

Rocky Mountain Association for Institutional Research (RMAIR) 2021 Virtual Conference Program

October 12th, October 19th, and October 26th
10:00 am – 3:00 pm (Mountain time)

Tuesday October 12, 2021

10:00 am – 11:35 am

Opening Keynote

KEYNOTE | GENERAL

Presenter:

Christine Keller, Executive Director & CEO, AIR

Through the looking glass: Preparing IR/IE for the future

The events of the past 18 months —most significantly, the coronavirus pandemic and increased calls for racial justice —have upended and reconfigured our professional lives in many ways. We've learned how to connect remotely, leverage "real time" data/analytics, and helped to uncover and name practices/policies that disadvantage minorized students. The events have also underscored the importance of our work in IR/IE and the power of data/analytics and data-informed decision cultures during a time of uncertainty and change. This presentation will describe emerging patterns, trends, and questions as we look to prepare and shape the future of our profession.

11:35 am – 11:45 am

Get your coffee and connect with a colleague or check your emails!

BREAK

11:45 am – 12:35 pm

Facing the Future: Build a Thriving Program Portfolio with Integrated Planning and Predictive Analytics

WORKSHOP

Presenter(s):

Robert Gray Atkins, CEO, Gray Associates, Boston, MA

12:35 pm – 1:00 pm

Break for Lunch

1:00 pm – 1:45 pm

BREAKOUT SESSIONS (ROOMS A-E)

Room A: Support Service Program Reviews: How One College Expanded Assessment Beyond Student Learning

Presenter(s):

Lisa Smith, Institutional Research Manager, Northwest College, Cody, WY

Room B: Validating and Developing the Structural Equation Model of Institutional Performance in Graduation Rates using IPEDS

Presenter(s):

Chen Zong, IR Analyst, Institutional Analysis, University of Wyoming, Laramie, WY

Room C: Predicting the Risk of Withdrawal in the First Year: Using a Machine Learning Approach to Forecasting Early Student Success

Presenter(s):

Nathan Lindstedt, Data Scientist, Institutional Research, Washington State University, Pullman, WA

Room D: Techniques and Tactics on Auditing State and Federal Reports for Accuracy

Presenter(s):

Nicolas Valcik, Managing Director, Institutional Research, Texas Tech University, Lubbock, TX
Ashley McPherson, Section Manager, Institutional Research, Texas Tech University, Lubbock, TX
Lesli White, Lead Administrator, Institutional Research, Texas Tech University, Lubbock, TX

Room E: From Orientation to Graduation: The Major Exploration Pathways Project

Presenter(s):

Ben White, Business Data Analyst, University of Utah - Office of Budget and Institutional Analysis

1:45pm – 3:00 pm

Join your colleagues for social networking and raffle!

Social Networking

Tuesday, October 19, 2021

10:00 am – 11:00 am

Opening Keynote

KEYNOTE | GENERAL

Presenter:

Matt Sigelman, CEO, EMSI Burning Glass

Dynamics for Diversity: New Horizons for Higher Education

Skills are changing fast, and so are the demands put on higher education by employers and students alike. By focusing on skills and building closer alignment with the job market, higher education institutions have an opportunity to grow their enrollments, place their graduates, and drive diversity in society.

11:00 am – 11:15 am

Get your coffee and connect with a colleague or check your emails!

BREAK

11:15 am – 12:00 pm

SPONSOR SHOWCASE SESSION | SPONSOR SESSION

The Role of Institutional Research in Using Data to Close Equity Gaps with a Tool like the PDP

Presenter(s):

Dr. Lisa Stich, Senior Specialist, Data Partnership, National Student Clearinghouse

Andi Liner, Regional Relationship Manager, National Student Clearinghouse

12:00 pm – 1:00 pm

Break for Lunch

1:00 pm – 1:45 pm

BREAKOUT SESSIONS (Rooms A-E)

Room A: A Markov Chain Model for College Level Enrollment Based Budget Forecasting

Presenter(s):

Patricia Bartholomew, Business Data Analyst, College of Arts & Sciences, Washington State University, Pullman, WA

Room B: Introduction to Data Science, Big Data and Decision Making for Institutional Research

Presenter(s):

Luciano Boas, Project Manager, Institutional Research, Texas Tech University, Lubbock, TX

Room C: Modeling STEM Students' Decision Making on Persistence to the Third Fall: A Rational Expectations Application

Presenter(s):

John Crooker, Associate Vice Provost/Director of Institutional Research and Effectiveness, Office of Decision Support, University of Nevada-Las Vegas, Las Vegas, NV

Celeste Calkins, Institutional Research Data Analyst, Office of Decision Support, University of Nevada-Las Vegas, Las Vegas, NV

Qingmin Shi, Institutional Research Data Analyst, Office of Decision Support, University of Nevada-Las Vegas, Las Vegas, NV

Room D: CC Institutional Researchers' Knowledge, Experience, and Perceptions of Machine Learning

Presenter(s):

Mark Perkins, Assistant Professor of Educational Research, University of Wyoming, Laramie, WY

W. Reed Scull, Associate Professor of Higher Education Administration, University of Wyoming, Laramie, WY

Jonathan Carrier, Assistant Professor, Counseling Leadership Advocacy & Design, University of Wyoming, Laramie, WY

Michael Barber, Data Scientist, Wyoming Community College Commission

Room E: Improving Stakeholder Services Using R Shiny

Presenter(s):

Hadley Jolley, Research Analyst, Institutional Research

Sarah Smith, Director, Institutional Research

Laramie County Community College, Cheyenne, WY

1:45pm – 3:00 pm

Join your colleagues for social networking and raffle!

SOCIAL NETWORKING

Tuesday, October 26, 2021

10:00 am – 10:45 am

Title Coming Soon!

SPONSOR SHOWCASE SESSION | SPONSOR SESSION

Presenter(s):

Ashley Safranski, VP of Marketing, Higher Education, EMSI Burning Glass, Moscow, ID

10:45 am – 11:00 am

Get your coffee and connect with a colleague or check your emails!

BREAK

11:00 am – 12:00 pm

Business Meeting

RMAIR Election Results (Lisa)

- Vice President
- Emeritus Members (taking nominations from floor)
- Introductions to 2021-22 RMAIR Board

Recognition (Vicky)

- Outgoing Past President – *Lisa Smith (Northwest College, Powell, Wyoming)*
- Sponsors
- 2021 Conference Committee

Review of By-Laws (Vicky)

- Brief review of document
- Suggested changes

Updates (Quinn)

- Treasurer's Report/Annual Budget
- Website with a walkthrough
- RMAIR Mighty Network with a walkthrough

Conference Chair (Fran)

- Best Presentation Submission Instructions
- Conference and Session Evaluation Instructions

Future RMAIR Conferences (Vicky)

- 2022 – Texas (host Texas Tech University)
- 2023 and beyond

12:00 pm – 12:30 pm

Break for Lunch

12:30 pm – 1:15 pm

BREAKOUT SESSIONS (ROOM A-B)

Room A: That's not Valid! An overview of Research Paradigms and their Implications for IR

Presenter(s):

Mark Perkins, Assistant Professor of Educational Research, University of Wyoming, Laramie, WY

Room B: Assessing and Addressing the Needs of American Indian Community College Students

Presenter(s):

Laurie Cohen, Director, Institutional Research, Scottsdale Community College, Scottsdale, AZ

Crystal Morehouse, Planning and Research Analyst, Scottsdale Community College, Scottsdale, AZ

12:30 pm – 1:30pm

Meeting of the Minds: A Net Tuition Forecasting Model that Links Enrollment Management and Fiscal Planning

Workshop

Presenter(s):

Stephanie Kane, Assistant Director, Institutional Research Washington State University, Pullman, WA

12:30 pm – 1:30pm

Live Software Demonstration | Q&A

SPONSOR SHOWCASE SESSION | SPONSOR SESSION

Presenter(s):

Gray Associates

1:30 pm – 3:00 pm

Join your colleagues for social networking and raffle!

SOCIAL NETWORKING