



INDIANA UNIVERSITY

SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

Faculty Affairs and Professional Development

March 23, 2026

Association for Institutional Research  
2241 North Monroe St PMB 1413  
Tallahassee, FL 32303

Dear Association for Institutional Research Community:

We would like to extend our sincere gratitude to the Association for Institutional Research and the selection committee for awarding our paper, *“Not Just Another Climate Survey: Leading a Change-Oriented Survey Administration,”* the 2026 Charles F. Elton Best Paper Award. We are deeply honored that our peers have recognized this work as a meaningful contribution to the fields of institutional research, institutional effectiveness, and assessment.

This recognition affirms the importance of not only collecting data but ensuring that data are used to foster meaningful change within our institutions. As our work highlights, climate surveys are most impactful when they serve as catalysts for dialogue and collective learning. It is that collective learning – not the survey itself – which can lead to actionable improvements. We are grateful that this perspective resonates with the AIR community and contributes to ongoing efforts to strengthen practice.

We are especially appreciative of the thoughtful review and acknowledgment of the practical relevance of our work, including its emphasis on translating findings into action and supporting institutional leaders in closing the loop between data collection and change implementation.

While not all members of our team may be able to attend the 2026 AIR Forum, we look forward to celebrating with the AIR community and are honored to have our work amplified.

Thank you again for this incredible honor. We are proud to be part of a community committed to advancing data-informed and equity-focused practices in higher education.

Warm regards,

Emily Braught, Ph.D.  
Megan Palmer, Ph.D.  
Christen Priddie, Ph.D.  
Amy Ribera, Ph.D.