



Mississippi Association for Institutional Research  
Business Meeting  
February 12, 2025  
12:00 p.m.

**I. Call to Order:**

The meeting was called to order by President Diann Nichols at 12:10 p.m. with 42 participants. President Nichols began the meeting by introducing the candidates for officer elections. The participants were asked to cast their votes during the meeting, and the results would be announced at the end.

President Nichols asked for a motion to approve the minutes for the October 14, 2024, MAIR Business Meeting. A motion was made by Melanie Davis; seconded by Jenna Wilkes. No opposition.

**II. Reports:**

a. Treasurer

- Kate Failing began by thanking the sponsors that contributed to the spring 2025 MAIR conference.
- Presented the YTD net income of \$2,081.03 and bank balance of \$29,349.87, mentioning that additional expenses would be deducted after the conclusion of the conference.
- Tiffany Harvey made a motion to accept the treasurer's minutes, and Kent Johnson seconded the motion. No opposition.

b. Executive Officers

- Valerie Bishop and Diann Nichols thanked fellow officers and the group for allowing them to serve the group over the past year.

**III. Old Business**

- Jenna Wilkes asked if it was the desire of the group to have a separate accreditation symposium from the spring MAIR conference or if the group would be interested in combining the two. Further discussion will be held when planning the events for the 2025-26 calendar year.

**IV. New Business**

a. Presentation of Awards

1. Travel Grant recipients recognized were Heather Cochran Humphries from Belhaven College, Tiffany Harvey from Mississippi Delta Community College, and Ty Anderson from LSU-Shreveport.
2. Best Presentation from the fall 2023 MAIR Conference award was presented to Eric Atchison.
3. Unsung Hero Award from the fall 2023 MAIR Conference was presented to Dr. Tim Dedeaux.
4. The Jim Nichols Service Award was presented to Dr. Tim Dedeaux.

b. Officers for 2024-25:

In accordance with MAIR's by-laws, Diann Nichols will remain on the board as Past President, and former VP/President-elect Melanie Davis advances to the role of President.

**Election Results**

Vice President	Dr. LaDonna Lee, Alcorn State University
Treasurer	Rosa Bercerril-Nieves, Delta State University
Secretary	Dr. Brandi Torres, Itawamba Community College
Member-at-Large (2-year)	Ashley Beard, Jones College
Member-at-Large (4-year)	Heather Cochran Humphries, Belhaven College (resigned). Replaced by Ryan Hammil, The University of Mississippi.

Also, Kent Johnson was appointed Webmaster by the incoming board, and Kate Failing will continue to serve as the nonprofit organization's registered agent while she trains the new treasurer.

c. Plans for Next Annual Meeting

New Officers will plan a one-day seminar over the summer to discuss plans for MAIR 2025-26 meeting agenda and locations.

**V. Other Business**

President Nichols passed the gavel to Dr. Melanie Davis, 2025-26 MAIR President, and Dr. Davis gave remarks about her eagerness to serve in this role.

The business meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:25 p.m. by Dr. Davis.

Heather Humphries resigned her role as Member-at-Large (4-year), and the Board appointed Ryan Hammill in her place (Board appointment per bylaws).

Submitted by  
Brandi Torres  
Secretary