

2016

MAIR WINTER NEWSLETTER

From the President:

This fall at my institution, we began implementation of a new Student Information System (Colleague). I was reminded of how critical our roles are to the institution. In meeting after meeting, people become so focused on the process of what they would be doing that they often had to be reminded of what we actually needed. If we failed to enter the correct data, then there would be no way that the institution could get the reports that they or other offices need. We had to begin with the end in mind. We know this as strategic planning, but we don't seem to apply those same principles to our daily tasks.

There are days that I begin with a clear set of goals and usually accomplish a great deal. There are other days where I begin with an agenda, but allow it to be derailed by anathema of email that rages daily. As we begin this year, ask yourself: what are your goals? Not just for your institution or your position, but personally? How might you benefit from applying some strategic planning principles to your own time management, your personal life, or your career? Let's remember, as we begin this new year with all of the bright hopes for where it will lead, not just to expect great things to happen, but to make them happen by setting goals and milestones to ensure we reach the successful completion we so desire.

Dr. Lee Skinkle, MAIR President 2015-2016



Participants listen intently to a session at the MAIR 2015 conference held in Oxford.

MAIR 2016 Conference

Save the Date!!!

Dates: March 31-April 1

Where: Gulfport, Mississippi

Conference Site: Courtyard by Marriott

Please mark your calendars!

Details to follow!

We hope to see you there!

If you or anyone you know is interested in presenting, please contact Laura Damm. It is our hope to again offer dual tracks to provide options to attendees and make the conference a meaningful experience to all who come.

Laura Damm
MAIR Vice President 2015-16
ldamm@eastms.edu



MAIR OFFICERS 2015-16

President: Lee Skinkle

Past President: Carolyn Warren

Vice President: Laura Damm

Treasurer: Liz Edwards

Secretary: Tiffany Gregory Ward

Member at Large: Craig-Ellis Sasser

Member at Large: Shemeka McClung

Webmaster: Eric Atchison

The Oxford conference planning committee looks relaxed with the conclusion of the 2015 conference. Recently elected and returning officers are working to make MAIR 2016 just as informative and fun.



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.

2015 Jim Nichols Service Award

At MAIR 2015, the Jim Nichols Service Award was presented to Dr. Jim Hood in appreciation for his 18 years of contributions to the field of institutional research and to MAIR. Jim was recently named Assistant Commissioner for Strategic Research for the Institutions of Higher Learning, having served IHL in several capacities since 1996. Jim served MAIR sequentially as Vice President, President, and Past President from 1999-2002 and as a conference presenter.



Jim Hood accepts the Jim Nichols Service Award from Carolyn Warren