As our 2001 meeting in New Orleans approaches, it seems appropriate to reflect on the continuing role of the Southwest Decision Sciences Institute in our professional lives. SWDSI provides us all with an opportunity to learn from each other as we share emerging research results, maintain our relationships with friends & colleagues, and explore the impact of ever-changing environmental forces on research, teaching and service in institutions of higher learning. We are fortunate to have a dedicated cadre of volunteer leaders who work each year to advance the interests of the Institute and to ensure that we all have a quality program for our annual meeting. Over the past year, the national DSI organization has begun to move into a new round of regional strategic planning. At the recent meeting in Orlando, we had several officers from SWDSI participate in a strategic planning workshop with officers from other DSI regions. Hopefully, we will see the impact of these strategic planning efforts as SWDSI continues to evolve over the next three to five years.

Our 2001 meeting heralds the unveiling of two new awards that recognize those who excel in the classroom and/or in the development of innovative educational materials and exercises. It is my sincere hope that hearing from the recipients of these awards will provide us all with an additional avenue for learning and professional growth.

Thank you for allowing me to serve as the President of SWDSI for the 2000-2001 term. We have a committed and energetic set of leaders coming into office; I encourage you to respond to their call as they step forward to lead SWDSI over the coming year.

Conference Paper Submissions

Calls for paper submissions for the 2001 meeting were mailed, announced at conference meetings, and distributed via our Internet website (www.swdsi.org). A total of 93 papers were submitted. 63 were accepted for regular sessions and 9 were accepted for the topic table sessions. This year, approximately 70% of papers were submitted electronically.

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The 2000 SWDSI conference was a great success. There were 110 papers submitted with 74 were accepted for regular sessions; this represented a 70% acceptance rate. Additionally, 3 special workshop sessions were presented, and 12 papers were presented in 3 topic tables. The most popular tracks were:

- MIS - 19
- POM - 14
- Economics/Finance - 13
- Innovative Education - 12

The Outstanding Paper award was presented to David Mitchell of University of Houston for his paper “Examining the Classificatory Performance of Modular and Radial Basis Neural Networks with Traditional Classification Methods.” The student paper award was presented to Nezih Altay from Texas A&M University for his paper “A Synthesis and review of solution approaches to the dynamic demand coordinated replenishment problem.”

Topics discussed at our business meeting included increasing student paper submissions and changes in deadline submission dates. Recommendations included an earlier call for papers and extending future deadlines by two weeks.

The new name Federation of Business Disciplines was adopted to replace SWFAD and will be in effect after our meeting in 2001.

Since printing represents a major expense and restricts the length of paper submissions, publishing proceedings on CD’s will again be discussed at the upcoming New Orleans meeting.

Organizing meetings of this magnitude requires a great deal of effort. A sincere note of thanks is extended to all track chairs, authors, reviewers, moderators, discussants, session chairs, and workshop participants. We hope to see you in New Orleans.

Conference Report
Southwest DSI Annual Meeting
March 16-18, 2000

The Decision Sciences Institute is pleased to announce the creation of the new refereed publication, the Decision Sciences Journal of Innovative Education (DSJIE), dedicated to the dissemination of leading edge ideas on pedagogy in the decision sciences. The purpose of the journal will be to 1) serve as an information source and outlet of high quality articles for faculty members interested in teaching and learning in the decision sciences, and 2) enhance the status of pedagogical scholarship in business related fields. Pursuant to Institute procedures, the Publications Committee is seeking qualified candidates for the position of Editor of this new journal. The Editor serves three years and may be re-appointed to a second three-year term. Anyone interested in the Editorship may contact Karen A. Brown, Chair of the Publications Committee. Written inquiries and nominations should be addressed to Dr. Karen A. Brown, Chair, DSI Publications Committee, c/o Carol J. Latta, Decision Sciences Institute, Georgia State University, J. Mack Robinson College of Business, University Plaza, Atlanta, GA, 30303.

The basic responsibility of the Decision Sciences Journal of Innovative Education Editor is to produce one/two quality issues of the Journal potentially encompassing 20-30 articles that total approximately 400-500 pages. The Institute anticipates initially publishing one issue per year and expanding to two issue per year as the number of accepted submissions warrants.

Announcement:
Journal Editor Vacancy
for Decision Sciences Journal of Innovative Education

The 2000 Southwest DSI
San Antonio, TX
photo: San Antonio Convention & Visitors Bureau

FBD
Federation of Business Disciplines is the new name that will replace SWFAD in 2001.
News from SWDSI: 
Alpha Iota Delta Innovative Education Award

A key element of the mission of the Decision Sciences Institute is the promotion of innovative teaching and pedagogy in the decision sciences. The Alpha Iota Delta Instructional Innovation Award competition seeks to recognize outstanding contributions that advance instructional approaches within the decision sciences. Its focus is innovation in college- or university-level teaching, either quantitative systems and/or behavioral methodology in its own right, or within functional/disciplinary areas such as finance, marketing, management information systems, operations, and human resources. The winning entry receives a prize of $100 and a plaque, and special note will be made of the winning entry in the Proceedings. Individuals who wish to submit papers for consideration of this award should contact Dr. Michael Hanna at (281)-283-3201 office or E-mail: hanna@cl.uh.edu and the SWDSI homepage for guidelines and additional information.

Prentice Hall Outstanding Educator Award

The Southwest Decision Sciences Institute (SWDSI) / Prentice Hall Outstanding Educator Award is given annually to an educator who demonstrates outstanding college/university teaching. Any person who is considered for this award must meet the following criteria:

- member of Southwest DSI and the Decision Science Institute.
- Must have been active member of SWDSI for four of last five years
- Must be currently employed at an institution of higher learning

Nominations should include a brief letter and contact information of person being nominated including current vita, letter of recommendation from dean or department chair involved in evaluating nominee’s teaching, and a profile of teaching credentials. For more information please contact Dr. Brian Reithel at (662) 915-5469 or reithel@bus.olemiss.edu.

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### 2000–2001 Officers and Council Members

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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>University</th>
<th>Department</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Email</th>
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<td>Dept. of General Business &amp; Finance</td>
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<td>(409)-294-1290</td>
<td><a href="mailto:headrick@nmsu.edu">headrick@nmsu.edu</a></td>
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<td></td>
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<td>Dr. Jennifer Kreie</td>
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<td><a href="mailto:jkreie@nmsu.edu">jkreie@nmsu.edu</a></td>
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*We need your address, E-mail address, and phone number.*

Electronic mail and the World Wide Web are effective ways of sharing information at almost no cost. Our efforts at constructing a complete SWDSI e-mail distribution list can continue with your help. The list has been useful in keeping members informed about important dates and events. If you or a colleague have moved, please provide a current address and phone number to Dr. Carolyn Harris, SWDSI Secretary, phone - (940) 397-4714 or email - carolyn.harris@nexus.mwsu.edu.