

Southwest Decision Sciences Institute

Message From the President - Dr. Bala Maniam

First of all, let me say thanks for the opportunity to serve as your president for the 2001- 2002 term. I truly enjoyed working with everyone.

Our program chair, Dr. Mary Fischer informed me that our March 2002 conference in St. Louis, MO attracted many papers and she has scheduled them for presentations in twenty six sessions over Thursday and Friday. The program was sent out to Federation of Business Disciplines (FBD, formerly SWFAD) for printing in December 2001 and should be available at our official web site www.swdsi.org by the time this newsletter gets to you. If not, please email me at maniam@shsu.edu and I will be happy to forward the program.

The general membership meeting is scheduled on Thursday evening, March 7, 2002, in St. Louis. Please plan to attend that meeting. Your input is very vital as we have several challenges ahead which we need to address:

- a. Moving from our traditional four meeting locations to new locations like St. Louis or Orlando. Although we may bring in new members, what are the consequences on our current core members who are traditionally from Texas and its neighboring states. Are we serving our “constituents” well?
- b. How can we get our members to be more involved with SWDSI?
- c. Most of the regional decision science institutes are having declining participation. What can be done to rectify this at the SWDSI level? Should we have an electronic journal to increase membership?
- d. What is the future of the graduate student workshop?

Conference Report of SWDSI Annual Meeting, February 28 - March 3, 2001

The 2001 SWDSI conference was a success. Dr. Vivek Shah, the program chair put together the sessions very well. There were 93 papers submitted with 63 accepted for regular sessions; this represented a 67% acceptance rate. Additionally, 7 special workshop sessions were presented and 9 papers were presented in 3 topic tables. The most popular tracks were: Innovative Education/Web (21), E-Commerce (14), Finance/Economics (10), and MIS (9).

The Distinguished Service Award was presented to Dr. David Douglas and the Distinguished Teaching Award was presented to Dr. Ken Black. The Alpha Iota Delta paper award was presented to Dr. Bishan Lin and Dr. Chang-tseh Hsieh for their paper, “Web-Based Teaching and Learner Control: A Research Review.” The Irwin Distinguished Paper Award was presented to Dr. Joel Jolayemi and Dr. Festus Olorunniwo for the paper, “ An Economics Design of Multiattribute Control Charts.”

Finally a sincere note of thanks to Vivek Shah, all the track chairs, authors, reviewers, moderators, sessions chairs, discussants, and workshop participants for making the conference a success. We hope to see you in St. Louis.

Need Information and/Or Updating Of Your Information

Please email Dr. Carolyn Harris, SWDSI Secretary, at Carolyn.harris@nexus.mwsu.edu or call her at (940) 397- 4714 to request information about SWDSI and/or to update your information if you have moved. You may also contact me at (936) 294-1290 or Maniam@shsu.edu.

Upcoming SWDSI Annual Meeting in St. Louis, March 6 - March 9, 2002

If you have not received the registration and hotel material for any reason, the quickest way to get them is through the Federation of Business Disciplines website at www.fbds.org. Please register for the conference as soon as possible and reserve a hotel room before they are all booked up.

American Airlines offers travel discounts for this meeting. Call 1-800-433-1790 and refer to file number 6122 BF.

Future Meetings of SWDSI

For planning purposes, the two meetings beyond the upcoming meeting are
March 4 - 8, 2003 in Houston, Texas at the Hyatt Regency Houston
March 2 - 6, 2004 in Orlando, Florida at the Hyatt Regency Orlando

Future Meeting of National DSI

Please note that the upcoming National Decision Science Institute meeting is in San Diego, California from November 23-26, 2002. Papers, abstracts and proposals must reach the program chair by March 1, 2002. Please visit Decision Science Institute's homepage at www.decisionsciences.org for more information.

Look out for the ballots to vote for the next program chair and officers!