Intercom – Message from the President
Connie Brizuela

It’s a gorgeous spring day here in Laramie and, as always, spring turns one’s thoughts to . . . the annual AIR Forum! All the information about this year’s forum in Toronto, Canada (June 2-5) is on the AIR web site at http://airweb.org. The RMAIR SIG is scheduled for Tuesday from 5:00-5:40 p.m., so I hope to see you all there! See the “official” announcement in this newsletter for more information. After the SIG, our beloved clumpmaster Fred Lillibridge will steer some of us to the baseball game, while the rest of us will head out to see “Mama Mia!”

Bad news! Joe Fleishman and Ruth Wilson, our “best paper” presenters at Vail, aren’t going to be able to go to Toronto because of the expense. Sooo . . . I’d like to propose (for the future) a grant from RMAIR to help our best paper presenters get to the Forum. We’ll start the discussion at the SIG, and hopefully submit the proposal for a vote at our meeting in Jackson Hole this fall. We’ve also put forward a request to AIR for a program support grant to develop recruitment strategies for RMAIR and to publicize the benefits of membership in AIR and RMAIR. Keep your fingers crossed!

Well, that’s all from here - see you in Toronto!
Greetings fellow RMAIRians! I wanted to get this issue to you before AIR convenes in Toronto later this week. Please make sure you read the article on the RMAIR special interest group meeting to take place during the Forum.

This issue contains a call for vice presidential nominations; please send your nominations to Bruce Higley by August 1st. You will also find a news update on our fall conference in Jackson Hole, Wyoming. Sue Koller, and others involved with local arrangements, are working hard to bring us an excellent program and a memorable time in Jackson Hole (without doubt, one of the most beautiful places on earth). We will hear more on the Jackson Hole conference during our meeting in Toronto, and we will make sure we get this information out to those of you not attending the Forum.

I’ll be sending out the next newsletter in August. I hope you all have a wonderful summer.

Call for Nominations for Vice President/President Elect

It is time to start thinking about nominating someone for Vice President/President Elect of RMAIR. The Vice President will serve a three-year commitment, first as Vice President, then as President, and finally as Past President. It is the responsibility of the Past President to present a slate of candidates for the vote of the membership, and to conduct the election. An appropriate candidate would be someone who has had some history with RMAIR by serving the association in some previous capacity as secretary/treasurer, Panorama Editor, state reporter coordinator, state reporter, local arrangements chair, program chair, program committee member, workshop instructor, frequent presenter, etc. Please send nominations to Bruce Higley (inshbh@byu.edu) by August 1st so that a slate of candidates can be prepared.

RMAIR SIG at AIR Forum in Toronto

The RMAIR Special Interest Group at the AIR Forum will meet Tuesday, June 4, from 5:00-5:40 p.m. in the “Huron Room” on the 2nd Floor. Here is the proposed agenda:

- Welcome and Introductions
- Financial Report
- Panorama Report
- Business
  - Secretary/Treasurer position split proposal (vote at fall meeting?)
  - Support for “best paper” presenters (vote at fall meeting?)
  - Other business?
- 2002 RMAIR meeting in Jackson Hole and call for papers
- 2003 RMAIR meeting in Santa Fe update
- Adjourn to dinner and/or the game or “Mama Mia!”

See you there!
RMAIR 2002 Conference in Jackson, Wyoming

Mark your calendars for October 9-11 for the RMAIR 2002 Conference in Jackson, Wyoming. Besides the beautiful location, Lisa Muller will present a pre-conference workshop on National Databases. Our event will include horseback riding, a great band, delicious food, and, of course, breathtaking views. A call for papers will be distributed at AIR in June as well as an announcement through the listserv. Please plan for a paper, panel, and/or demonstration for this fall. And for those who want to get your proposals in early or have any suggestions, Sue Koller can be reached by e-mail at savor@uwyo.edu or at the following address:

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Higher Education Funding

Many states in the RMAIR region are experiencing cuts in funding for higher education. Ellen McGregor, of Pima Community College, recently sent out a message on the RMAIR listserv asking RMAIR members from the various states in the region to provide information on what kind of cuts, if any, their states were experiencing. Here are her comments and the question she posed:

“As I was writing my state report, I felt badly that I couldn't give an accurate budget report on Arizona's support for higher education as there was NO state budget. Cuts are being anticipated. I was wondering if all state reporters would let us know the state of finances for higher education. At a recent conference in Flagstaff, many IR folks who had previously attended AIR Forums, are unable to go this year due to travel cuts. What's happening in your state?” – Ellen McGregor

Here are some of the responses Ellen received:

“Montana is facing budget cuts also; we have already been asked to create scenarios if our budget was cut 3 or 10 percent . . . most likely we'll face a 3 percent cut, and basically the money will used from new additions that have not yet been implemented to fund the cut.” – Cathy Burleson

“I reported on Wyoming's state support in my report since as I commented we are opposite to most of our neighbors and have an increase.” – Archie George

“I gathered that several people have cuts and won't be attending AIR. Archie I know was talking about cuts in the last RMAIR report. I certainly try hard to pay attention to economics because it has such significant impact on us all.” – Lisa Muller

“Utah is very much the same. As a System of Higher Education here we had a 3.4 percent CUT in state funding this year. That amounted to a 19.7 million dollar decrease in state appropriations to Utah's higher education budgets. The cuts look different at each institution, but overall that's the picture.” Next year isn't looking much brighter either. Our legislator friends have already given us
notice that next year's budget is anticipated to decrease an additional 2.3 percent, or -13.6 million more from our budgets.” – Nate Millward

“The Utah budget is also hurting. See this article: http://www.standard.net/standard/news/news_story.html?id=00020513231006461932+cat=news+template=news1.html+subcat=’” – Brian Shuppy

“Last year's regular [Arizona] legislative session was the most politically positive in years. It gave us the largest increases since the 1980s, and the increases were for two years since we switched to biennial budgets. [It is] ironic because then the economy crashed. Since then, we have had three special sessions, each to cut the budget more. The two 5% salary increases are gone, in favor of $1450 across the board for this year. A lot of other funding, almost $100 million worth over the two years, is gone. Biennial budgeting itself is gone. Base budget cuts of over 7.5% are in place for 2003, and the legislature may not fund new enrollments, of which we expect over 1000 (600ish new students and 600-800 or larger upper classes due to be increases in freshmen the last two years). They have never fully funded the formula increase, but not funding it at all would be a first. Renovation funds have been reduced to zero. In spite of all this, we lost the fight for a significant tuition increase and go into the next year with 4% in-state increase.” – John Wilson

“Budget? We don't have NO budget either! But they've [the New Mexico Legislature] promised us one by July 1st; best case is last year's funding repeated, worst case . . . well, we're all hoping for best case. ;-)” – Mark Chisholm

News from the States

ARIZONA
State Reporter: Ellen McGregor

The 13th Annual Conference of AZAIR was held in Flagstaff, AZ on May 3. It was co-sponsored by Northern Arizona University and Coconino Community College. Dr. Patricia Haeuser served as host for the conference that was on the campus of Northern Arizona University.

The keynote speaker, Cynthia Wilson from the League for Innovation in the Community College, spoke about the “Principles of a Learning College/University with a focus on identification, assessment and performance.” Dr. Wilson, who serves as Vice President for Publication and Research at the League, had taught at Coconino Community College.

She spoke about the need to shift from teaching-centered institutions to learning-centered environments and the importance of documenting learning. A three-member panel, Drs. John Fulginiti from Pima Community College, Ann DeBiak from ASU West, and Stephanie Jacobson from the Board of Regents, responded to the presentation.

The conference had two breakout sessions. These sessions covered topics such as AQIP Accreditation, Math Enrollment Patterns, Learning Outcomes Assessment at the University of Phoenix, and Experiences/Issue – National Survey of Student Engagement. The conference concluded with a panel on Data Access & Confidence: The State of the State with John Rome from ASU, Ernie Payne from UA, and Tom Hughes from Yavapai Community College. There were amusing anecdotes reflecting data problems such as having a graduation date precede the date of a student being born as well as serious issues such as
redundancy and security. The universities have created warehouses that are very accessible but have noted the concerns about FERPA. Tom’s data warehouse is accessible via his office in Institutional Research, but there are discussions of opening access.

Each attendee brought a souvenir (mug, T-shirt) from his or her school for a door prize. Everyone was a winner. Dr. Robert Fenske, from ASU, spoke about the Post-Master’s Certificate Program for Policy Analysts available at ASU. It is the only program in the southwest with AIR approval and support. Contact Bob at Robert.Fenske@asu.edu or check the ASU homepage for more information.

COLORADO
State Reporters: Stephen Chambers & Jacki Stirn

Report by Stephen Chambers:

Name Change in the Works for Colorado Institution

Soon, the only USC in the western United States may be the one in California.

Over the course of this school year, the University of Southern Colorado (USC) has been hard at work to formally change its name to Colorado State University-Pueblo (CSU-Pueblo). It appears that the name change may take effect July 1, 2002.

USC is part of the Colorado State University System (CSUC), along with sister institutions Colorado State University-Ft. Collins and Ft. Lewis College (Durango). CSUC is the designated land-grant system for the State of Colorado. Since 1975, the institution has been called University of Southern Colorado.

The impetus for the name change came along in autumn when the Governor’s Blue Ribbon Panel on Higher Education solicited revised role and mission proposals from the state’s 28 public institutions. The USC Role and Mission report states that the name change is part of a larger effort that:

- “Represents to the public that CSU is a significant source of support in offering new curricular and support programs in southeastern Colorado”
- “Better communicates CSU’s presence as the land-grant institution in service to southeastern Colorado”
- “Strengthens the commitment of CSU to collaborative programs”

Source: [http://www.uscolo.edu/news/newsreleases.htm](http://www.uscolo.edu/news/newsreleases.htm)

In part, becoming CSU-Pueblo may help the institution to increase enrollment, raise admission standards, and undertake other quality improvements.

However, the Pueblo Chieftain newspaper reports that not all favor the name change. Opponents to the plan have formed the Citizen Coalition for the University of Southern Colorado who feared USC could lose its distinctive institutional identity as it becomes thought of as a CSU branch campus.

The name change proposal took the form of House Bill 1324, sponsored by Rep. Joyce Lawrence, R-Pueblo, and Sen. Bill Thiebaut, D-Pueblo. Last month the House of Representatives passed the bill, and final legislative approval seems fairly certain at this point.
Report by Jacki Stirn:

CAPIR

The Colorado Association of Institutional Researchers and Planners (CAPIR) held their spring meeting on April 17 at the Rampart Range Campus of Pikes Peak Community College. Staff from the Colorado Commission on Higher Education provided updates on state data collection efforts. Lou McClelland and Carol Bormann from the University of Colorado, Boulder presented their experiences with the National Survey of Student Engagement, and Hans L’Orange provided an update on SHEEO and its products. Susan Jones from the University of Wyoming moderated a panel discussing ethics. Denise Sokol (University of Colorado at Denver), Tom Gavin (University of Northern Colorado), and Hans L’Orange were the panelists.

Sean Mallory was elected the new treasurer for CAPIR. Jacki Stirn will be continuing as president. The fall meeting will be held in October at a location to be determined.

Community College News

Rick Voorhees jumped ship and landed a few blocks east at SHEEO as the Director of Education Policy Initiatives. We wish him well in his new position. Rich Lovell, who was the IR director at Lamar Community College, passed away on April 23. We will miss him.

IDAHO

State Reporter: Archie George

Projected enrollments for fall 2002 are looking good, despite an 11.9% fee hike over last year. Once again, in hard times the student numbers are going up while state support is going down.

About 148 of four hundred plus eligible faculty and staff took the university’s early retirement option, which was two week's pay for every year worked plus health insurance premiums for life if one's age plus years of service was 76 or greater. Those vacancies took a lot of pressure off the budget for the next couple years, as we are dealing with a 10% holdback. The workload has already increased in some areas, such as Institutional Planning and Budget where we lost two positions.

However, on May 2 Idaho's governor ordered a hiring freeze and put a hold on vehicle and other equipment purchases by state agencies after a preliminary revenue report indicated that April's tax collections might come in $60 million (about 20%) under projection. The governor directed all departments and agencies to utilize the following measures:

1)  Hiring freeze
2)  Freeze on the purchase of any new vehicles and equipment
3)  Suspend all merit salary increases
4)  Return all unobligated monies to the General Fund

We are attempting to determine exactly what these guidelines mean as we attempt to assign faculty and staff for the summer and fall terms, especially the “unobligated monies” statement.
In IR and Assessment, we are gearing up for the 10-year NASC accreditation visit. It's tough to recruit “seasoned” faculty for key committee assignments when their departments are shorthanded. They also have a hard time looking forward to asking their colleagues to add additional data gathering and analysis tasks to already overloaded schedules.

In spite of all this, the mood is strangely optimistic. This past year administration has developed contingency plans for additional shortfalls, which are being put into place. As one planner has put it, “We didn't want to go through an extensive operation and then put the patient back on the table again the very next year.” Plans have been announced that combine three of eight colleges in to two, with additional realignments shifting academic programs between existing departments and colleges. Read all about it as it happens at: http://www.uidaho.edu/budget/.

**MONTANA**

No Report

**NEVADA**

State Reporter: Virginia Moore

University and Community College System of Nevada (UCCSN)

The Board of Regents voted recently to approve increases to tuition and fees for the 2003 - 2005 biennium at institutions within the University and Community College System of Nevada. The increases will bring Nevada’s fees more in line with tuition and fees at comparable WICHE institutions.

The state Board of Regents has gave final approval in April for opening Nevada State College at Henderson on September 3. “We have our direction now. We will move ahead,” said Chris Chairsell, Interim President of the campus in suburban Las Vegas. Budgetary concerns and legislators’ doubts about the project prompted four regents to vote against opening the college this year. They were outvoted by seven regents who favored opening the new institution. The college is expected to offer a bachelor’s degree in public administration with a major in law enforcement and bachelor’s degrees in biology, environmental science and nursing. Officials say they expect 500 full-time students the first year. To date, 70 students have enrolled.

An addition to the Board Handbook concerning student directory information has been approved. Chancellor Jane Nichols stated that the proposed policy underscored the importance of FERPA compliance for all campuses. The policy also provides a description for education records and directory information. It allows institutions to limit directory information if they wish, but does not prescribe a limitation of directory information. Student directory information cannot be sold or rented for a fee by a UCCSN institution.

University of Nevada, Reno (Nevada)

Spring commencement is almost upon us. The Nevada campus is particularly beautiful as our annual ‘sprucing up’ occurs in preparation for the ceremonies traditionally held outdoors on the University’s quadrangle. As the well-attended event has grown in size over the years, considerable effort is required to keep it manageable and of a reasonable length. This spring will feature two ceremonies—one for
bachelor’s degree recipients in the morning and another for advanced degree recipients in the afternoon. Join us in our annual campus-wide ritual of keeping fingers crossed for good weather on commencement day!

Three finalists for the position of Executive Vice President and Provost of the University have visited the campus in the past few weeks. An open campus meeting for all interested faculty, staff, and students was held for each candidate. The search committee is seeking input now, and a decision is expected shortly. Searches are also underway for the positions of Vice President for Development and Alumni Relations and Vice President for University Relations. These new administrators will be part of a time of great change, as the University’s strategic plan—formulated during the last 8 months or so—is expected to be presented by President John Lilley during the month of May. Implementation of some its recommendations is expected to begin in fall 2002.

Our own department—Planning, Budget and Analysis—will soon begin interviews to fill three new administrative faculty positions, one in each of its component areas. The positions are Facilities Analyst (Office of Facilities Planning & Analysis), Budget Officer (University Budget Office), and Institutional Research Analyst (Office of Institutional Analysis).

The University of Nevada Medical School has received a full seven-year accreditation from the Liaison Committee on Medical Education (LCME), following the report of a survey team that visited last October. In comments submitted by LCME to the school, the committee praised the school’s “supportive and loyal” medical students, and said staff was “knowledgeable, helpful and committed to student support.” The committee also said that the school’s rural outreach services provide an “excellent educational experience for medical students.” In addition to the school’s overall accreditation, all its residency programs are also fully accredited. The University of Nevada School of Medicine was established in 1969 by the Nevada State Legislature to provide medical education and training for Nevadans. Unlike most medical schools, it is community based, using community faculty and placements in lieu of owning and operating a hospital. The first two years of instruction—the basic sciences—take place on the Reno campus, while the clinical training takes place both in Reno and Las Vegas as well as other locations throughout the state. The school also has an active research program which last year received more than $40 million in grants and other awards. The school operates the Center of Biomedical Research Excellence under a five-year, $9.4 million grant from the National Institutes of Health. The center is studying heart disease and working to develop new therapeutic drugs.

In early May, a roaring blaze at the University of Nevada, Reno, Fire Science Academy climaxed a ceremony marking the long-waited reopening of the school. The Board of Regents for the UCCSN recently approved a plan that will allow Nevada to use regular student fees to repay a $31 million debt on the facility in Carlin. Student fee increases of $1 per year for three years, beginning in Fiscal Year 2004, will be used to pay off the bonds for the Fire Science Academy, which has a 30-year payback.

Report by Diane Muntal:

**University of Nevada, Las Vegas (UNLV)**

UNLV’s proposed Science, Engineering and Technology building is at the top of the Board of Regents capital improvement priority list. Two years ago, the Board of Regents and the Nevada State Legislature provided funds for planning and infrastructure development. The building will be a concrete manifestation of Governor Guinn’s vision to diversify Nevada’s economic base by supporting local industries, providing incubator space to develop new and viable technologies, and supplying highly trained workers for a more diverse and demanding economy in Nevada. The building will have a dramatic
effect on the amount of research funding at UNLV in the coming years. A moderately optimistic projection estimates that external research funding will increase from $36.3 million in 2001 to at least $93.7 million in 2010.

As Clark County’s population continues to top the charts in terms of population growth, so does UNLV’s enrollment. UNLV’s spring FTE increased at a record 11.6%, and annual FTE increased by 9.4% in 2001-02, from 14,659 to 16,042 FTE. Annual headcount enrollment increased 6.7%.

As part of the Barbara Greenspun Lecture Series at UNLV, President Clinton spoke to an enthusiastic audience of about 6,000. The lectures are usually held in the 1,800-seat Artemus Ham Concert Hall, but after demand for the tickets exceeded capacity, the event was moved from the 3,100-seat Cox Pavilion to the 6,500-seat Thomas and Mack Center. Clinton spoke at length about political paradoxes and global interdependence. He expressed his concerns about scientific doubts that remain unanswered in regards to the Yucca Mountain nuclear waste repository, telling the audience “I just think it is a mistake. I don’t think it can be justified on its merits.”

NEW MEXICO
No Report

UTAH
State Reporter: Valerie Stegeman

BRIGHAM YOUNG UNIVERSITY - 2002 Winter Games help turn media spotlight on BYU

Two weeks before the start of the 2002 Winter Olympic Games, Fuji-TV of Japan was disappointed to learn their scheduled appointment at the Olympic Village had fallen through. “Where you really need to go is BYU,” suggested their helpful taxi driver.

And so, on that recommendation—which may have come from a true BYU fan or someone more interested in a large fare—they came to BYU, cameras and microphones in hand. Amazed at the size of the campus and how many students speak Japanese, they were not disappointed. (http://www.byu.edu/news/ynews/spotlight.html)

DIXIE STATE COLLEGE - USU's MBA the topic of discussion at Dixie State College

(ST. GEORGE - April 19, 2002) Dr. Michael Parent, Associate Dean for the Business Graduate Studies at Utah State University, will be on the campus of Dixie State College on Tuesday, April 23, to meet with students interested in the pursuit of an MBA degree. The meeting will take place in the Udvar-Hazy business building, room 220 from 6 to 8 pm.

Utah State University and Dixie State College officials have worked together to bring the USU MBA back to the Dixie campus for its third cycle. The MBA Program in St. George is an opportunity made available to those students who have completed a bachelor's degree and all basic business and related accounting course work. Utah State University previously sponsored successful programs in Cedar City,

**UTAH STATE UNIVERSITY - Shape the World's Future**

Since the early days of space exploration, Utah State University has established itself as a world leader in sensor systems, sending more than 400 payloads into space. In 2002, the tradition of research at Utah State University continues with the development of interactive software for on-line courses, milk with a shelf life of a year or more to combat hunger in third-world countries, turf grasses that use 50% less water, crops that grow on marginal soils, and methods to use waste water from power plants to irrigate alfalfa. Utah State faculty are also conducting antiviral research to combat West Nile Virus, monitoring global climate change, educating the public about food safety, and developing a Manual of Grasses for the U.S. and Canada. Students and faculty at Utah State do more than watch the future unfold; they help create it. (http://www.usu.edu/research/)

**UNIVERSITY OF UTAH - Jumping Robot Olympics at the U**

April 22, 2002 Jumping robots will compete for glory. Catapults will hurl objects across a large room. Devices will climb a 6-foot-tall wall to rescue raw eggs in a contest named Saving Private Humpty. Those and other mechanized marvels will perform between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. Friday April 26 as the University of Utah Department of Mechanical Engineering conducts its fifth annual Design Day. The public and news media representatives are invited to watch the fun in the Olpin University Union Ballroom and surrounding areas. (http://www.utah.edu/unews/releases/02/apr/catapult.html)

**WEBER STATE UNIVERSITY - WSU Torchbearers Light Up the Night**

February 7, 2002

(OGDEN, Utah) Sub-freezing temperatures and scheduling delays couldn't dim the enthusiasm of Weber State University's Olympic torchbearers or the crowds that turned out to cheer them on Wednesday night. On the second to last day of the cross-country relay, the Olympic flame made its way across northern Utah. Along the way several torchbearers with ties to WSU took part.

In Brigham City, Myron Davis a professor in Health Promotion and Human Performance carried the torch along Main Street as a cold but excited crowd watched. Davis was selected as a torchbearer in recognition of his courageous battle with cancer.

By the time the torch reached Ogden, it was 50 minutes behind schedule, but that didn't keep hundreds from welcoming it when WSU student Brad Anderson kicked off the Ogden portion of the torch relay shortly after 9 p.m. (http://weber.edu/olympics2002/TorchBearer.asp)

**SOUTHERN UTAH UNIVERSITY - Olympic Legacy Lives on at SUU**

While many were tearing down important parts of Olympic broadcasting history, Southern Utah University was building it up. Dr. Jon Smith, Communication Department chair at SUU and adviser to SUTV (the student-run broadcasting organization at SUU), was hired by International Sports Broadcaster (ISB) to operate a camera during the 2002 Winter Olympic Games in Salt Lake City. While in Salt Lake,
he saw a story on KSL-TV about the studio sets that had been designed for other countries to broadcast the Olympic events from Salt Lake to their homelands. (http://suu.edu/news/sutvset.htm)

**SNOW COLLEGE - Snow now receives gifts totaling $2 million**

EPHRAIM, Utah—January 7, 2002—Snow College today announced the receipt of $2 million that will be used to help build a performing arts center on the main campus in Ephraim. The George S. and Dolores Doré Eccles Foundation has given $1.5 million for the center—the largest cash gift ever donated to Snow College. The Maurine D. and M. Seth Horne Family Trust has also given $500,000 for the center’s construction. (http://www.snow.edu/~publicr/EcclesandHorneGifts.htm)

**UTAH VALLEY STATE COLLEGE - UVSC President Appoints New Academic Vice President**

Utah Valley State College President Kerry D. Romesburg appointed Dr. Bradley Cook as the school's Vice President for Academics. Cook, who currently serves as Vice President for College Relations at UVSC, will assume his new position effective July 1, 2002. He is replacing Dr. Lucille Stoddard, who is retiring this year after a 31-year career at UVSC.

“Dr. Cook is a published, active scholar, an excellent teacher and a proven administrator,” Romesburg said. “I have no doubt about his ability to help continue moving our academic programs forward and providing the blend of career readiness and academic and personal development our students need and deserve.” (http://www.uvsc.edu/relations/releases/)

**WESTMINSTER COLLEGE - Westminster names new President**

After the full board’s unanimous vote on the candidate of choice, the Westminster College Board of Trustees today announced that Dr. Michael S. Bassis has accepted and will become Westminster College’s 16th president, effective July 1, 2002.

A Ph.D. in Sociology of Education, Bassis has 20 years of experience in higher education administration, including serving as head of two colleges. He has taught sociology, published three books, and authored numerous papers and presentations. He will bring great breadth of experience in higher education to Westminster College. (http://www.westminstercollege.edu/news_events/news_date.cfm)

**WYOMING**

State Reporter: Lisa Muller

Higher Education was rewarded with one of the states biggest votes of confidence in recent history. Both community college and university funding were increased to make faculty salaries more competitive compared to other schools around the nation. The University of Wyoming received 35.3 million dollars primarily earmarked for bringing Wyoming salaries up to 95% of the 2000 national market. All state employees received additional funding for insurance and deferred compensation (about $100 a month). As I’ve discussed with several RMAIR folks, Wyoming is often a state that has economic cycles diverging from trends in our neighboring states.
The University of Wyoming President Philip Dubois will spend 2 months this summer on sabbatical reading about leadership and higher education and focusing on the academic planning process. During his absence the Vice-President for Academic Affairs Thomas Buchanan will serve as the Acting President.

The Office of Institutional Analysis (OIA) has a new home as of May 1, 2002 under Phillip Harris, the brand new Vice President for Budget and Planning. The new vice-presidential office will be focused on university-wide planning for the three major institutional plans: the Academic Plan, the Capitol Facilities Plan, and the Support Services Plan. To add to the entertainment, OIA is located in an historic building, which is undergoing the addition of an elevator during the President’s sabbatical. The elevator will be in the interior of Old Main necessitating about 13 people in the building to be relocated—some permanently and some temporarily.

Continuing our upward trend, UW’s enrollment increased this spring by 5%. The long awaited Parking and Transportation Plan (BOS) has been released. Significant increases in parking costs will start in August. (The current hunt and seek parking permit currently is $25. The new cost is $120 for slightly more parking lots. Wyoming parking costs continue to be less than many of our neighboring universities). Free lots have been established with a frequent shuttle service. In addition, metered short-term lots are being established. It’s been one of the more difficult sales jobs that President Dubois has faced.

New administrators on the University of Wyoming campus, besides our new boss Phillip Harris, include Dr. Maggi Murdock as the Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs and Dean of Outreach, Susan Moldenhauer as the new director of the Art Museum, Dr. Robert Hensley as University Registrar, Maggie Farrel as the new dean of University of Wyoming libraries, and Mark Green Director of the American Heritage Center.

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