



Kevin McMIndes, 2026 SCAIR Professional of the Year

Kevin is the Assistant Director of Analytics at Greenville Technical College. Kevin exemplifies the spirit of this recognition through his sustained contributions to institutional research and effectiveness at the campus, technical college system, and professional community levels.

At the local and state system levels, Kevin is well-regarded for consistently brings clarity and a systematic approach to complex, real-world data challenges.

Kevin is also a generous contributor to the broader IR and IE community, regularly sharing innovations, lessons learned, and practical approaches through presentations at the SCAIR annual conference. His presentations are consistently grounded in real reporting challenges and focus on how colleagues can adapt solutions within their own institutional contexts. In 2023, the Southern Association for Institutional Research honored him with the Best Paper Award for the work titled "Putting Student Success Initiatives on the Map: A framework to inform effectiveness and efficiency.

What many might not know about Kevin is: Before moving to Greenville he served 23 years in Marine Corps aviation where he was a CH-46 Pilot, Aviation Operations Analyst, C-12 pilot, and Military Master Instructor at the United States Naval Academy. He earned a BS in Mathematics from the University of Florida and an MS in Operations Research from the Naval Postgraduate School.

Kevin is also well-regarded in his professional community through his commitment to mentorship. He does not mentor through directives or prescriptive answers, but by modeling how to think about a problem. He asks probing questions about what is truly being asked, what decisions the data need to support, and how different approaches might change interpretation.

Kevin represents the best of the intentions of this award because he is intellectually rigorous, collaborative, generous with his expertise, and deeply committed to improving data quality and use at all levels. Please help me congratulate Kevin McMIndes!