

## Dinner Groups

(Thursday Evening)

**Barlines – trendy restaurant with a great view of the new convention center** - <http://barlinesnashville.com/menu/> Named after the lines on a musical staff, Barlines stays true to the spirit of Music City by featuring live music 7-days a week from some of Nashville’s rising stars. But what sets Barlines apart from the other spots along the “Honky-Tonk Highway” is our award-winning Southern comfort food and hand-crafted Tennessee libations. Our team takes pride in using local food and spirit vendors to create uniquely Nashville offerings. (Mary Lucus)

**Joe’s Crab Shack** –<http://d1mtqxp49iad8.cloudfront.net/content/pdf/R-2.pdf>  
A national seafood chain, but a good one. Features steampots of glorious crab, lobster and shellfish. Atmosphere is boisterous. (Matt Rehbein)

**Puckett’s Grocery – great country cooking** - <http://puckettsgrocery.com/> When it comes down to it, Puckett’s is a community kitchen, with live pickin’ performances just a few feet from your table. Authentic comfort food—barbecue smoked slow ‘n’ low over cherry wood, the home-cooked sides, even a few upscale dishes—is what we aim for you to remember. (Sarah Stapleton)

**Rock Bottom Brewery & Restaurant (Formerly Big River Grill) – good brews and a bar area on the roof by the river** - <http://www.rockbottom.com/locations/nashville>  
Wanting a brew with a view of Nashville? Well, guess what. Our rooftop will become your new favorite place. Open year round, our newly expanded rooftop is a full service restaurant with open seating policy. We have a special rooftop menu and a full bar for you to relax and enjoy Downtown Nashville. You won’t want to pass this up! (Patrick Meldrim)

**The Southern Steak & Oyster – pricey, but excellent** - <http://thesouthernashville.com/> Located at 150 3rd Avenue South in the heart of downtown Nashville’s burgeoning SoBro district, The Southern Steak & Oyster is a unique and animated eatery that offers an authentically southern adventure with a twist. (Tracy Rokas)

## After Dinner Group

**Big Bang Bar**- <http://www.thebigbangbar.com/tn/nashville> The Big Bang Nashville is located in the heart of Music City, U.S.A. at 411 Broadway. Directly across the street from “Honky Tonk Row” and the Ryman Auditorium, The Big Bang is also just steps away from the Nashville Convention Center, The Nashville Bridgestone Arena and the new Schermerhorn Symphony Center. Opens at 8:00 p.m. and closes at 2:00 a.m. (Gary Donhardt)



# Tennessee Association for Institutional Research

27th Annual Conference August 14-15, 2014  
Music City Center, Nashville, TN

Beyond Reporting: The Institutional Researcher’s  
Role in Interpreting the Data

- 8:30-11:30 Preconference Newcomer Workshop - Glenn W. James
- 11:00 – 12:30 Past Presidents' Luncheon
- 11:00 – 1:00 Registration
- 1:00 – 2:15 Welcome and Opening Session - 105 A  
Brian Noland, President  
East Tennessee State University
- 2:30-3:20 A1- 105 A.  
Student Evaluation Policy & Grading Consistency  
Rion McDonald (Columbia State Community College)
- A2- 105 B.  
Developing a Peer Group using SPSS Cluster Analysis  
Robert A. Lester (University of the South)
- 3:20 – 3:45 Break with Refreshments
- 3:45-4:35 B1 - 105 A.  
Where's the Research? Competency-Based Education  
Seeks to Prove Its Value  
Charla Long, Dean, College of Professional Studies  
(Lipscomb University)
- 4:45 – 5:15 105 A & B. Special Interest Groups  
Public Community Colleges - Sara Cooper - 105 B  
Independent Colleges and Universities - Donna Tudor -  
105 A  
Public Universities - Tracy Black - 105 A
- 5:15 – 5:45 Wrap-up and Plans for the Evening

Dinner Groups  
(See Back Page for Details)



## Keynote Speaker

Dr. Brian Noland became the ninth President of East Tennessee State University on January 15, 2012. Prior to coming to ETSU, Dr. Noland spent five years as Chancellor of the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission, a 10-person board that oversees the state's post-secondary education system. From 1998-2006, he worked for the Tennessee Higher Education Commission and was promoted through the ranks to become Associate Executive Director. Among his responsibilities while at THEC was implementing the Tennessee Education Lottery Scholarship program. He also was a faculty member in the Peabody College of Education at Vanderbilt University. Dr. Noland received his B.A. in Political Science and M.A. in Public Policy Studies from West Virginia University and holds a Ph.D. in Political Science from the University of Tennessee–Knoxville.

## 2013-14 Program Committee

Robert A. Lester (Chair)	University of the South
Gary Donhardt	University of Memphis
Hollis James	Southern Adventist University
Mary Lucus	Belmont University
Patrick Meldrim	Tennessee Independent Colleges and Universities Association
Tracy Rokas	Belmont University
Greg Schutz	University System of Georgia
Sarah Stapleton	University of the South

## TENNAIR Officers

President	Nathaniel Perry Tennessee State University
Interim Vice President	Robert A. Lester University of the South
Secretary	Rion McDonald Columbia State CC
Treasurer	Melissa Hunter Austin Peay State University
Past President	Michael W. McFall University of Tennessee

## Evaluations

Desiree McCullough	University of Tennessee, Martin
Nancy Ramsey	Pellissippi State CC
Mary Lucus	Belmont University

## Equipment

Sarah Stapleton	University of the South
Amy Heckman	Tennessee Independent Colleges and Universities Association

## Webmaster

Joseph Chappell	Tennessee Tech University
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## FRIDAY, AUGUST 15th

Breakfast on your own

8:30-9:20	C1 - 105 A. From Assessment and Planning to Performance Management Denise Raney & David Raney (Nuventive)
	C2 - 105 B. Assessing the College's Mission Based on Student and Alumni Tracking System Data Chau-Kuang Chen (Meharry Medical College)
9:20 – 9:50	Break with Refreshments - Provided by Xitracs
9:50-10:40	D1 - 105 A. Discover a Comprehensive Approach to Institutional Effectiveness with Campus Labs Melissa Hunter (Austin Peay State University) Daniel Kaczmarek (Campus Labs)
	D2 - 105 B. Time to Baccalaureate Degree Completion: Improving Efficiency for Students and Institutions Glenn W. James (Tennessee Tech University) Joseph Chappell (Tennessee Tech University)
10:50-11:40	E1 - 105 A. Effective Collaboration of Research and Assessment Anjelica Pitts (Tennessee State University) Josh Koller (Tennessee State University)
	E2 - 105 B. Using Instructional Cost Study Analysis for Decision Making Greg Schutz (University System of Georgia) Ted Washington (Nashville State Community College)
11:50-1:15	Business Meeting and Luncheon -105 B

## Sessions

A1. Student Evaluation Policy & Grading Consistency - Rion McDonald (Columbia State Community College) Columbia State has a policy of allowing established instructors to select early in the semester which sections within their teaching load will be evaluated by their students at the end of the term. Using instructor-level data and non-parametric statistical analysis, the presenter examines the effect of this policy on course grade distributions.

A2. Developing a Peer Group using SPSS Cluster Analysis - Robert A. Lester (University of the South) Peer groups are useful for comparison and analysis of market forces as they impact our sector of higher education. Considerations include compensation, pricing, market competitiveness, program development and other significant factors. It is important that the group consist of institutions of similar size, market sector and complexity. A list of factors was selected and the distance function of cluster analysis used to determine the proximity of institutions to our institution for the selected factors. Additional methods were layered upon the cluster analysis, including competitor rank, consortium participation, and faculty feedback.

B1. Where's the Research? Competency-Based Education Seeks to Prove Its Value - Charla Long, Dean, College of Professional Studies (Lipscomb University) In this fast-paced, interactive session, participants will gain an overview of the national CBE movement and learn more about the challenges presented by the lack of institutional research on the effectiveness of the model. Participants will be able to describe CBE and differentiate it from more traditional higher education models. Additionally, they will understand the implications the model has on existing data collection practices.

C1. From Assessment and Planning to Performance Management - Denise Raney & David Raney (Nuventive) Come hear about Nuventive's Performance Management solution from the perspective of your current assessment and planning processes. This will include a discussion of how planning and assessment can gain a more central role on campus. Nuventive's performance management solution allows you to bring all of your data/BI together into a single place where people throughout your institution can take effective coordinated action toward your key goals. We have partnered with Ellucian to offer KPI integrated into the solution for Banner and Colleague customers. We will also share a preview of findings surrounding the role of IR on campus from a study by AIR and Ellucian.

C2. Assessing the College's Mission Based on Student and Alumni Tracking System Data - Chau-Kuang Chen (Meharry Medical College) The objective was to assess the College's mission by determining the relationship between students' socioeconomic status and their likelihood of practicing in disadvantaged communities. The dataset consisted of 264 matriculants in 2006 - 2009, matched with 209 graduates in 2010 - 2013. Sixteen variables (e.g., median household income, educational attainment) within census tracts were linked with the parents' or guardians' home addresses

(con't) and practicing locations of graduates, respectively. Cluster analysis was used to group the medical students and graduates into non-disadvantaged, moderately disadvantaged, and disadvantaged groups. The predictive validity of the cluster analysis was validated by partial least squares regression.

D1. Discover a Comprehensive Approach to Institutional Effectiveness with Campus Labs - Melissa Hunter (Austin Peay State University) and Daniel Kaczmarek (Campus Labs) Every campus runs on data. Efficiently collecting data and sharing that data in meaningful ways can be challenging tasks. The Campus Labs® platform, in use at over 700 colleges and universities, provides a centralized location for assessment data, planning documentation, and dashboard reporting. Our solution allows campuses to increase transparency, produce reports and self-studies, and interpret data for decision making and resource allocation. Attend this session to see how the Campus Labs platform can be used to connect assessment data from across the institution and report on institutional effectiveness to SACS.

D2. Time to Baccalaureate Degree Completion: Improving Efficiency for Students and Institutions - Glenn W. James and Joseph Chappell (Tennessee Tech University) American higher education continues to be a balance of (a) institutions seeking to provide an excellent collegiate experience, (b) students seeking to manage the cost of a college education, and (c) policy makers seeking to raise the collective educational level of the citizenry. The time that each student spends in the collegiate experience must be assessed in order to optimize baccalaureate degree attainment for the benefit of all stakeholders. This study provides direction about how to conduct this kind of research and recommendations about how to apply the results toward improvement of the institution and the collegiate experience.

E1. Effective Collaboration of Research and Assessment - Anjelica Pitts and Josh Koller (Tennessee State University) The presentation will show collaboration methods of the Office of Institutional Planning and Assessment with the Office of Institutional Effectiveness and Research at Tennessee State University. Presenters will provide an in depth Power Point, depicting ways of partnership, including the upsides and pitfalls within the university.

E2. Using Instructional Cost Study Analysis for Decision Making - Greg Schutz (University System of Georgia) and Ted Washington (Nashville State Community College) Higher education is in the throes of change, innovation, and improvement. We find ourselves in a competitive market with fewer resources to meet growing cries from businesses, parents, and government to graduate more students. Understanding cost allows us to do more than just determine what is good, but to determine what is the most good we can afford. Cost with performance determines choice. The flow of the presentation provides a brief overview of cost studies, a look at the use of instructional cost in Tennessee, and a detailed look at one Tennessee college.