

**SCAIR 2007: Creating a Culture of Collaboration**  
**Celebrating our 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

February 20-21, 2007 8<sup>th</sup> Floor Daniel Management Bldg., USC Columbia

***Tuesday, February 20th: Pre-Conference Workshops***

12:00 Registration opens outside of Lumpkin Auditorium (8<sup>th</sup> floor)

1:00 Workshops

**Developing Strategies for Establishing a Case for Compliance**

David Carter, Southern Assoc. of Colleges and Schools, Commission on Colleges  
Room 855

*For the SC institutions up for SACS reaffirmation in the coming years, many of the criteria have shifted since the last reporting cycle, and more changes are anticipated. Data, planning, and assessment professionals have questions about establishing the best case possible for compliance. All institutions have questions and concerns regarding the off-site review and building the QEP in a manner that represents the best of what the institution offers in combination with meeting SACS requirements. This workshop offers an opportunity to learn from one of accreditation's leaders, as attendees will take away suggestions and ideas that can be immediately applied to help move your institutions successfully through the reaffirmation process.*

**IPEDS Peer Analysis Tool**

Stephanie Reynolds, Data Manager, SC Commission on Higher Education  
Zenith Lab – 1<sup>st</sup> Floor

*All institutions make use of peer data, from enrollment management to finance to faculty salaries. In the past, gathering data from IPEDS has been challenging, but updated tools have greatly improved the process. Ms. Reynolds will teach attendees how to use the IPEDS Peer Analysis System to gather comparable data, manipulate it into a useful format, and ensure meaningful analyses. This computer-based workshop will focus on practical tools that will facilitate your ability to sort and download useful data that can be immediately useful to institutional research professionals.*

5:00

**President's Reception** Inn at USC

*Join us in the President's Suite (Room 345) for some well deserved fun and relaxation. Drinks and hors d'oeuvres will be provided.*

6:30

**Dinner at Villa Tronco**

## **Wednesday, February 21st:**

8:15 Registration opens outside of Lumpkin Auditorium (8<sup>th</sup> floor)  
Breakfast – Faculty Lounge

*Chilled orange juice, smoked Bacon and jumbo sausage links, freshly baked biscuits with butter & jam, freshly brewed coffee (regular and decaf), hot tea, and bottled water*

8:45 Welcome & Opening Session  
Faculty Lounge

### **Creating a Statewide Technology Plan and the Role of Higher Education**

Jim Bryant, Chief Information Officer, State of South Carolina

*Changing technology, and the pace of that change, is one of the largest problems we face. South Carolina is working to strategically implement resources to assist all state agencies, and colleges and universities are affected by these plans. Dr. Bryant will present his technology plan for the State and discuss how data professionals may benefit from this collaboration.*

10:15 Concurrent Sessions

### **Introductory Statistics: An Intuitive Approach to Basic Statistical Concepts**

Phil Moore, Director of the Office of Assessment & Compliance, University of South Carolina  
Room JK

*The reasoning behind the basic statistical terms and concepts that we all use and kind of understand, but not really, will be presented in a non-technical manner. Suggested audience: non-mathematicians who get queasy at the thought of an hour and a half session on statistics. This will be a VERY basic, non-threatening session on numbers and their meaning.*

### **Developing Learning Outcomes Assessment – Practical Solutions (Part 1)**

Gayle Fink, Director of Institutional Research, University System of Maryland  
Room A

*Because of external pressures from accrediting bodies, all institutions are or will be heavily involved in learning outcomes assessment. However, this should not be the primary reason to engage in outcomes assessment. This workshop introduces participants to assessment at the institutional, program and course levels. Expected learning outcomes include: identify and describe assessment concepts and terms, apply assessment concepts to real situations, utilize professional knowledge to provide appropriate support to faculty and staff. Specific assessment instruments will also be discussed as well as effective strategies for engaging and integrating outcomes assessment at your institution.*

11:45 Lunch served in the Faculty Lounge

### **SCAIR business meeting**

Honoring Retirees  
Financial Statement  
SCAIR Elections  
Door Prizes

## ***Wednesday, February 21<sup>st</sup> continued:***

1:45 Concurrent sessions

### **Developing Learning Outcomes Assessment – Practical Solutions (Part 2)**

Gayle Fink, Director of Institutional Research, University System of Maryland  
Room A

### **Intermediate Statistics: Have You Thought About Doing This?**

Nancy Floyd, Office of Institutional Assessment & Compliance, University of South Carolina  
Room JK

*Some basic research designs with practical suggestions for implementation for doing more with the data you already collect, including longitudinal tracking, basic linear modeling, and latent trait modeling. Less basic and non-threatening than the previous presentation.*

3:15 Concurrent sessions

### **Creating a Culture of Continuous Improvement**

Dan Weinstein, Executive Director, Office of Institutional Effectiveness, Winthrop University  
Room A

*Conducting assessment at an institution does not mean that it becomes an integral part of the institution. Assessment cannot be something pulled out during reaffirmation, but should be a consistent aspect of institutional planning and decision-making. This presentation will discuss how assessment, institutional research, and institutional effectiveness offices collaborate to build a comprehensive system that will assist senior leadership and provide a wealth of practical information.*

### **What Newcomers (and the rest of us) Need to Know in IR and in SC**

Catherine Watt, Director of the Alliance for Research on Higher Education, Clemson University  
Room JK

*This session will be useful and entertaining for anyone new to institutional research or new to South Carolina. Institutional research and assessment are two of the fastest growing areas in higher education, but there are many things to learn that can be overwhelming. Topics covered include data reporting, SC higher ed history, and professional opportunities across the state and region. Samples of reports, a CD with data, and handouts will be provided. Topics will be pertinent to public and private institutions, at both the four-year and two-year institutions.*

### **Open Discussion: What have you or your office done that was innovative over the past year that might be helpful to others?**

Moderator: Tom Higerd, Associate Provost for Institutional Research and Assessment, MUSC  
Pre-function Area of 8<sup>th</sup> floor

*Networking session designed for colleagues to share ideas and openly discuss current issues relevant to all institutions and our state.*