



## The Electronic Newsletter of the Association for Institutional Research (e-AIR)

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Serving Institutional Research Professionals and Those Engaged in Management Research, Policy Analysis & Planning Since October 22, 1986

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**The newsletter welcomes news items related to management research, policy analysis and planning; persons changing jobs or retiring; requests for help or suggestions from readers; announcements of professional meetings and conferences; comments about recent publications; abstracts of papers which authors are willing to share; job announcements; philosophical and/or humorous thoughts; and more. This online publication is available free to anyone interested in institutional research.**

*If you wish to subscribe, change your subscription address, or unsubscribe, go to <http://www.airweb.org/page.asp?page=133> If you would like to submit articles, requests or information for consideration and inclusion in the newsletter, please contact Marne Einarson, Editor, at: ([mke3@cornell.edu](mailto:mke3@cornell.edu)).*

*Persons seeking jobs in institutional research, planning, or policy analysis should plan to check the AIR web page every couple of days for new positions. Point your browser to the following URL: <http://airweb.org> (look under "Jobs").*

*For further information regarding the Association for Institutional Research, contact Randy Swing, Executive Director, AIR, Suite 211, 1435 Piedmont Drive, Tallahassee, FL 32308; Telephone: 850-385-4155, Fax: 850/385-5180 or via e-mail: ([rswing@airweb.org](mailto:rswing@airweb.org)).*

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## Announcements & Information

### AIR Alert #36, Update 1

AIR Alert #36, Update 1 describes new and revised institutional disclosure requirements, many of which became effective August 2008 when the Higher Education Opportunity Act (HEOA) was signed into law. The Update is posted on the AIR Alert Web site (<http://www.airweb.org/?page=358>).

Coordinated by the Higher Education Data Policy Committee. All opinions expressed herein do not necessarily reflect the official position of the Association for Institutional Research.

Valerie Martin Conley  
HEDPC Committee Chair

### Comments Sought for Postsecondary Education Quick Information System

The Federal Register of April 28, 2009, contains a request for comments on a request by the Institute of Education Sciences for an extension of the current Office and Management and Budget approval of the Quick Response Information System (QRIS). Comments are due by **May 28, 2009** (<http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2009/pdf/E9-9655.pdf>).

The National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) Quick Response Information System (QRIS) consists of the Fast Response Survey System (FRSS) and the Postsecondary Education Quick Information System (PEQIS). FRSS primarily conducts surveys of the elementary/secondary sector (districts, schools) and public libraries.

PEQIS conducts surveys of the postsecondary education sector. FRSS and PEQIS provide information that is needed quickly and that cannot be collected through traditional NCES surveys, either because the topic of interest is not covered by current surveys or because of time constraints.

The document at [http://edicsweb.ed.gov/edics\\_files\\_web/03965/Att\\_QRIS%20System%20OMB%20Feb%202009%20SECTION%20A.doc](http://edicsweb.ed.gov/edics_files_web/03965/Att_QRIS%20System%20OMB%20Feb%202009%20SECTION%20A.doc) describes the general scope of the surveys, their quick turnaround time, their length, size of sample, sample design, and some typical topics. Each individual survey has a separate, abbreviated, approval process.

## AAUP Faculty Compensation Survey 2008-09

“On the Brink: The Annual Report on the Economic Status of the Profession, 2008-09” is available on the AAUP Web site, or a print version may be ordered through the AAUP online store at <http://www.aaup.org/Forms/Store/cataloguepubs.htm> (scroll down for the single copy of the March-April issue of *Academe*). Custom peer reports of salary data are available through our survey Web site at (<https://research.aaup.org/fcs/default.aspx>). We also have a complete institutional dataset available in Excel for those who would like to do their own analysis. This provides figures with greater precision as well as for all ranks. The dataset is \$375 for participating institutions and \$450 for non-participants.

Our “Corrections and Additions” listing will be published in the July-August *Academe*. Data collection for that published listing is now closed. However, corrected data can be made available almost immediately at any time during the year for peer reports, upon request.

With summer approaching, we are already thinking about next year’s survey. If you know that the contact person or other information about your institution will be changing, please send an e-mail to [aaupfcs@aaup.org](mailto:aaupfcs@aaup.org). You can also call (202) 737-5900 ext. 118 for assistance, 10:00 am to 4:00 pm Eastern Time during business days.

If you will be attending the AIR Forum in Atlanta, please stop by the AAUP session, currently scheduled for Tuesday, 2:15-3:00 pm. We would appreciate your feedback on the survey, and we may have some new ideas to run by you.

As always, thank you for participating in our annual survey.

AAUP Research Office  
John Curtis, Director of Research and Public Policy  
Michael Kinsella, Research Assistant  
[aaupfcs@aaup.org](mailto:aaupfcs@aaup.org)

## Changing Scene

This portion of the newsletter is devoted to keeping you informed about changes among our colleagues such as moves to new positions and/or institutions, newly hired colleagues, professional recognition honors, retirements, deaths, etc. To include an announcement in “The Changing Scene,” send a note with the key facts to Marne Einarson ([mke3@cornell.edu](mailto:mke3@cornell.edu)).

The National Student Clearinghouse has hired **Edward J. Torpy** as its assistant director of research services. Mr. Torpy began using SPSS Statistics software over 20 years ago and has spent the last six years as a contract trainer for SPSS. He begins his new position at the Clearinghouse May 26, 2009.

**Donald Quirk** writes: I’m taking early retirement from my position as Director of the Office of Institutional Research and Planning at McHenry County College at the end of this week. I want to thank all of my I-AIR colleagues for the professional support and the fellowship you have shared with me over the last 16 years. While I will no longer be with the college, I do plan to remain involved in professional research activities. For those who keep me in your contacts phone book, I can still be reached, either on my cell at (312) 505-1498 or by email at [dquirkie@gmail.com](mailto:dquirkie@gmail.com). Good bye and best wishes to all of you.

## **Publications**

### **NCES Publications**

#### **New Indicators of Career/Technical Education Coursetaking: Class of 2005**

The National Center for Education Statistics within the Institute of Education Sciences has released the report "New Indicators of Career/Technical Education Coursetaking: Class of 2005."

This Statistics in Brief uses data from the 2005 High School Transcript Study (HSTS) to examine the career/technical education (CTE) coursetaking of public high school graduates using new indicators of participation. These indicators examine the extent to which students participate in CTE and in specific occupational areas (such as agriculture and business) broadly (many students earning credits) versus deeply (many credits earned by participating students).

First, the brief looks at student participation across the three main CTE curriculum areas (family and consumer sciences education, general labor market preparation, and occupational education). Second, the brief looks at coursetaking within occupational areas, including occupational concentration. Finally, the brief examines coursetaking across occupational areas, including the areas that students tend to combine.

Findings indicate that high school graduates' use of the CTE curriculum is generally broad rather than narrow in the sense that most (70 percent) earn credits in both occupational education and either general labor market preparation or family and consumer sciences education, and most (58 percent) earn credits in more than one occupational area. Five occupational areas had the broadest participation (i.e., had the greatest number of graduates earning credits in the area): business; communications and design; manufacturing, repair, and transportation; consumer and culinary services; and computer and information sciences). The occupational areas with the deepest levels of participation were manufacturing, repair, and transportation; agriculture and natural resources; health sciences; and construction and architecture. Finally, some occupational areas were more likely than others to be taken together. For example, marketing coursetakers were more likely than other occupational coursetakers to earn credits in business.

To view, download and print the report as a PDF file, please visit:

<http://nces.ed.gov/pubsearch/pubsinfo.asp?pubid=2009038>

#### **Issue Tables: A Profile of Military Servicemembers and Veterans Enrolled in Postsecondary Education in 2007-08**

This set of Issue Tables describes military servicemembers and veterans in undergraduate education at institutions eligible for Title IV federal funding for financial aid. The data come from 2007-08, just prior to the Post-9/11 Veterans Educational Assistance Act's implementation. The purpose is to provide baseline data with which to compare undergraduate enrollment and student characteristics of current military undergraduates with their future counterparts who will enroll in postsecondary education under the New GI Bill.

To view, download and print the report as a PDF file, please visit:

<http://nces.ed.gov/pubs2009/2009182.pdf>

## Publication Opportunities

### Journal of Developmental Education Call for Manuscripts

The *Journal of Developmental Education*, the official Journal of the National Association for Developmental Education, invites the submission of original manuscripts for publication consideration. Manuscripts are accepted year round and considered on an ongoing basis.

The *Journal's* content focuses on basic skills education, developmental education activities, learning assistance, and counseling as they relate to at-risk students at the postsecondary level. Editorial emphasis is placed on manuscripts that relate theory to practice (i.e., teaching, learning, and student development) and studies that include evaluative results of implementation. Sample hot topics include: technology, P-16 initiatives (seamless education), and placement and assessment instruments. The *Journal* also publishes manuscripts that expand current knowledge or have a clearly demonstrated impact on the field.

Author's Guidelines are available upon request from the Journal or may be found at the National Center's Web site ([www.ncde.appstate.edu](http://www.ncde.appstate.edu)).

Send manuscripts to "Office Manager" ([ashere@appstate.edu](mailto:ashere@appstate.edu)) and requests for additional information to: Editor; *Journal of Developmental Education*; National Center for Developmental Education; Appalachian State University; PO Box 32098; Boone, NC 28608; 828-262-6101; [calderswoodbj@appstate.edu](mailto:calderswoodbj@appstate.edu)

Evelyn Asher  
Publications Office Manager  
National Center for Developmental Education  
Appalachian State University  
[ashere@appstate.edu](mailto:ashere@appstate.edu)

## Research Requests

### Reminder about National Survey of Student Learning Outcomes Assessment

Earlier this spring the National Institute for Learning Outcomes Assessment (NILOA) sent its first annual survey to chief academic officers at all accredited two- and four-year colleges and universities in the United States. Earlier mailings were sent electronically, but NILOA recently sent a paper copy of the questionnaire to those who had not yet completed it. The survey is in its final stage and it is possible that the nature of some of the questions will prompt your chief academic officer to contact you or someone in your office for information.

This is just a reminder about the project which is based at Indiana University and the University of Illinois. A good response rate will make the findings useful to us all and I appreciate your support. For more information about NILOA, its National Advisory Panel, and funders, go to [www.learningoutcomesassessment.org](http://www.learningoutcomesassessment.org).

George D. Kuh  
Chancellor's Professor and Director  
Center for Postsecondary Research  
Indiana University  
[kuh@indiana.edu](mailto:kuh@indiana.edu)

### Recruiting Participants for Study of Gay and Lesbian Professional Staff in Higher Education

Dear Colleague,

I am a doctoral student at The University of North Carolina at Greensboro, under the mentorship of Dr. Deborah J. Taub, conducting dissertation research on workplace climate, disclosure, and job satisfaction of gay and lesbian professional staff in higher education.

For the purposes of my study, professional staff is defined as those individuals employed within a higher education institution whose primary role is not that of a student or a teaching faculty member. I am looking to draw from various professional organizations in order to capture as wide an array of different areas within higher education as possible.

It will take approximately 10-15 minutes of your time to complete an anonymous, online survey related to your workplace climate, degree of outness at work, and overall job satisfaction as a gay or lesbian professional staff member in a higher educational setting.

You can access the survey here:

[https://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=xVzUXiXxubcsR4ld3Eb6yw\\_3d\\_3d](https://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=xVzUXiXxubcsR4ld3Eb6yw_3d_3d)

Please feel free to pass this research request along to other higher education professionals as appropriate.

Brad Johnson  
Ph.D. Candidate, Higher Education Administration  
The University of North Carolina at Greensboro  
[rbjohnso@uncg.edu](mailto:rbjohnso@uncg.edu)

## Meetings and Events

### The Forum Countdown is On!

The 49<sup>th</sup> AIR Forum is less than two weeks away, final preparations are underway, and our local hosts are ready to welcome us to Atlanta. Are you ready? Use the following checklist to help you prepare for the Forum.

- We really need facilitators and volunteers this year. There are so many excellent presentations to choose from and you'll get the best seat in the house as a Session Facilitator. Sign up to facilitate a session or volunteer in another capacity at [www.airweb.org/forum09](http://www.airweb.org/forum09) under the *Volunteer* tab.
- Update the tunes on your iPod. You know you've been listening to the same 10 songs for months.
- Pack your power cord and mouse (and adapter if you are using a Mac and want to use the projector for your presentation) and don't forget to bring your Facebook/Twitter/MySpace password!
- Prepare and bring along 50 copies of your scholarly paper or supporting material for research-in-action and demonstration sessions. Double-sided, using a small font will make the luggage lighter! If you can in advance, please forward an electronic copy of your paper/presentation as an e-mail attachment with the subject line 2009 Forum Paper/Presentation for Web to: [Missy Wiggins](mailto:Missy.Wiggins@airweb.org) and we'll put it on the AIR Web site.
- Double check the PowerPoint presentation you just loaded on the computer to be sure it is all there.
- If you are not bringing your computer, print out your personalized scheduler (you will not be able to access it from the internet kiosk, since those computers will not have your cookie).
- Don't forget your phone charger.
- Leave an "away" message on your voice mail and e-mail.
- Pack comfortable shoes for walking around Atlanta.
- It will be warm in Atlanta – pack appropriately! Pack a sweater in case the meeting rooms are chilly.
- Pack your AIR membership pin.
- Don't forget your photo ID and e-ticket.

Best wishes for a safe and hassle-free journey to Atlanta, and we will see you soon!

Jennifer Brown  
2009 Forum Chair  
[jennifer.brown@umb.edu](mailto:jennifer.brown@umb.edu)

Sandi Bramblett  
2009 Local Arrangements Chair  
[sandi.bramblett@irp.gatech.edu](mailto:sandi.bramblett@irp.gatech.edu)

## Georgia Aquarium Offers AIR Discount

The Georgia Aquarium is offering all E-AIR subscribers, AIR Forum attendees, AIR members, and AIR employees (along with their friends and family) a special discount! For more information, go to [www.georgiaaquarium.org/airweb](http://www.georgiaaquarium.org/airweb).



Purchase your tickets online now, as the aquarium frequently sells out. This offer is not available at their Box Office, and the **offer expires 6/30/09**. For assistance, please call 404-581-4125.

Georgia Aquarium  
225 Baker St.  
Atlanta, GA 30313  
404-581-4125 – Phone  
404-581-4303 – Fax



ASSOCIATION FOR  
INSTITUTIONAL RESEARCH  
**49<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL FORUM**  
ATLANTA MAY 30 - JUNE 3, 2009



### **Track 6: Bright Lights! City Nights!**

You're a night owl, you say? When you're at a conference, you're the first one looking for a fun time? Whether it's jazz, trivia, or just people watching, Atlanta's Bright Lights and City Nights will give you a rockin' good time!

#### **May 30:**

**Time: Any time until 4:00 AM**

**Kenny's Alley at Underground Atlanta**

**50 Upper Alabama Street**

**Suite 007**

**Atlanta, Georgia 30303**

**Phone: 404-523-2311**

**Cover Charge: \$2.00 to enter the area; various clubs have different entrance fees**

Eight clubs, one BIG party! Kenny's Alley is located at Underground Atlanta, and features 8 bars and clubs, spanning tastes from an Irish Pub to Urban Music to Dance to an Upscale Nightclub. There's something for everyone at Kenny's Alley! Grab a drink and go club-hopping!

Ages: 21 and up

<http://www.underground-atlanta.com/nightlife/kennys-alley.html>

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#### **May 31:**

**7:00 PM - Midnight**

**Dailey's Doywnstairs**

**17 (Andrew Young) International Boulevard**

**Atlanta, Georgia 30303**

**Phone: 404.681.3303**

Dailey's Downstairs is a Martini and Cigar bar featuring unique cocktails and over 40 different cigars with a tasty light appetizer menu. Dailey's Downstairs is the only nightspot in downtown Atlanta with live jazz every night of the week. On May 31, guitarist Jason Salzman will provide the entertainment. If a martini bar isn't your thing, head up the steps for one of the best dinners in Atlanta. Dailey's has been an Atlanta tradition for over 20 years. One look at the dessert bar and you'll understand why!

Ages: 21 and up

[www.daileysrestaurant.com](http://www.daileysrestaurant.com)

**June 1:****Time: 8:30 PM – 11:30 PM****On the A.I.R.! with Rob Clark****Marriott Marquis - Imperial Ballroom****265 Peachtree Center Avenue****Atlanta, GA 30303**

There will be absolutely no need for you to leave the Marquis on Monday evening because we're bringing the entertainment to you! You're on the AIR with Rob Clark Entertainment! Join us after dinner at 8:30 p.m. in the Imperial Ballroom for an evening of fun and excitement! Rob Clark will be on hand to get the party started with Team Trivia (some questions tailored just for IR professionals), games, karaoke, dancing, etc. If it's fun, Rob will make it happen! Study your factoids, do Sudoku, practice your AIR guitar and put on your dancing shoes (or not)! Monday night, A.I.R. stands for **Atlanta Is Rockin'!** Cash bar available.

Ages: 21 and up

[www.robclarkdj.com](http://www.robclarkdj.com)

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**June 2:****7:00 PM****Chicago Cubs vs. Atlanta Braves****Turner Field****755 Hank Aaron Drive****Atlanta, GA 30315****Phone: 404-522-7630****Drive Time: 10 minutes south of the Marriott Marquis via MARTA****Cost: \$23.00 for tickets through AIR**

O.K., so this is a "repeat" from last month's column - but what a deal! AIR has reserved a block of tickets for Forum registrants and their guests. Watch this year's Forum host city take on next year's host city! The Braves Museum and Hall of Fame, also at Turner Field, features more than 600 Braves artifacts and photographs that trace the team's history from its beginnings in Boston (1871-1952) to Milwaukee (1953-65) to Atlanta (1966-present). Both the Braves Museum and Turner Field are open year-round and would make an awesome pre-game event for you, our honored guest!

Ages: All

[http://atlanta.braves.mlb.com/index.jsp?c\\_id=atl](http://atlanta.braves.mlb.com/index.jsp?c_id=atl)

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**June 3, 8:00 PM****The Decemberists at The Tabernacle****152 Luckie St NW****Atlanta, GA 30303****(404) 659-9022****Cost: \$27.50**

The Tabernacle building has a rich & storied history. Opened in 1910 as The Broughton Tabernacle, it was reinvented during the 1996 Centennial Olympic Games, when it was converted into a House of Blues club. Now, it's one of the coolest concert venues in Atlanta. On June 3, The Decemberists will be headlining! An indie rock band from Portland, OR, the band's songs range from upbeat pop to instrumentally lush ballads, and often employ instruments like the accordion, Hammond organ, Wurlitzer organ, and upright bass. A memorable way to wrap up your time at the Forum!

Ages: 21 and up

[www.decemberists.com](http://www.decemberists.com)

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So there you have it....six tracks, six great ways for you to enjoy your time in Atlanta. We can't wait to welcome you to this wonderful city! In the meantime, we are ready to serve you as you plan your trip. If you have any questions, please contact any of the members of the Atlanta Local Arrangements Team:

Andy Clark, Armstrong Atlantic State University - [Andy.Clark@armstrong.edu](mailto:Andy.Clark@armstrong.edu)  
Denise Gardner, University of Georgia - [gardnerd@uga.edu](mailto:gardnerd@uga.edu)  
Jonathan Gordon, Georgia Tech - [jonathan.gordon@oars.gatech.edu](mailto:jonathan.gordon@oars.gatech.edu)  
Lily Hwang, Georgia Gwinnett College - [lhwang@ggc.usg.edu](mailto:lhwang@ggc.usg.edu)  
Sean Mullins, North Georgia College and State University - [SMMullins@ngcsu.edu](mailto:SMMullins@ngcsu.edu)  
Alice Simpkins, Paine College - [simpkinsa@mail.paine.edu](mailto:simpkinsa@mail.paine.edu)  
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Sandi Bramblett, Local Arrangements Chair, Georgia Tech - [sandi@gatech.edu](mailto:sandi@gatech.edu)  
Jonathan Keiser, Local Arrangements Associate Chair and Honorary Georgian, Columbia College - [jkeiser@colum.edu](mailto:jkeiser@colum.edu)

### **Newcomers and Mentor/Mentee Gathering at the Forum**

If you are a Newcomer, would like to find a mentor or would like to serve as a Mentor, join us for this gathering on Sunday, May 31 from 4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. in Room M103-M105 located on the Marquis Level of the Atlanta Marriott Marquis. This is a great way to meet new people and expand your IR knowledge through a person-to-person connection. Advance registration is not necessary.

Crissie Grove  
AIR/NCES Postdoctoral Fellow  
[cgrove@thomasu.edu](mailto:cgrove@thomasu.edu)

### **Penn State Reception for IR Students and Faculty**

For IR students and faculty members attending the AIR Forum in Atlanta, please join us in the AIR President's Suite at the Marriott Marquis on Monday, June 1, 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm. Hosted by Penn State, this reception will be an opportunity to meet institutional research faculty and student colleagues from across the country and internationally.

I look forward to seeing you there.

Fred Volkwein  
Penn State University  
[volkwein@psu.edu](mailto:volkwein@psu.edu)

### **Gentle Reminder: Call for Proposals for NEAIR 2009 Conference**

Proposals are now being accepted for the 36th Annual North East Association for Institutional Research (NEAIR) Conference to be held November 7 – 10, 2009 at the Inner Harbor Sheraton in Baltimore, Maryland. The conference theme "Harbor in a Storm: Institutional Research in the Age of Accountability" should stimulate research, scholarship, and best practices on many topics relating to institutional research, planning, institutional effectiveness and student learning outcomes assessment.

Please consider sharing your knowledge and experience by submitting a proposal for a Contributed Paper, Poster, Workshare or Techshare session. We are also accepting proposals for a half- or full-day Pre-Conference Workshop.

The deadline for submitting a proposal is **June 17, 2009**. For more information about presentation formats or to submit your proposal, visit: <http://www.neair.org/proposals/?page=1606>.

Steve Thorpe  
2009 NEAIR Conference Program Chair  
[swthorpe@widener.edu](mailto:swthorpe@widener.edu)

Gayle Fink  
2009 NEAIR Associate Program Chair  
[gfink@usmd.edu](mailto:gfink@usmd.edu)

### **Call for Proposals for SAIR 2009 Conference**

The 36<sup>th</sup> Annual Southern Association for Institutional Research (SAIR) Conference will be held in Dallas, Texas from October 17-20, 2009, at the Dallas/Addison Marriott Quorum by the Galleria. Addison is one of the Dallas areas most popular destinations. There are more than 170 restaurants, many of which are within walking distance from the hotel. Dallas has many other fabulous attractions including the Frontiers of Flight Museum, The Water Tower Theatre, The Dallas Museum of Art, The Nasher Sculpture Garden, SMU's Meadows Museum, and Dealey Plaza, which includes the John F. Kennedy memorial.

The Proposal Submission site for the 2009 SAIR Conference is now open! We have seven track options and a variety of session formats. I am sure you will find a combination suitable to an idea you wish to share with us.

The deadline for submitting a proposal is June 15, 2009. For more information about our conference or to submit a proposal, please visit: <http://www.louisianau.com/sair>

Bernie Braun  
2009 SAIR Vice-President/Program Chair  
[bbraun@lsu.edu](mailto:bbraun@lsu.edu)

## Call for Proposals for RMAIR 2009 Conference

Proposals are now being accepted for the Rocky Mountain Association for Institutional Research (RMAIR) Conference to be held October 21-23, 2009, at the High Country Conference Center in beautiful Flagstaff, Arizona.

The deadline for submitting a proposal is **June 15, 2009**. For more information about presentation formats or to submit your proposal visit: <http://www.rmair.org/page.asp?page=3186>

For more information about the conference visit: <http://www.rmair.org/page.asp?page=1246>

Stephen Chambers  
Director of Institutional Research and Assessment  
Coconino Community College  
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## Society for College and University Planning 44<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference

**SCUP-44**  
**Values and Vision Create the Future**  
**July 18-22, Portland, OR**

Research and analysis, accreditation planning, trends in higher education, and integrated planning are topics of sessions and workshops at SCUP's annual, international conference this July in Portland, OR.

For more information about the conference visit: <http://www.scup.org/page/annualconf/44>

Kathy Benton  
Associate Director of Education and Product Development  
Society for College and University Planning  
[kathy.benton@scup.org](mailto:kathy.benton@scup.org)

## Call for Proposals for NERA 2009 Conference

The Northeastern Educational Research Association (NERA) will hold its 40<sup>th</sup> annual conference from October 21-23, 2009 at the beautiful Hartford Marriott Rocky Hill in Rocky Hill, CT. The deadline for conference proposal submission is **June 5<sup>th</sup>**.

For more information about NERA, our conference, and proposal submissions, please visit: <http://www.nera-education.org>

John W. Young  
Chair of the NERA Membership Committee  
[jwyong@ets.org](mailto:jwyong@ets.org)

## **Building a Community for Institutional Research in the UK and Ireland**

Sheffield Hallam University, Sheffield, UK, July 8-9, 2009

**Registration Deadline – Friday, June 19<sup>th</sup>, 2009**

Sheffield Hallam University invites you to the second major UK conference focusing on institutional research. While the conference is primarily about building an IR community in the UK and Ireland, we welcome delegates from around the world representing a variety of institutional research approaches and traditions from which we can all learn.

Following the receipt of a large number of high quality proposals, we have included a seventh parallel session in each time slot, giving an even greater choice and meeting the interests of a larger number of people. We have also added a fourth guest presenter – Professor Mantz Yorke, to the previously announced list of Professors Vic Borden, Glynis Cousin and Sir David Watson.

Further information about the conference and deadlines for registration can be found on our Web site: <http://extra.shu.ac.uk/irconference2009/>

Professor Ranald Macdonald  
2009 Conference Chair and Convenor  
Sheffield Hallam University  
[r.macdonald@shu.ac.uk](mailto:r.macdonald@shu.ac.uk)

## Professional Development

### AIR Foundations Institutes

#### Are you an IR Professional looking to enhance your skills?

It is time for you to use those year-end budget dollars on high level education and training. Join us at one of this summer's upcoming Institutes.

**Foundations I Institute:** The Practice of Institutional Research (Nashville, Tennessee: July 28 – August 1)

If you have been practicing IR for two years or less, you won't want to miss the Foundations I Institute. The Foundations I Institute will help you develop skills in the core areas of IR through challenging and supportive hands-on modules, informal discussions and social interactions.

**Foundations II Institute:** The Advanced Practice of Institutional Research (Detroit, Michigan: July 14 – 18)

Are you an IR veteran looking for the newest IR concepts, theories and best practices? The Foundations II Institute, designed for those moving toward senior leadership and administrative positions in IR, is the place for you.

To learn more about these premier Institutes, including module descriptions; event highlights; faculty bios; hotel and area details; and to register, visit us at [www.airweb.org/institutes](http://www.airweb.org/institutes).

Registration is open and filling up quickly, so be sure not to miss either of these exciting Institutes – and register now.

AIR members: don't forget to check out the Julia M. Duckwall Scholarship to cover your Institute registration fee. Please visit [www.airweb.org/duckwall](http://www.airweb.org/duckwall) for more information and to apply.

We look forward to your participation in one of AIR's upcoming Institutes.

## VSA Learning Outcomes Workshops: Save the Date!

The Voluntary System of Accountability (VSA) is conducting three summer workshops on the administration of the student learning outcomes instruments that are part of the College Portrait. The workshops will cover topics such as sampling strategies, student participation and motivation, and administration logistics. Representatives from the three testing agencies, ETS, ACT, and CAE, will be on hand to answer technical questions on the CAAP, CLA or MAPP. The workshops are funded through a grant from the Lumina Foundation.

The day-and-a-half workshops are free to VSA participating institutions and offered in three different locations. There is a limit of two representatives per institution per workshop. Space permitting, additional staff members and individuals from non VSA participating institutions may attend. There will be a \$300 registration fee for non VSA institutions. Online registration for the workshops will be available on the VSA website beginning June 5.

For more information please visit, [www.voluntarysystem.org](http://www.voluntarysystem.org), under the *Student Learning Outcomes* menu link.

### Workshop Dates and Locations:

*Baltimore, Maryland:* Monday, July 27 & Tuesday, July 28

*Milwaukee, Wisconsin:* Thursday, August 6 & Friday, August 7

*Phoenix, Arizona:* Tuesday, August 18 & Wednesday, August 19

Christine M. Keller  
VSA Executive Director  
[ckeller@aplu.org](mailto:ckeller@aplu.org)



## HERI Summer Research Training Institutes

The Higher Education Research Institute (HERI) at UCLA will have three research training institutes this summer. Registration for these institutes is now open!

The **CIRP Summer Institute** (August 12–14, 2009) enhances your ability to use CIRP data for assessment, campus decision-making, or for your own research. Newly designed for 2009, this year's CSI will focus on several content areas of the CIRP surveys and introduce the new CIRP factors in data analysis. The Institute is taught by expert instructors from the Higher Education Research Institute, including CIRP Director John Pryor, CIRP Assistant Director for Research Linda DeAngelo, HERI Associate Director of Data Management & Analysis Serge Tran, and HERI Director Sylvia Hurtado. Participants may register for one of two tracks, depending on SPSS familiarity. For more information and to register, visit <http://www.gseis.ucla.edu/heri/summerInstitute.php>

The **Diversity Research Institute** (August 6-7, 2009) provides a framework to assess the institutional climate for diversity, campus diversity practices, and student outcomes. Participants will engage in problem-solving around equity research methods and discuss critical policy analysis. The This Institute is facilitated by nationally-known experts in diversity; Sylvia Hurtado, director of the Higher Education Research Institute, and Mitchell Chang, HERI Affiliated Scholar and Professor of Higher Education. For more information and to register, visit <http://www.gseis.ucla.edu/heri/diversityInstitute.php>

In the **Research Methods for Critical Analysis of Quantitative Data Institute** (July 1-3, 2009) participants will learn to ask critical questions on equity issues and use techniques that have evolved to better understand inequities across the intersections of race, ethnicity, socioeconomic and immigration status, and institutional type. Institute directors are Sylvia Hurtado and Mitchell Chang. Two tracks are offered, one focused on multilevel modeling (instructor Marvin Titus) and the other on structural equation modeling (instructor Geoffrey Maruyama). For more information and to register, visit <http://www.gseis.ucla.edu/heri/dataInstitute.php>

You can also contact Leslie Hawkins at [Lhawkins@gseis.ucla.edu](mailto:Lhawkins@gseis.ucla.edu) or call HERI at 310.825.1925 for more information

John H. Pryor  
Director, Cooperative Institutional Research Program  
Higher Education Research Institute at UCLA  
[john.pryor@ucla.edu](mailto:john.pryor@ucla.edu)

## **Council on Law in Higher Education Offers Free Trial Memberships**

The Council on Law in Higher Education (CLHE), for a limited time, is providing free trial memberships for institutions. This is a rare chance to see why thousands of individuals are CLHE members.

In addition, AIR is pleased to announce that AIR members are entitled to receive a major discount on CLHE's popular new book "Annual Review of Higher Education Law & Policy." AIR members, when ordering the book and CD, should select the special CLHE membership discount.

To learn more about free CLHE membership and to join, please visit: <http://www.clhe.org/clhe/join/free-clhe-memberships>.

To order your copies of the Annual Review of Higher Education Law & Policy, please visit: <http://www.clhe.org/clhe/clhe-press/annual-review-2008>.

Order soon, copies are limited!

Daren Bakst, Esq  
President  
Council on Law in Higher Education  
[dbakst3@clhe.org](mailto:dbakst3@clhe.org)  
<http://www.clhe.org>

## Career Opportunities

### Immediate Job Opening at the AIR Executive Office: Associate Director for Federal Grants and Contracts

AIR Office ([air@airweb.org](mailto:air@airweb.org))

The Association for Institutional Research (AIR) has again won federal funding of over \$1.5 million and is seeking an **Associate Director** for Federal Grants and Contracts to provide daily oversight and leadership for this comprehensive face-to-face and online training in support of the Institutional Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS). The Associate Director will supervise 5 or more staff members in developing training materials and strategies as well as have oversight for a travel grant program. The Associate Director will recruit and manage a cohort of at least 50 institutional research (IR) professionals from around the country who serve as part-time consultants and trainers for delivering at least 22 meetings per year. Other responsibilities include serving on the senior leadership team for the Association, ensuring timely compliance of contract and grant deliverables, and overseeing quality control for final products and services.

#### Required Qualifications and Experience:

Significant experience managing an IR office, working knowledge of IPEDS, experience writing reports and managing budgets, successful project management, supervision of staff, and experience in public speaking and presentations.

#### Salary/Benefits:

Commensurate with experience. Excellent benefits package. Salary is competitive with campus IR Director/Associate Director positions.

#### How to Apply:

Please submit a resume and cover letter electronically through the submission process at [www.airweb.org/airjobs](http://www.airweb.org/airjobs). AIR will be conducting interviews in Tallahassee, Florida and at the AIR Annual Forum in Atlanta.

#### Job openings COMING SOON to the AIR Executive Office:

Associate/Assistant Director, Institutional Research ("IR for AIR")  
Project Manager, IPEDS Team  
Marketing and Online Media, IPEDS Team

## AIR Job Listing Summary

Missy Wiggins, AIR Office ([mwiggins@airweb.org](mailto:mwiggins@airweb.org))

Persons seeking jobs in institutional research, planning, or policy analysis should plan to check the AIR Job Listings web page (<http://www.airweb.org/?page=574>) every few days for new positions. Employers can submit job ads free of charge by using the online submission form found on the AIR Job Openings page (<http://www.airweb.org/?page=2>). For any questions about job ads, please contact Missy Wiggins by email ([mwiggins@airweb.org](mailto:mwiggins@airweb.org)) or phone (850-385-4155 ext. 100).

**RESEARCH & DATA INTEGRATION - Illinois Board of Higher Education** Springfield, **IL**

Deadline Date: June 1, 2009

**DIRECTOR - OFFICE OF INSTITUTIONAL RESEARCH - Idaho State University**, Pocatello, **ID**

Deadline Date: Open Until Filled

**DIRECTOR OF LEARNING ASSESSMENT - Harrisburg University** Harrisburg, **PA**

Deadline Date: Open Until Filled

**INSTITUTIONAL RESEARCH MANAGER - University of Washington** Seattle, **Wa**

Deadline Date: June 5, 2009

**DIRECTOR FOR INSTITUTIONAL EFFECTIVENESS - Tacoma Community College** Tacoma, **WA**

Deadline Date: June 15, 2009

**DIRECTOR OF ASSESSMENT AND ACADEMIC PLANNING - University of Wisconsin -Parkside**  
Kenosha, **WI**

Deadline Date: Open until filled. For best consideration, please apply by May 29, 2009

**ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR - Association for Institutional Research** Tallahassee, **FL**

Deadline Date: Open Until Filled

**PROGRAM DIRECTOR FOR POLICY ANALYSIS - American Association of Community Colleges**  
Washington, **DC**

Deadline Date: Open Until Filled

**DIRECTOR OF INSTITUTIONAL EFFECTIVENESS & RESEARCH - Texarkana College** Texarkana,  
**TX**

Deadline Date: Open Until Filled

**RESEARCH ANALYST INSTITUTIONAL RESEARCH - Hamline Univeristy**, St. Paul, **MN**

Deadline Date: Open Until Filled

**INSTITUTIONAL RESEARCH ASSOCIATE - Georgia State University** Atlanta, **GA**

Deadline Date: May 22, 2009

**DIRECTOR OF LEARNING OUTCOMES ASSESSMENT & INSTRUCTIONAL DEVELOPMENT - Carroll Community College Westminster** **MD**

Deadline Date: Open until filled. For best consideration, please apply by June 5, 2005

**DIRECTOR OF INSTITUTIONAL RESEARCH AND PLANNING - St. Joseph's College** Brooklyn, New  
York

Deadline Date: Open until filled

**DIRECTOR OF ADVANCEMENT/ALUMNI AFFAIRS - University of Central Florida College of Medicine**  
Orlando, **FL**

Deadline Date: Open Until Filled

[DIRECTOR OF INSTITUTIONAL RESEARCH - Kansas City Kansas Community College](#) Kansas City, **KS**

Deadline Date: June 11, 2009

[RESEARCH ANALYST - Purdue University](#) Lafayette, **IN**

Deadline Date: Open Until Filled

[ASSISTANT DIRECTOR INSTITUTIONAL RESEARCH - Northeastern University](#), Boston, **MA**

Deadline Date: Open Until Filled

[INSTITUTIONAL RESEARCH COORDINATOR - Saint Mary's College of California](#) Moraga, **CA**

Deadline Date: Open Until Filled

[ASSESSMENT DIRECTOR - Rawls College of Business at Texas Tech University](#) Lubbock, **TX**

Deadline Date: Open Until Filled

[DIRECTOR QUALITY ENHANCEMENT - South University](#), Savannah, **GA**

Deadline Date: Open Until filled

[DIRECTOR OF STUDENT AFFAIRS ASSESSMENT & PLANNING - University of Alabama](#) Tuscaloosa, **AL**

Deadline Date: Open Until Filled

[RESEARCH ANALYST - St. Lawrence University](#) Canton, **NY**

Deadline Date: Open Until Filled

[SENIOR RESEARCH ASSOCIATE - The Educational Policy Institute](#) Virginia Beach, **VA**

Deadline Date: May 30, 2009

[DIRECTOR OF ACADEMIC ASSESSMENT - Kaplan Higher Education](#) Chicago, **IL**

Deadline Date: Open Until Filled

[INSTITUTIONAL RESEARCH ANALYST - Temple College](#) Temple, **TX**

Deadline Date: Open Until Filled

[DIRECTOR \(EVALUATION AND P-16 RESEARCH\) - Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board](#) Austin, **TX**

Deadline Date:

[DIRECTOR OF INSTITUTIONAL RESEARCH & ASSESSMENT - Holy Family University](#) Philadelphia, **PA**

Deadline Date: Open Until Filled

[DIRECTOR OF INSTITUTIONAL RESEARCH - Molloy College](#) Rockville Centre, **NY**

Deadline Date: Open Until Filled

[DIRECTOR OF INSTITUTIONAL RESEARCH - San Francisco State University](#) San Francisco, **CA**.

Deadline Date: June 1, 2009

[INSTITUTIONAL RESEARCH ASSOCIATE - Bridgepoint Education](#) San Diego, **CA**

Deadline Date: Open Until Filled

[OFFICE OF INSTITUTIONAL EFFECTIVENESS ANALYST - Samford University](#) Birmingham, **AL**

Deadline Date: June 1, 2009

[ASSISTANT/ASSOCIATE PROVOST - St. Louis University](#) St. Louis, **MO**

Deadline Date:

[DIRECTOR FOR STUDENT AFFAIRS ASSESSMENT & PLANNING - University of Alabama](#)  
Tuscaloosa, **AL**  
Deadline Date: June 1, 2009

[ASSISTANT DIRECTOR FOR SURVEY RESEARCH & STANDARD REPORTS - Indiana University - Purdue University Indianapolis](#) Indianapolis, **IN**  
Deadline Date: June 1, 2009

[RESEARCH PROJECT MANAGER - Pima Community College District](#) Tuscon, **AZ**  
Deadline Date: May 7, 2009

[ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF ENROLLMENT DATA & AD HOC REPORTING - Indiana University - Purdue University Indianapolis](#) Indianapolis, **IN**  
Deadline Date: June 1, 2009

[DIRECTOR OF ASSESSMENT RESEARCH & PLANNING - Pennsylvania College of Technology,](#)  
Williamsport, **PA**  
Deadline Date: Open Until Filled

[SENIOR INSTITUTIONAL RESEARCHER - National Technical Institute for the Deaf](#) Rochester, **NY**  
Deadline Date: May 15th, 2009

[IMPACT PLANNING & IMPROVEMENT ANALYST - Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation](#) Seattle, **WA**  
Deadline Date: Open Until Filled

[SENIOR RESEARCH ASSOCIATE - Fort Valley State University](#) Fort Valley, **GA**  
Deadline Date: Open Until Filled

[STATISTICAL RESEARCH ANALYST - Morehouse College](#) Atlanta, **GA**  
Deadline Date: May 29, 2009

[RESEARCH ASSOCIATE II - University of Tennessee](#) Knoxville, **TN**  
Deadline Date: Open Until Filled

[ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR OF INSTITUTIONAL RESEARCH - Cheyney University of Pennsylvania](#)  
Cheyney, **PA**  
Deadline Date: Open Until Filled

[DIRECTOR OF ACADEMIC ASSESSMENT \(Director III\) - Kean University](#) Union, **NJ**  
Deadline Date: Open Until Filled

[DIRECTOR OF INSTITUTIONAL RESEARCH - University of Minnesota](#) Duluth, **MN**  
Deadline Date: Open Until Filled

[RESEARCH ASSISTANT - Western Kentucky University](#) Bowling Green, **KY**  
Deadline Date: May 15, 2009

[ASSESSMENT SPECIALIST - University of New Haven](#) West Haven, **CT**  
Deadline Date: Open Until Filled

[HEAD OF PLANNING AND INSTITUTIONAL RESEARCH - The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology](#) Hong Kong  
Deadline Date: May 31, 2009

[RESEARCH ASSOCIATE - University of St. Thomas](#) Houston, **TX**  
Deadline Date: May 22, 2009

[RELATIONSHIP MANAGER FOR MENTORING - United Negro College Fund](#) Fairfax, **VA**

Deadline Date: May 5, 2009

[SENIOR RESEARCH COORDINATOR - American Public University System](#) Charles Town, **WV**

Deadline Date: Open Until Filled

[SUMMER INTERN \(Part-time\)](#)[SUMMER INTERN \(Part-time\)](#)

Deadline Date: May 18, 2009

[INSTITUTIONAL RESEARCH ANALYST -- University of Louisville](#) Louisville, **KY**

Deadline Date: April 25, 2009

[RESEARCH ASSOCIATE - Common Impact](#) Richmond, **VA**

Deadline Date: May 1, 2009

[ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR INSTITUTIONAL RESEARCH - Temple University](#), Philadelphia, **PA**

Deadline Date: June 15, 2009

[COMPUTER PROGRAMMER II - Tennessee State University](#) Nashville, **TN**

Deadline Date: April 27, 2009

[BUSINESS INTELLIGENCE ANALYST - Loyola Marymount University](#) Los Angeles, **CA**

Deadline Date: Open Until Filled

[DIRECTOR OF INSTITUTIONAL RESEARCH - Blinn College](#) Brenham, **TX**

Deadline Date: Open until filled

[SENIOR RESEARCH ANALYST - City University of New York](#)

Deadline Date: April 30, 2009

[DEAN - PLANNING RESEARCH & INSTITUTIONAL EFFECTIVENESS - Brookhaven College](#), Dallas, **TX**

Deadline Date: 04/13/09, 5:00 p.m. c.s.t

[EDUCATION MANAGEMENT ANALYST - Pinnacle Career Institute](#) Kansas City, **MO**

Deadline Date: April 25, 2009

[INSTITUTIONAL RESEARCH ANALYST - John Hopkins Carey Business School](#) [INSTITUTIONAL RESEARCH ANALYST - John Hopkins Carey Business School](#)

Deadline Date: Open Until Filled

[RESEARCH ANALYST - Florida A & M University](#) Tallahassee, **FL**

Deadline Date: April 30, 2009

[EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR - Frederick D. Patterson Research Institute](#) United Negro College Fund,

Deadline Date: May 15, 2009

[RESEARCH ASSESSMENT & PLANNING ASSOCIATE - Beloit College](#), Beloit, **WI**

Deadline Date: April 22, 2009

[ASSESSMENT & EVALUATION ANALYST - University of Southern California](#) Los Angeles, **CA**

Deadline Date: Open Until Filled

[INSTITUTIONAL RESEARCH OFFICER - Utah State Board of Regents](#) Salt Lake City, **UT**

Deadline Date: Open Until Filled

[DIRECTOR OF INSTITUTIONAL RESEARCH - Harper College](#) Chicago, **IL**

Deadline Date: Open Until Filled

### **Employment Clearinghouse at the 2009 AIR Forum**

While you are at the 2009 AIR Forum, stop by the Employment Clearinghouse located in the Exhibit Hall and browse through open positions and resumes. Whether you are a recent graduate – or about to graduate – or a “seasoned” IR professional, your new job could be waiting there. Conversely, if you are an employer, the Employment Clearinghouse offers a great venue for advertising positions.

For more information about the Clearinghouse and how to submit a resume or job description, go to the Annual Forum page at <http://www.airweb.org/forum09/>, click on the *Features* tab and then click on the Employment Clearinghouse link.

If you have questions about the Employment Clearinghouse, contact Gail Fishman ([gfishman@airweb.org](mailto:gfishman@airweb.org)).



## Technical Tips

### Creating Excel Templates for Frequently Used Special-Needs Worksheets

Gayle Fink, Associate Editor ([gfink@usmd.edu](mailto:gfink@usmd.edu))

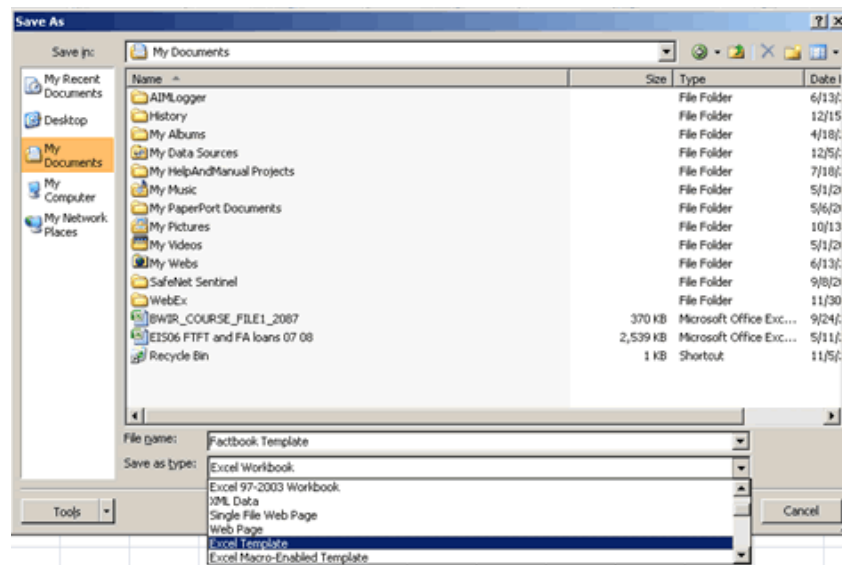
*This corner of the newsletter is reserved for readers to share practical tips, techniques and shortcuts that can make a difference in our work. Send your tips to Gayle Fink ([gfink@usmd.edu](mailto:gfink@usmd.edu))*

You never know where you may find inspiration for a technical tip. Shama Akhtar, The Community College of Baltimore County, suggested that I look at the *Journal of Accountancy* for ideas. This journal is a rich source of tech tips!

It struck me that many of us have special layouts that we update annually for things like Program Review or Fact Books where this tip would be helpful. Templates “store not just formatting (borders, shading, etc.), they also store column and row headings, and even charts and formulas and toolbars for customized features.” (*Journal of Accountancy*, December 2008) Take it for a test drive!

#### Creating an Excel Template:

To create a template, open a new Excel file and set up your model worksheet with all the formatting you would use. Then save it (Ctrl+S) to a convenient folder using the **Template** designation (see screenshot below). If you’re starting from an existing file, you must use the **Save As** command.



## Parting Thoughts

David Davis-Van Atta, Director of Institutional Research at Vassar College ([ddavisva@vassar.edu](mailto:ddavisva@vassar.edu)) kindly submitted the following piece of humor:

### *The Statisticians' Trick*

Some statisticians and epidemiologists are going by train to the sea for a day at the beach. The epidemiologists dutifully buy a ticket each, while the statisticians buy only one between them. When the ticket taker comes around, the statisticians quickly get into a toilet and pass out the ticket under the door. Duly fooled, the inspector punches the ticket, passes it back under the door, and goes on. The epidemiologists take close note of this, are very impressed, and decide that they should do this too. So, on the way home, the epidemiologists buy one ticket between them, just as they saw the statisticians doing. However, to their amazement, the statisticians buy no tickets at all! When the ticket taker begins his rounds, the epidemiologists all get into the toilet with their ticket. As soon as they do, one of the statisticians knocks on the door and the epidemiologists duly pass out the ticket. The statisticians take the epidemiologists' ticket and retire to another toilet to await the ticket collector.

*MORAL:* Never imagine that you can replicate a trick only because you saw a statistician do it once.

Thanks for sending in this joke, David! Reader contributions of Parting Thoughts are most welcome. Send them to Marne Einarson ([mke3@cornell.edu](mailto:mke3@cornell.edu)).