

From The President

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Greetings my fellow SWDSI members! It is hard to believe that the summer months are gone and that our very successful 2018 conference in Albuquerque was now many months ago. Where does the time go?

To that end, it's time to start gearing up for our big event in Houston next March! The Call For Papers has been posted on the SWDSI website; we can always use volunteers for various things. Contact our Program Chair, Dr. Matt Lindsey, directly if you'd like to help out or have any suggestions. Houston has always been a favorite destination of FBD/SWDSI and next year will be no exception.

I am humbled and honored to be your President. We have such a fun group and we all grow intellectually from our gatherings each year. I am a member of SWDSI just like you. It is the membership that drives our organization and makes it what it is; I thank each and every one of you for your support and participation in SWDSI.

Mark E. McMurtrey

Report from the Program Chair SWDSI 2018

We had an exciting conference this year because of your submissions and participation! We had two special panels and four exciting workshops. We picked up a number of new members and had a large number of our existing colleagues joining us this year. Additionally, we had a good number who took the time to renew their memberships despite being unable to attend. Your support is what helps our Association and Conference to be successful and I am honored to be part of such an incredible group of scholars! Participation was excellent this year as evidenced by the following statistics:

143 conference attendees
22 tracks
138 submissions
226 authors
17 countries represented

Our sincere congratulations to the recipients of the following prestigious awards:

- Carl M. Rebman, Jr. for receiving the Outstanding Educator Award.
- Ahasan Harun for receiving the FBD Distinguished Paper Award and the Alpha Iota Delta Best Student Paper Award.
- Xiaoguang Tian and Abdulla Abdulziz Turki Alsubaie for receiving the Best Student Paper Awards.
- David E. Douglas and Michael E. Hanna for receiving the Lifetime Achievement Award.

**Southwest Decision Sciences Institute
50th Annual Meeting**

March 13-16, 2019

**Hyatt Regency Houston,
Houston, Texas**

Deadline for Paper Submissions:
October 10, 2018

Program Chair:

*Dr. Matt Lindsey
Stephen F. Austin University
lindseymd@sfasu.edu*

Here is the new SWDSI 2018-2019 Team



President (2018-2019)
Mark E. McMurtrey
University of Central Arkansas



VP - Student Liaison (2018-2021)
Gayle Prybutok
University of North Texas



President-Elect (2018-2019)
Khaled Alshare
Qatar University



VP Finance (2018-2021)
Lynne Cagle Cox
University of North Texas



Program Chair (2018-2019)
Matt Lindsey
Stephen F. Austin State University



VP Member Services (2016-2019)
Gina Harden
Stephen F. Austin State University



Past President (2018-2019)
Mohan Rao
Texas A&M University – Corpus Christi



Secretary (2016-2019)
Kittipong Boonme
Texas Woman's University



Program Chair-Elect (2018-2019)
Dan Peak
University of North Texas



Council Member (2016-2019)
John Seydel
Arkansas State University



Council Member (2016-2019)
Thiagarajan Ramakrishnan
Rogers State University



Council Member (2017-2020)
Ferdi Eraysal
Texas A&M University – Central Texas



Council Member (2017-2020)
Kirill Yurov
Missouri Western State University



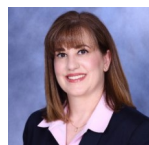
Council Member (2018-2021)
Will Senn
Emporia State University



Council Member (2018-2021)
Nicholas Evangelopoulos
University of North Texas



Council Member (2017-2020)
Michael Ellis
University of Central Arkansas



Council Member (2016-2019)
Pamela Rogers
Stephen F. Austin University



Regional Archivist (unlimited term)
Peggy Lane
University of Louisiana at Monroe



Council Member (2018-2021)
Denise Philpot
University of North Texas



Webmaster (2017-2020)
Carl Rebman, Jr.
University of San Diego

Report from VP-Member Services

As many of you know, SWDSI has a Campus Representative Program. While there are currently 16 SWDSI campus representatives, the SWDSI Membership VP welcomes additional volunteers for this program. The campus representatives are a grass roots effort to help identify and attract new members. Their primary responsibility is being a liaison between our organization and their faculty and graduate students. Disseminating information about the call for papers, membership forms, conference submission procedure, and officer contact information is an important responsibility. Please consider volunteering. Contact Robert Pavur for additional information. Email Robert.Pavur@unt.edu

If you did not attend the SWDSI conference this year, you can still maintain current membership by paying a \$10 membership fee. Please contact Lynne Cagle Cox (VP Finance) at lynne@unt.edu to send your \$10 check to maintain current membership. During membership renewal with DSI, whether during the year or at the annual meeting, please check your primary regional affiliation. ***It is imperative that our members check the SWDSI box when they pay their DSI dues*** as the DSI Home Office collects and disseminates data specific to regional interest and affiliation to all regions following the Annual Meeting and end of the membership year. As a reminder, SWDSI officers are required to maintain current membership in both DSI and SWDSI.

Report on Committees

SWDSI has several committees to which I am pleased to announce who has accepted to serve. These different committees are very important in helping SWDSI prepare for the future as well as recognizing the efforts of our membership. I have listed the membership of each committee so you can contact them with nominations.

Nomination Selection Committee

Chair: Mohan Rao, *Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi*
Denise Philpot, *University of North Texas*
Victor Prybutok, *University of North Texas*

Distinguished Service Award Selection Committee


Chair: Binshan Lin, *Louisiana State University Shreveport*
Robert Pavur, *University of North Texas*
John Seydel, *Arkansas State University*
Pamela Rogers, *Stephen F. Austin State University*
Kirill Yurov, *Missouri Western State University*

Outstanding Educator Award Selection Committee

Chair: Kai Koong, *Tuskegee University*
Paul Cronan, *University of Arkansas*
Peggy Lane, *University of Louisiana Monroe*
Denise Philpot, *University of North Texas*
Thiagarajan Ramakrishnan, *Prairie View A&M University*

Strategic Planning Committee

Chair: Paul Cronan, *University of Arkansas*
Binshan Lin, *Louisiana State University Shreveport*
Hong Qin, *University of Texas - Rio Grande Valley*
Robert Pavur, *University of North Texas*



SWDSI 2019 Annual Conference

The conference will take place at the Hyatt Regency in Houston, Texas
from March 13– 16, 2019. The call for papers can be found at www.swdsi.org

Houston is the largest city in the state of Texas and one of the most culturally rich cities in the U.S. Extending to Galveston Bay, it's closely linked with the Space Center Houston, the coastal visitor center at NASA's astronaut training and flight control complex. The city's relatively compact Downtown includes the Theater District, home to the renowned Houston Grand Opera, and the Historic District, with 19th-century architecture and upscale restaurants.

All papers submitted will be peer-refereed and accepted papers will be published in the SWDSI Conference Proceedings. All papers will be considered for the Instructional Innovation Award and the Distinguished Paper Award. Papers submitted by students will be considered for monetary awards. The outstanding papers will also be recommended to a number of journal editors for fast track reviews and possible publication.

Dr. David Douglas and Dr. Elizabeth Keiffer have offered to put on another half day workshop on Wednesday afternoon. The workshop will be Data Visualization Principles with an Introduction to Tableau. This hands-on workshop will present important visualization principles and follow up with hands-on visualizations using Tableau. Data visualization continues to be a critical component of data analytics and Tableau is a leading and powerful visualization software. The workshop is designed for those faculty that want to become more knowledgeable of visualization principles and gain hands-on visualization capability using Tableau. Users will need to bring their laptops but having Tableau installed is not required as they will be using Tableau hosted by the University of Arkansas Enterprise Systems.

Authors should submit papers/abstracts via the conference website <http://www.easychair.org/conferences/?conf=swdsi2019>. Papers will not be accepted by email.

If you encounter difficulties or have any questions contact the program chair at lindseymd@sfasu.edu

Abstracts should not exceed three pages and papers should not exceed twenty pages.

Hard copies will not be accepted.

Other conference information can also be found at www.swdsi.org

The Deadline for Paper Submissions is October 10, 2018

See you in Houston!!!