills
- Ability to communicate quantitative and statistical concepts to a broad audience.

Preferred: Experience with college operations from academic and administrative perspectives.

Fred Devine, Director of Human Resources
E-mail: fdevine@guilford.edu
Voice: (336) 316-2134
Web: www.guilford.edu

Congratulations!

Dr. Sarah Carrigan has accepted an appointment as Director of Institutional Research at The University of North Carolina at Greensboro as of April 1, 2004. Sarah had been serving as Interim Director since October, 2003, and has been on the UNCG IR staff since 1998.

Adam Shick, Assistant Director of Institutional Research at Wake Forest University and Secretary of NCAIR, became a father when his wife Katy delivered a beautiful baby girl on June 28, 2004 at approximately 10:30 p.m. Her name is Ava Lucia Shick while she weighed eight pounds, eight ounces and is 21 inches long.

Remembering

Leonard R. Ballou, Sr.

Mr. Leonard R. Ballou, Sr. passed away at the Albemarle Hospital on Friday, April 23.

Leonard was one of the founding members of NCAIR. Along with Robert Ussery, he edited a 10th Anniversary History of NCAIR. He served as President of NCAIR in 1986-87 and shall be remembered with great fondness by long-time NCAIR members, for among other things, devising the installation ceremony for NCAIR Presidents and initiating the infamous essay contests that entertained members over the years. Leonard was a delight and an indomitable personality who brightened the lives of his colleagues immeasurably.

Charles I. Brown

Dr. Charles I. Brown, a founder of the Traditionally Black Colleges and Universities (TBCU) special interest group of institutional researchers, died of natural causes on, May 20, 2004. He was 83.

Charlie, as he was affectionately known, was a 29 year member of the Southern Association for Institutional Research, a recipient of the SAIR James R. Montgomery Outstanding Service Award, and formally recognized as a Distinguished Member of the SAIR. Dr. Brown was the first recipient of the Outstanding Service Award of the Association for Institutional Research (AIR), a founding member of the North Carolina Association for Institutional Research and later named a NCAIR Honorary Life Member. He was honored by the Traditionally Black Colleges and Universities SIG by naming the TBCU service award the Charles I. Brown Outstanding Service Award.

Known as the most competitive tennis player in SAIR, he was more widely recognized as the champion of the newcomer to institutional research. Dr. Brown was loved and respected as a compassionate and caring colleague and a friend and mentor to all, and there were many, who sought his help, encouragement and wisdom.

NCAIR 2005 - "The Supporting Role of Institutional Research"

Laura Boyles, Program Chair,
laboyles@davidson.edu

Mark your calendars and make plans to attend the **2005 NCAIR Conference** at the Sheraton Charlotte Airport Hotel, in Charlotte, North Carolina. The conference will be held from March 9 to March 11. Please visit the hotel website for more information about this quality hotel: http://www.starwood.com/sheraton/search/hotel_detail.html?propertyID=942. We were able to secure a great room rate, $69 per night for either a room with two double beds or one king. See pictures of the rooms on the website.

Our theme for the conference, The Supporting Role of Institutional Research, was selected to celebrate how IR assists most, if not all, areas of our institutions. Four important areas of support we hope to highlight at the conference are administration, accreditation process, strategic planning, and assessment. President Bobby Vagt from Davidson College has agreed to address conference attendees at the luncheon on Thursday. The program committee plans to announce the other general sessions in the next newsletter.

Please read the article in this newsletter regarding the requested topics for presentations. We hope you will consider presenting on either one of those topics or develop one of your own. A call for proposals will be included in the next newsletter. We hope you will participate by sharing your knowledge and skills.

Laura

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. Review this list and decide what you can present at our next conference.

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: what-to-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

NCAIR 2004 Minutes

North Carolina Association for Institutional Research
Annual Business Meeting
Sea Trails Resort, Sunset Beach, NC
February 18, 2004

President Ann Marie Bellamy called the meeting to order.

Laura Boyles presented the minutes of the March 27, 2003 business meeting, and asked for revisions or corrections. There were none, and the minutes were accepted.

Michael Hadley presented the Treasurer's report, and it was accepted as presented. Mr. Hadley also reported that there were 75 NCAIR members in attendance at the NCAIR/SCAIR/CCPRO joint conference.

President Bellamy explained dual NCAIR/CCPRO membership as it complicates revenue for the conference.

One travel grant was awarded for this year's NCAIR conference. The Travel Grant project will be continued. Three members received travel grants to attend the 2003 SAIR conference.

Sarah Carrigan, chair of the nominating committee, presented the nominations for NCAIR officers for 2003-2004. The nominees were:

Laura Boyles, President –Elect
Adam Shick, Secretary
Patricia Abell, Member-at-Large (Community Colleges)
Alton Rucker, Member-at-Large (Public 4-year)

All nominees were elected to office and were then installed by Sarah Carrigan.

Ann Marie Bellamy was installed as the President for 2003-2004 and Sarah Carrigan presented her with the President's Medallion.

Ann Marie Bellamy presented Sarah Carrigan with a plaque in recognition of her service as Program Chair/President/Past President.

Ann Marie Bellamy presented Carol Gosselin with a plaque in recognition of her service as newsletter editor/communications coordinator.

Pat Abell reported members signing up for the mentor program at the newcomer's session.

The 2004 "Drive-in" and 2005 NCAIR conference were discussed briefly and initial requests were made for volunteers and ideas for both.

President Bellamy adjourned the meeting.

Minutes submitted by Adam Shick, Secretary

NCAIR Executive Minutes
NCAIR Executive Committee Minutes, 2-18-2004
Sunset Beach, NC

Attendance: Pat Abell, Ann Marie Bellamy, Laura Boyles, Michael Hadley, Brian Rolfe, Alton Rucker, Petula Satterfield, Adam Shick

Meeting called to order by President Ann Marie Bellamy.

Laura Boyles presented the minutes from the 7/25/2003 meeting. Michael Hadley moved to approve the minutes and Pat Abell seconded the motion.

Treasurers Report: Michael Hadley presented the treasurer's report.
It was decided that those who were unable to attend due to the weather would be issued a refund (not including the membership fee).

Mr. Hadley also reported his research on NCAIR's tax status: NCAIR does not have to pay taxes because the annual revenue is less than $20,000.

Old/New Business:

1. The use of travel grants to attract and maintain membership and conference attendance is discussed (particularly with regard to those individuals new to institutional research and those IR offices whose budgets may not otherwise allow attendance at the conference). Laura Boyles made a motion to create a committee to modify NCAIR's travel grant guidelines. Laura Boyles will head the committee which also includes Michael Hadley, Pat Abell and Rob Springer.

2. Membership Committee. President and Treasurer co-chair membership committee and will confirm membership roster.

3. Brian Rolfe will assume responsibility for the newsletter.

4. Michael Hadley indicates that NCAIR should consider taking necessary steps so that members can use credit cards to pay for conference. It is suggested that rather than renting the credit card machine, the option to pay with credit card be made available only when pre-paying (cards will not be accepted at the registration desk). The use of a payment service (such as "PayPal") is also suggested.

5. Ann Marie Bellamy indicates that SAS, in particular, was a very generous sponsor. Michael Hadley explains that all vendors will receive thank you letters and a list of participants. Rob Springer will send these letters for the 2004 conference (this task will normally be done by the Past-President).

6. Carol Gosselin, Alton Rucker, and Brian Rolfe will organize the "Drive-in" committee.

7. A discussion regarding the split of the conference profit for the NCAIR/CCPRO membership overlap included vendor and new member acquisition. The committee decided to follow the split discussed and agreed to in the planning committee minutes.

8. The location of future conferences is discussed. It is suggested that at future NCAIR conferences, the location of the following year's conference be announced. This issue is to be discussed at the summer "Drive-in."

Laura Boyles is looking at Charlotte and suggests investigating the Hilton near UNC-Charlotte for the 2005 NCAIR conference.

President Ann Marie Bellamy adjourns the meeting.

Minutes submitted by Adam Shick, Secretary