SWDSI held its 45th meeting March 9-12, 2016 in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma with 121 SWDSI members present. Program Chair, Dr. Mohan Rao from Texas A&M University- Corpus Christi reported that papers were presented in 21 tracks with the Innovative Education track having the most papers submitted. It was closely followed by the Management Information Systems, Management and Organizational Behavior, and Marketing tracks. While a large majority of the authors came from the United States and specifically from the Southwest region of the United States, the 198 authors came from 10 other countries - Australia, China, France, Kuwait, Lebanon, Poland, Qatar, Taiwan, United Kingdom and Viet Nam.

Highlights of the meeting included a “Business Analytics Workshop using SAP Predictive Analytics” by Nitin Kale, University of Southern California. Three panels were included and well attended. They included a Journal Editors’ Panel, a panel on Explosion of Analytics in University Curricula, and a Doctoral Consortium for doctoral students organized by VP - Student Liaison, Dr. Victor Prybutok from the University of North Texas.

Several awards were presented at the meeting. The 2016 McGraw – Hill Education Distinguished Paper Award for “Managing Expatriate Adjustment through Meta-Analysis: An Integration of Expatriate-related, Family-related, and Social Capital Perspective” was received by Li-Yueh Lee, Kun Shan University and Alfiyatul Qomariyah, Chinese Culture University both of whom joined us in person to receive the award. The recipient of the 2016 SWDSI Outstanding Educator Award was Dr. June Wei from the University of West Florida. The recipient of the SWDSI 2016 Distinguished Service Award was Dr. Vivek Shah from Texas State University.

SWDSI recognizes up to three best student papers with a $300.00 check to each paper. The recipients of the 2016 Best Student Paper Awards were:

- “Linear Regression Applied to Race Car Performance Predictions” Dwight Southerland, University of Central Arkansas
- “Dominance Analysis: A Necessity of Paying Attention to Relative Importance of Predictors in Decision Making Problems” Seyede Yasaman Amirkiae, University of North Texas
- “An Exploratory Study of the Relationships Among Proactive Personality, Environmental Social Responsibility Attitudes and Beliefs, and Intention to Work at ‘Green’ Companies” Lu Xu, University of North Texas

At the annual business meeting, Dr. Hong Qin from the University of Texas–Rio Grande Valley became and serves as the current SWDSI President. You are invited to join us in Little Rock, Arkansas for our next meeting March 8-11, 2017. The program chair is Dr. Mark McMurtrey from the University of Central Arkansas. If you are interested in becoming more involved with SWDSI and would be interested in a Council position, please contact SWDSI Past-President and chair of nominations, Peggy Lane at plane3@missouristate.edu
Six past SWDSI presidents, current SWDSI president, 3 (or more!) future SWDSI presidents, and other officers at the Annual SWDSI Business Meeting

Some of the Doctoral Consortium participants: