This portion of the newsletter is devoted to keeping you informed about changes such as readers who relocate to new positions and/or institutions, professional recognition awards and honors, retirements, deaths, newly hired colleagues, promotions, etc. If you become aware of a change on your campus or elsewhere which should be mentioned in "The Changing Scene," please send me a note with the key facts at (Timothy.Chow@Rose-Hulman.Edu). Keep it brief, but include the information you think others would like to know.

KAREN WEBBER BAUER (kwbauer@arches.uga.edu), formerly in IR&P at The University of Delaware, has recently accepted the duties as Director of Institutional Research at The University of Georgia.
She will also be an Associate Professor in UGA's Institute of Higher Education. Good luck in your new position, Karen!

JEAN SWENK (jswenk@nu.edu) has returned to teaching as the Associate Professor in the Ed Tech Department of the School of Education at National University (CA). Jean was the director of institutional research with the university until past July. Best wishes, Jean!

CAROL LARUE (clarue@swtjc.cc.tx.us) has recently accepted the position of Coordinator of Institutional Research at Southwest Texas Junior College, in Uvalde, TX. Carol was formerly the research associate in the Office of Institutional Research and Effectiveness at Del Mar College. All the best, Carol!

MARK OROMANER (moromaner@hccc.edu) will retire December 2003 as Dean for Planning and Institutional Research at Hudson County Community College (NJ). He has been at HCCC for over 26 years and has held a number of position, e.g., dean for academic affairs, executive vice president, acting/interim president. Prior to that he taught sociology at Jersey City State College and at Hunter College, CUNY. Mark has been co-editor of the Journal of Applied Research in the Community College and has served on the editorial board of Research in Higher Education. Happy Retirement, Mark!

RAY CHRISTIE (chris2r@cmich.edu) has recently assumed the position of Interim Vice Provost for Academic Administration at Central Michigan University. Ray was formerly the director of institutional research. Congratulations, Ray!

MARY MEIER (meier1me@cmich.edu) has recently accepted the position of Interim Director of Institutional Research at Central Michigan University. Mary was the senior research analyst with the office. Congratulations, Mary!

**********************************************************************
* AIR NEWS - AIR Nominations (Deadline: September 15, 2003) *
* Timothy Chow, Rose-Hulman IT, (Timothy.Chow@rose-hulman.edu) *
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Today is the last day to nominate any qualified Association members for the following positions: Vice President; Associate Forum Chair; Treasurer, Higher Education Data Policy Committee Chair, and Nominating Committee (5 positions).

If you wish to submit your nominations, please take a few minutes to participate in selecting the future leadership of AIR through the AIR Web site (http://airweb.org) and click on Nominations. All nominees will be considered for all positions.

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* AIR NEWS - 2004 AIR Forum Call for Proposals (Deadline: October 1) *
* Timothy Chow, Rose-Hulman IT, (Timothy.Chow@rose-hulman.edu) *
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The theme of our 44th AIR Forum is May 30 - June 2, 2004, in Boston, Massachusetts is The Information Revolution: Bridging The Past To The Future. The Call for Proposals has been mailed and is also available
at http://www.airweb.org/page.asp?page=47. There are a variety of ways that you can participate in the Forum. The deadline for submitting a proposal is October 1, 2003. Please consider sharing your research, best practices, projects, or special studies with your AIR colleagues. The web-based proposal submission tool is available at http://www.airweb.org/page.asp?page=444 and it is the preferred method. However, you may consider submit your proposal via e-mail as a Word or WordPerfect file attachment.

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* AIR NEWS - U.S. News & World Report Data Offering (Reprint) *
* Bob Morse, U.S. News & World Report, (bmorse@usnews.com) *
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U.S. News will provide free of charge, to any institutional researcher, a series of Excel spreadsheets with the data that appeared in the America's Best Colleges guidebook ranking tables that were published on the U.S. News web site on August 22, 2003. These spreadsheets will only contain the data that appears in the published tables, not all the data used to compute the rankings. This information is provided for convenience purposes to AIR members by U.S. News to assist them in their analytical responsibilities. Data is available for both this year's and the two previous year's ranking tables (those published in September 2001 and 2002). To request these tables, or if you have questions about this offer, please send an e-mail to either mailto:bmorse@usnews.com or mailto:sflanigan@usnews.com. The e-mail request should contain a one or two sentence reason for the data request and specify which year's data you would like, i.e., 2003 or 2002 or 2001 or 2003, 2002 and 2001. If the year is not specified, you will receive data from the current year's ranking tables. Expect a turnaround time of up to 10 business days. The Excel files will be sent as an attachment to the e-mail request.

This is not a permission to print or repost the ranking tables publicly.

Thanks,

Bob Morse  
Director of Data Research  
U.S. News & World Report  
http://www.usnews.com

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* CONFERENCE NEWS - Pacific AssessNet Conference *
* Larry Kelley, Kelley P&E Services LLC, (AUKelley@aol.com) *
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Pacific AssessNet Conference  
June 4-8, 2004  
Ala Moana Hotel  
Honolulu, Hawaii

Please visit http://kelleyeducation.com and click on the link, 2004 Pacific AssessNet Conference (Honolulu) Home Page, for further information.
The Cooperative Institutional Research Program (CIRP) is pleased to introduce a fellowship to an individual who presents research utilizing institutional data collected by the Your First College Year (YFCY) survey at the 2004 AIR Forum. YFCY is the newest survey offered by the Higher Education Research Institute (HERI) at UCLA, which also houses the CIRP Freshman Survey and the College Student Survey.

YFCY Presentation Fellow will:
- be awarded $500 to reimburse conference-related costs,
- be acknowledged on the official YFCY website, in an issue of the 2004 YFCY electronic Newsletter, "YFCY Users' Update," and on the HERI display at the conference, and
- receive a letter and certificate as the YFCY Presentation Fellow.

Please visit the YFCY website http://www.gseis.ucla.edu/heri/yfcy/ for information on the survey or contact the YFCY Project Team directly at yfcy@ucla.edu or (310) 825-1925 for proposal criteria and additional information on the YFCY Presentation Fellowships. Please note that only accepted conference presentations may be proposed for the YFCY Presentation Fellowship.

The deadline to submit an application for the YFCY Presentation Fellowship to present at the AIR Forum is April 9, 2004.

We plan to distribute instructions the week of September 22 for completing AAUP's annual Faculty Compensation Survey for 2003-04. The instructions will be posted on the AAUP Web site, and the survey form will be available for download. We try to include all accredited colleges and universities in the U.S.; most of our surveys are completed by IR offices. If your institution did not participate in the survey last year, or you are not sure whether we have current contact information, please let us know. The best method is by e-mail to aaupfcs@aaup.org; you may also call the AAUP Research Office at (202) 737-5900 Ext. 3018.

For those who may not be familiar with the survey, each year the American Association of University Professors (AAUP) compiles data on full-time faculty salaries, benefits, and tenure status. Our results are published annually in April, and are used by many institutions and faculty as a budgetary planning tool. You can look at the information for last year on our Web site at http://www.aaup.org/research/Index.htm (there is a link to instructions for responding institutions).

As noted previously, we will be making two minor changes in our
survey format for the coming year: A clearer distinction in faculty counts between tenured, tenure-track, and non-tenure-track faculty; and an expansion of the salary intervals used in the distribution section (optional last year). We will also be classifying Carnegie "specialized" institutions in a separate category. We encourage institutions to respond electronically, as more than 80% did last year, and will be sending paper forms only to those institutions that request them.

If you have any questions, please contact me or Research Associate Galina Lewis (mailto:glewis@aaup.org). Thank you very much for your participation!

John W. Curtis, Director of Research
American Association of University Professors

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* NEWS - NSF Survey of Science and Engineering Research Facilities *
* Leslie Christovich, NSF, (lchristo@nsf.gov) *
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The Science Resources Statistics Division of the National Science Foundation (NSF) will begin data collection for the FY 2003 Survey of Science and Engineering Research Facilities in late October. This is a Congressionally mandated, biennial survey that collects information on the status of science and engineering research facilities at research-performing colleges and universities, as well as from biomedical research organizations that receive funding from the National Institutes of Health.

A new version of the survey will be introduced in 2003. NSF has been working over the past 18 months to revise the survey with the goals of improving the quality and usefulness of the data and better reflecting the changes in how science and engineering research is often being conducted. NSF used several approaches to redesign the survey including visiting over 40 institutions, holding workshops, and instituting an expert panel. As in the past, institutions may respond using either a World Wide Web version of the survey or a paper version.

Many survey questions will look familiar to previous institutional participants because the survey improvements mostly involved clarifying the questions and the instructions. In addition modifying existing questions, an entirely new set of questions was added to the survey that address computing and networking capacity at academic institutions. The institutional coordinators will be asked to have their Chief Information Officer, or equivalent office, complete this section. Institutions will receive a brochure outlining all of the changes in the survey, including modifications to existing questions, deletions and additions.

One of the most significant changes to the survey is that most data will no longer be confidential. Except for a few questions, all data will be available for individual, identified institutions beginning with the FY 2003 data. Previous survey data will not be made public. Many institutional representatives told NSF that making the data public would do the most for increasing the
usefulness of information. In order to facilitate the use of the data, NSF will make a database available on the World Wide Web for any institution. The database will have descriptive and analytic capabilities.

The Science Resources Statistics (SRS) Division of the National Science Foundation (NSF) has issued a solicitation to assist NSF in designing and implementing a data collection methodology on research instrumentation. The data collection will provide a national inventory of science and engineering (S&E) research instrumentation and provide information on the future needs for S&E research instrumentation. The methodology will be designed for collecting data from research-performing academic institutions, biomedical research institutions receiving research funds from the National Institutes of Health (NIH), and institutions eligible for the NSF's Major Research Instrumentation Program (MRI). This is a congressionally mandated data collection.

This acquisition will result in a down-select contract. Part I of the contract will be to design a data collection methodology to meet NSF's information needs. Multiple organizations may be selected to perform Part I. Part II of the contract shall be to collect the data using a methodology selected by NSF from those submitted under Part I. Only one organization, from among those submitting methodologies under Part I, will be selected by NSF to perform Part II of the contract.

This newsletter is continued in Part B, sent separately.

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* If you wish to subscribe, change your e-mail address, or request a *
* subscription for someone else, send it to Norm Gravelle, AIR Exec- *
* utive Office, (air@mailer.fsu.edu) [Florida State University]. *
* If you have AIR news, send it to Timothy Chow, Editor, at: *
* (Timothy.Chow@rose-hulman.edu) [Rose-Hulman Inst. of Technology]. *
* (Please limit submissions to 72 characters or fewer per line and *
* use mixed case, NOT ALL CAPS--NO NEED TO SHOUT.) *
* If you have news for the SCUP electronic newsletter, send it to *
* Terry Calhoun, SCUP Communications Director, (tcalhoun@scup.org). *
* For further information regarding individual or organizational *
* membership in the Association for Institutional Research, contact *
* Terrence Russell, Executive Director, AIR, 222 Stone Bldg., *
* Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL 32306-4462; *
* Telephone: (850) 644-4470 or on Internet: (air@mailer.fsu.edu). *
* AIR WebPage: http://airweb.org *
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6 of 6