



INSTITUTE FOR OPERATIONS RESEARCH
AND THE MANAGEMENT SCIENCES

I-Sim Newsletter

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President's Message

John F. Shortle

It is hard to believe that my term as I-Sim President is coming to an end (as of July 1, 2018). It has gone by very quickly. It has been a joy to serve.

One of the highlights of the past year was the Winter Simulation Conference, held in Las Vegas, NV (Dec. 3-6, 2017). At this conference, WSC celebrated its 50th anniversary! The first conference was held in 1967 and was called the "Conference on the Applications of Simulation Using GPSS." One of the ways that WSC 2017 honored the 50th anniversary was by hosting a special track on the "History of Simulation." I tried to attend as many of these sessions as I could. It was fascinating to hear all of the stories, including the ups and downs, that have brought the field of simulation and WSC to where they are today.

One of my favorite parts of the conference – aside from hanging out with Elvis – was the annual celebration of the I-Sim awards. The following individuals were recognized at WSC:

- Lifetime Professional Achievement Award (LPAA): Lee Schruben
- Distinguished Service Award (DSA): John Fowler
- Outstanding Publication Award (OPA): Ilya Ryzhov

The *INFORMS Simulation Society Newsletter* is published in the spring and fall each year by the INFORMS Simulation Society (I-Sim), <http://connect.informs.org/simulation/>. Membership in I-Sim is independent of INFORMS membership. To join, visit <https://www.informs.org/About-INFORMS/Membership-Benefits/Join-INFORMS-and-or-INFORMS-Communities>, or contact the I-Sim Secretary. © 2018 The Institute for Operations Research and the Management Sciences. All rights reserved.

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President's Message, Continued

John F. Shortle

- WSC Best Student Paper Award:
Michael Pearce
- Diversity Award: Vahab Vahdat,
Rana Azghandi, Ange Lionel Toba

You can find detailed announcements on these awards in this newsletter. As a reminder, the awards are given every year. If you have someone in mind to nominate, think about assembling the nominations over the summer. Nominations are due Sep. 1, 2018 and instructions for submitting nominations can be found on the I-Sim website (<https://www.informs.org/Community/Simulation-Society/Awards>).

We also look forward to the INFORMS Annual Meeting in Phoenix, AZ (Nov. 4-7, 2018). Raghu Pasupathy is the simulation cluster chair. Contributed abstracts are due on May 15, 2018. For further details about participation, please contact Raghu.

Further ahead, I-Sim plans to hold a summer research workshop in 2019. These workshops often have a specific research theme and provide an opportunity for a smaller number of researchers to exchange ideas in a more personal setting. The last workshop (summer 2017) was held at the University of Durham, UK on the theme of the interaction of data science and simulation. We are currently soliciting proposals for the 2019 workshop. If you are interested in organizing the workshop, please send a brief proposal (less than two pages) to jshortle@gmu.edu by April 30, 2018. The call for proposals can be found at <http://connect.informs.org/simulation/conferences/workshops>.

This is the season when we elect new officers. We are voting for vice-president / president-elect, secretary, treasurer, and two new council members. Thank you to the nominations committee – Seonghee Kim (chair), Susan Sanchez, and Peter Haas – for putting together a ballot with many excellent nominations. Voting instructions and details about the candidates are given in this newsletter. I encourage everyone to vote. Your input is an

important part of choosing the leadership that will represent I-Sim over the next several years.

I would also like to recognize several people who have recently agreed to serve on our award committees. Lee Schruben joins the LPAA committee, John Fowler joins the DSA committee, Christine Currie joins the OPA committee, and Eunhye Song joins the Diversity committee. Thank you to our departing committee members who have served faithfully for the last three years: Bruce Schmeiser (LPAA), Jeff Joines (DSA), Jeff Hong (OPA), and Xie Wei (Diversity). I particularly thank Susan Hunter and Jie Xu, the communication editors, who work hard to publish our newsletter, keep the website up to date, and facilitate communication on our message board. They have served above and beyond the call, serving for the last four years (two terms).

I am appreciative of the many people who work hard to make I-Sim such an excellent, friendly, and active society. I-Sim will be in good hands with our next president, Raghu Pasupathy. There will be many good years ahead! □

Editor's Corner

Susan R. Hunter and Jie Xu

We (Jie and Susan) would like to thank John Shortle, I-Sim President, for asking us to serve in our roles for a second term. It has been our pleasure.

We hope you enjoy the newsletter, and congratulations to all of the award winners! □

Treasurer's Report

Dashi Singham

Beginning Balance (1/1/2017)	\$116,814	
Total Revenue	\$5,030	
• Dues		\$5,030
• Other		\$0
• Interest		\$0
• WSC Sponsorship, surplus		\$0
Total Expenses	\$(20,551)	
• National meeting expense (INFORMS 2017)		\$(905)
• Local meeting expense (WSC 2016)		\$(4,632)
• Local meeting expense (WSC 2017)		\$(3,118)
• Subdivision payment (2016 & 2017 awards)		\$(6,475)
• Bank fees		\$(160)
• Misc/General Expense		\$(261)
• Simulation Archives		\$(5,000)
Net Gain / Loss	\$(15,521)	
Ending Balance* (12/31/2017)	\$101,293	

* The I-Sim account includes \$20,750 that belongs to the liability account shared by all four WSC sponsors (see Fall 2012 newsletter). □

Secretary's Corner

Enlu Zhou

As of March 19, 2018, we have 915 members. This is a big increase from past years (618 members in 2016, 641 members in 2015, and 669 members in 2014). Thank you for your support!

We have 8 members who have been members since 1976! Thank you for your long-standing support.

We have 202 international members. The most well-represented non-US country is Canada (40 members), followed by the United Kingdom (22 members), India (13 members), and the Netherlands (13 members).

Please remember to renew your I-Sim membership when you renew your INFORMS membership this year. You can renew online at <https://www.informs.org>. If you are not currently a member and want to join I-Sim, please visit

<https://www.informs.org/About-INFORMS/Member-Benefits/Join-INFORMS-and-or-INFORMS-Communities>.

Members receive discounts on conferences sponsored by the Simulation Society, including the Winter Simulation Conference. Membership is also a great way to participate in and support the simulation community. □

COMMITTEE REPORTS

WSC Ph.D. Colloquium

Anastasia Anagnostou, Chair

Call for Participation: Ph.D. Colloquium.

During the 2018 Winter Simulation Conference, ACM-SIGSIM and INFORMS-Sim will once again sponsor the Ph.D. Colloquium for students who are within one year of their graduation (planning to graduate by Dec. 2019). Students close to graduation will be given an opportunity to showcase their work during a short presentation session (apart from the regular tracks). All Colloquium students will then participate in the Colloquium poster session. Presenting your Ph.D. efforts to your peers and supporting society members will give you valuable feedback and support for your research and introduce you to a network that can help your career once you graduate. The Ph.D. Colloquium will be conducted on Sunday, December 9, 2018, starting with lunch. Additional information about the 2018 Ph.D. Colloquium can be found on the Winter Simulation Conference website, <http://meetings2.informs.org/wordpress/wsc2018/phd-colloquium/>. □

Report on the Simulation Archive

Simulation Archive Advisory Committee: Richard E. Nance (Chair), Robert G. Sargent, James R. Wilson

Established in the fall of 1998 at the N.C. State Libraries, the Computer Simulation Archive (see <http://d.lib.ncsu.edu/computer-simulation>) continues to evolve as a critical asset in the revelation and preservation of the history of computer simulation. The SAAC serves to advise the library staff, to promote the development of the Archive, and to provide channels of communication for those interested in the evolution of the Archive.

The History Track at WSC 2017, organized and coordinated by Bob Sargent, provided an opportunity for expanding the visibility of the Archive and informing a broader segment of the modeling and simulation community of its potential utility. The SAAC expresses appreciation to all those responsible for producing a terrific conference, in particular: Ernie Page, General Chair; Gabriel Wainer, Program Chair; and Victor Chan, Andrea D'Ambrogio, Gregory Zacharewicz, and Nav Mustafee, Proceedings Co-editors.

In the I-Sim Business Meeting at WSC 2017, the SAAC announced that the Simulation Archive Endowment (SAE) had reached \$100K, achieving a milestone set in 2016. The reaction of the members attending the meeting was heartwarming: approving a motion for contribution of \$5000 to the SAE to continue the momentum! The Committee expresses sincere thanks to I-Sim for this endorsing action.

An unexpected, but very welcomed, donation of material relating to K. D. Tocher was received at WSC 2017 from Dr. Sallie Brailsford, University of Southampton. The possibility of receiving additional material relating to this pioneer (author of the first book on computer simulation, published in 1963) is being pursued.

The SAAC is entering its tenth year in 2018. This seems an appropriate time for review of the operational guidelines and procedures in conjunction with the staff of the N. C. State Libraries. Committee membership transition is included in this review.

Members of the simulation community, and others with related interests, are invited to visit the Simulation Archive website. Feedback reactions and suggestions for improvement can be sent to Dick Nance (nance@vt.edu). Tax-deductible donations can be made by contacting Greg Raschke, Interim Vice Provost and Director of Libraries (919) 515-7188 or by e-mail at gkraschk@ncsu.edu. □

Report on the Subdivision Council

Theresa Roeder, I-Sim Representative to the Subdivision Council

Subdivisions Council held its annual retreat at the INFORMS offices in Baltimore January 26-27. At the retreat, three subcommittees were formed on:

- identifying best practices for engaging and serving students within Subdivisions;
- defining needs, requirements, motivations and gaps of the Subdivisions to enable effective collaboration and/or growth; and

- identifying ways to improve INFORMS-Subdivision, Intra-Subdivision and Inter-Subdivision communications (e.g. effective use of Connect).

Theresa is serving on the students subcommittee. If you have thoughts, ideas, or comments on any of the subcommittees or for Subdivisions Council more broadly, please feel free to contact her at tmroeder@sfsu.edu. □

EDITORS' REPORTS

Report on *INFORMS Journal on Computing*

Bruno Tuffin, Simulation Area Editor

The INFORMS Journal on Computing (IJOC) Simulation Area covers all computational aspects of stochastic simulation. We seek high-quality research on the computational aspects of simulation model building, simulation data structures, simulation modeling and experiment environments, stochastic input modeling, random-variate generation, output analysis, simulation-based optimization, variance-reduction methods for simulation experiments, and other aspects of simulation modeling, experimentation, and analysis.

Submissions to the Simulation Area should not merely use simulation as a tool for generating experiments to test another methodology (these manuscripts should instead be submitted to the IJOC area for which the methodology applies), nor should they only present experimental results from a simulation program. Rather, manuscripts submitted to the area must make a significant contribution to the field of stochastic simulation, as described in the previous paragraph. Complete instructions for preparing manuscripts are available at <http://joc.pubs.informs.org>.

Submissions must be done electronically through Manuscript Central:

<http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/ijoc>

During 2017, the Simulation Area of IJOC received 18 new submissions and 9 revisions. During that period, 2 papers were accepted and 11 rejected. The average turnaround time for an original paper was 65.3 days, and 51.2 days for a revision. I'd like to thank the associate editors (Zdravko Botev, Seong-Hee Kim, Henry Lam, and Raghu Pasupathy) for their truly outstanding work, and for making my job much more manageable.

Bruno Tuffin, Simulation Area Editor, INFORMS JOC

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Report on the *Journal of Simulation*

Christine Currie, John Fowler, and Loo Hay Lee, Editors

The Journal of Simulation moved to new publishers (Taylor and Francis) at the start of 2018. The first issue was published recently and has a new, exciting look.

The current acceptance rate is estimated to be about 15%; time between submission

and the final decision is on average around 100 days but is heavily dependent on the decision made about the paper.

We have a couple of special issues in the pipeline. We expect to publish the first system dynamics special issue later this year and a special issue from the German simulation conference early in 2019. Currently open for submissions is a special issue on Model-Based Governance in a Sustainable World. Anyone interested in editing a special issue should contact one of the editors.

Journal of Simulation (JOS) aims to publish both articles and technical notes from researchers and practitioners active in the field of simulation. In JOS, the field of simulation includes the techniques, tools, methods and technologies of the application and the use of discrete-event simulation, agent-based modelling and system dynamics. JOS encourages theoretical papers that span the breadth of the simulation process, including both modelling and analysis methodologies, as well as practical papers from a wide range of simulation applications in domains will examine a wide range of domains including for example, manufacturing, service, defence, health care and general commerce. JOS will particularly seek topics that are not “mainstream” in nature but interesting and evocative to the simulation community as outlined above.

□

Report on Operations Research

L. Jeff Hong, Operations Research Simulation Area Editor

Activity in the Simulation Area of Operations Research (21 September 2017 to 25 March 2018):

For the period specified, there were 11 new submissions and 8 resubmissions. There were 8 rejections, 9 revise-and-resubmit decisions and 3 acceptances. Of the editorial decisions made in this period, 2 were late (between 4 and 6 months from date of submission) and 2 were very late (180 days or more).

There are some changes to the editorial team with the transition to a new Area Editor. The current team of Associate Editors include Russell Barton, Peter Frazier, Jiaqiao Hu, Seong-Hee Kim, Henry Lam, Ilya Ryzhov, and Enlu Zhou. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Stephen E. Chick, the outgoing Area Editor, and Peter Haas and Raghu Pasupathy, the outgoing Associate Editors, for their outstanding service to the simulation community for the past six years. The new editorial statement is here:

<https://pubsonline.informs.org/page/opre/editorial-statements/area-editors-statements#Simulation>

In addition to the traditional areas of simulation, we welcome contributions that develop the interface of simulation with other methodological areas (for example, large-scaling computing, machine learning and data analytics) or application areas (such as healthcare, financial engineering, sharing economy, environment and energy). In general, papers should be of interest to a broad O.R. audience, and not just to the simulation community, although we certainly welcome papers that represent major theoretical progress. Please submit papers electronically via the Manuscript Central O.R. Web site: <http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/opre>

□

Report on *Stochastic Systems*

Shane G. Henderson, *Editor in Chief*

Stochastic Systems is the flagship journal of the INFORMS Applied Probability Society. It seeks to publish high-quality papers that substantively contribute to the modeling, analysis, and control of stochastic systems. A paper's contribution may lie in the formulation of new mathematical models, in the development of new mathematical or computational methods, in the innovative application of existing methods, or in the opening of new application domains. The editorial board includes simulation researchers Jose Blanchet, Paul Glasserman, Peter Glynn, and Sandeep Juneja. For the full editorial board, see <https://pubsonline.informs.org/page/stsy/editorial-board>.

The journal homepage is <http://pubsonline.informs.org/journal/stsy>.

Stochastic Systems is an open access journal. There are no submission fees or page charges. We aim to return reports to authors within 3 months of submission. Our average time to first decision is 90.4 days. Please submit papers at

<http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/ssy/>. □

CONFERENCE ANNOUNCEMENTS

INFORMS International Conference

June 17–20, 2018, Taipei, Taiwan

Raghu Pasupathy (source: <http://meetings2.informs.org/wordpress/2018international/>)



“The 2018 INFORMS International Conference will take place June 17-20, 2018 in Taipei, the capital of Taiwan. The theme of the conference is ‘A Better World through O.R., Analytics, and AI.’ This year, the conference will be accepting poster proposals. Posters offer a unique opportunity of presenting your research, interacting with your fellow researcher in depth, receiving feedback and forging collaboration. We encourage submissions on both completed and in-progress research projects for the poster session.” □

9th International Workshop on Simulation

June 18–22, 2018, Barcelona, Spain

John F. Shortle (source: <http://ssa.cf.ac.uk/iws2018/>)

This international conference is devoted to statistical techniques in stochastic simulation, data collection and analysis of scientific experiments and studies representing broad areas of interest. The Ninth Workshop will take place in the UPC Campus of Polytechnic University of Catalonia in the cosmopolitan city of Barcelona in June 18–22, 2018. Further details about registration can be found at <http://ssa.cf.ac.uk/iws2018/>. □

13th International Conference in Monte Carlo & Quasi-Monte Carlo Methods in Scientific Computing

July 1–6, 2018, Rennes, France

Raghu Pasupathy (source: <http://mcqmc2018.inria.fr>)

“The MCQMC Conference is a biennial meeting on Monte Carlo and quasi-Monte Carlo methods. It usually attracts 150 to 200 mathematicians, computer scientists, statisticians and researchers in related fields.” □



23rd International Symposium on Mathematical Programming (ISMP)

July 1–6, 2018, Bordeaux, France

Raghu Pasupathy (source: <https://ismp2018.sciencesconf.org>)



“ISMP is the triennial international congress of mathematical optimization, where scientists from all over the world as well as industrial practitioners of mathematical optimization meet in order to present their most recent developments and results and to discuss new challenges from theory and practice. It is the symposium of the Mathematical Optimization Society (MOS).” □

Conference on Learning Theory (COLT)

July 5–9, 2018, Stockholm, Sweden

Raghu Pasupathy (source: <http://learningtheory.org>)

“The 31st Annual Conference on Learning Theory (COLT 2018) will take place in Stockholm, Sweden, on July 5-9, 2018 (with a welcome reception on the 4th), immediately before ICML 2018, which takes place in the same city. We invite submissions of papers addressing theoretical aspects of machine learning and related topics. We strongly support a broad definition of learning theory ...” □

35th International Conference on Machine Learning (ICML)

July 10–15, 2018, Stockholm, Sweden

Raghu Pasupathy (source: <http://icml.cc/2017>)



“The 35th International Conference on Machine Learning (ICML 2018) will be held in Stockholm, Sweden Tuesday July 10 – Sunday July 15, 2018, and is a federated conference with IJCAI, AAMAS, and ICCBR.” COLT is held prior to ICML, at a different location. □

2018 INFORMS Annual Meeting

November 4–7, 2018, Phoenix, AZ

Raghu Pasupathy (source: <http://meetings2.informs.org/wordpress/phoenix2018/>)



“On November 4-7, 2018, we invite you to join us at the Phoenix Convention Center in downtown Phoenix for the one of a kind opportunity to connect with the INFORMS community, including more than 5,500 members, students, academic and industry experts, as well as network with prospective employers and employees. We look forward to seeing you in 2018!” □

2018 Winter Simulation Conference

December 9–12, 2018, Gothenburg, Sweden

Raghu Pasupathy (source: <http://meetings2.informs.org/wordpress/wsc2018/>)

“The Winter Simulation Conference (WSC) is the premier international forum for disseminating recent advances in the field of system simulation. In addition to a technical program of unsurpassed scope and quality, WSC provides the central meeting place for simulation practitioners, researchers, and vendors working in all disciplines in industry, service, government, military and academic sectors.”



WSC 2018 will be held in Gothenburg, Sweden at the Swedish Exhibition and Conference Centre. The theme of the conference is “Simulation for a Noble Cause.” The keynote address will be given by Dr. Jean Baderschneider, CEO and Founding Board Member, Global Fund to End Modern Slavery. The conference will feature two Titans of Simulation talks by Russell Cheng, Emeritus Professor, University of Southampton, and Peter Frazier, Associate Professor, Cornell University and Staff Data Scientist and Data Science Manager at Uber. The I-Sim business meeting will be on Tuesday evening. □

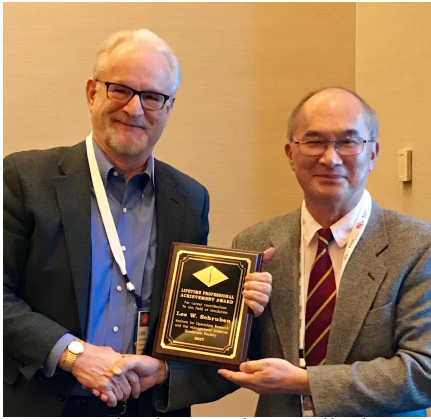
2017 AWARD RECIPIENTS

Lee W. Schruben Receives the 2017 Lifetime Professional Achievement Award

Russell Cheng, Marvin Nakayama (Chair), and Bruce Schmeiser

The Lifetime Professional Achievement Award is the highest honor given by the Institute for Operations Research and the Management Sciences’ Simulation Society. The purpose of the award is to recognize major contributions to the field of simulation that are sustained over most of a professional career, with the critical consideration being the total impact of those contributions on computer simulation.

The selection committee, consisting of Marvin Nakayama (Chair), Bruce Schmeiser, and Russell Cheng, is pleased to select Lee W. Schruben for the INFORMS Simulation



Lee W. Schruben and Russell Cheng
Video: <https://youtu.be/WC5AfyQ8PqY>

Society's 2017 Lifetime Professional Achievement Award.

To be chosen for this award, an individual's contributions may be in one or more of the following areas: research, practice, knowledge dissemination, software or hardware development, professional service, and field status or visibility advancement. A UC Berkeley Chancellor's Professor and a Fellow of INFORMS, Lee has made significant and sustained contributions in all of these areas, as detailed next.

Area 1. Contributions to research. As one of the few researchers who has received the I-Sim Outstanding Publication Award multiple times,

Lee has forged numerous fundamental advances over a broad range of research topics throughout his illustrious career. As one support letter noted, these include "experiment design for pseudo-random number assignment; the coverage function; tests for initialization bias; standardized time series; frequency-domain output analysis; event graphs; input uncertainty; and retrospective optimization as areas for which his seminal paper or papers sit at the base of a huge follow-on literature by other scholars. ? What distinguishes Lee ... is the sheer number of breakthrough ideas that he has contributed." The many other support letters similarly laud Lee's groundbreaking work. In one letter: "Since the 1970s, Lee has been the most creative researcher in our field." In another: "Lee is distinguished as one of the few simulation researchers who have made contributions of fundamental importance to both simulation analysis and simulation modeling." Yet another proclaims: "What is particularly nice about all of this fine theoretical research is that it has direct applications to the real world."

Area 2: Contributions to practice. Lee has a long and consistent record of promoting and influencing the practice of simulation through his extensive collaboration with the industry. He has been a consultant for nearly 20 companies, including Applied Materials, General Electric, and General Motors. Moreover, Lee has for many years been affiliated with SEMATECH, a research and development consortium, which a 2003 National Academies Report states has had significant impact on the U.S. semiconductor manufacturing industry. More recently, Lee has been involved in projects with the pharmaceutical industry. Lee's work on event graphs directly led to the creation of a software package called SIGMA, which has had a substantial influence on simulation practice and in teaching simulation modeling. Lee's SIGMA-influenced technology led to Bio-G, a Berkeley student-led startup. Founded in 2007, its clients have included AstraZeneca, Merck, Genentech, Bayer and others.

Area 3: Dissemination of knowledge. Lee has had important dissemination activities beyond his publications, books and consulting. One great impact is his extensive teaching, including twelve different courses at Cornell and seven at Berkeley. For decades Lee has spoken at professional conferences, especially INFORMS and the Winter Simulation Conference. He has also been a leader in charting our field's future, through keynote presentations at various conferences and his Titans talk at the 2011 WSC.

Area 4: Development of software and hardware. His simulation software SIGMA is used at universities worldwide. As one letter writer explains, it promotes “transparent teaching of modeling and simulation in a language-free fashion enabling the students to focus on the fundamentals rather than the particular characteristics of a specific simulation package.” This software was recognized as one of EDUCOM’s 101 Computing Education Success Stories.

Area 5: Service to the profession. Lee has held various offices for TIMS College on Simulation and Gaming, the precursor to I-Sim. He has served in editorial positions at important journals, including Operations Research, ORSA Journal of Computing, Operations Research Letters, and Simulation. He also chaired the ORIE department at Berkeley. As one letter states “Lee has been instrumental in ensuring the livelihood of the profession, by mentoring future generations and honoring the accomplishments of senior members of the community.”

Area 6: Advancement of the status or visibility of the field. Lee’s early years of careful research papers solidified simulation as an honorable research area. He has been an international presence for decades, and many of Lee’s former Ph.D. students are current leaders in the simulation and operations-research communities. As one letter writer notes, “In summary, I find Lee’s body of work to be the most creative of all researchers in the analysis methodology world of stochastic simulation; he is universally identified as having been at the very top of the field over the course of his long career. Analysis methodology would look very different without him.”

In conclusion, Professor Lee Schruben’s contributions in all six areas recognized by the award have been truly outstanding. The selection committee is delighted to be able to select him as an eminently worthy recipient of the LPAA.



Members of the Schruben Academic Family: Paul Sanchez, Enver Yücesan, Susan Sanchez, Lee Schruben, Theresa Roeder, Dashi Singham, Wai Kin (Victor) Chan, and Dave Goldman

□

John Fowler Receives the 2017 Distinguished Service Award

Jeffrey A. Joines, Doug Morrice, and Enver Yücesan (Chair)

The INFORMS Simulation Society (I-Sim) presented its 2017 Distinguished Service Award to Dr. John Fowler, Motorola Professor of International Business at the Department of Supply Chain Management of the W.P. Carey School of Business, Arizona State University, for his outstanding contributions in service over the past twenty five years to I-Sim, the Winter Simulation Conference (WSC), and the broader simulation community. A presentation of the award took place on December 4, 2017, during the opening session of the 2017 WSC in Las Vegas, NV, followed by an extended re-presentation of the award on December 5, 2017, during the I-Sim business meeting.



John Fowler and Enver Yücesan

I-Sim established its Distinguished Service Award in 1986 to recognize each year at most one individual who has provided “long-standing, exceptional service to the simulation community (<https://www.informs.org/Recognizing-Excellence/Community-Prizes/Simulation-Society/Distinguished-Service-Award>) acquitted with distinction.” In 2017, the award selection committee consisted of Enver Yücesan (INSEAD), Jeffrey A. Joines (North Carolina State University), and Douglas Morrice (University of Texas-Austin), with Jeff Joines completing his final year of service on the committee and Enver Yücesan serving as chair.

Dr. Fowler works on theoretical and applied problems related to the semiconductor manufacturing industry, and healthcare among other important sectors. What makes Dr. Fowler’s research record particularly special is that he has the ability to employ a wide swath of techniques to address difficult problems through the clever use of computer simulation, scheduling theory, regression analysis, design of experiments, genetic algorithms, and other optimization methods. It is these research interests that shaped Dr. Fowler’s service: in particular, Dr. Fowler co-founded the Modeling and Analysis of Semiconductor Manufacturing Conference (MASM) in 1999, which is the premier conference in semiconductor manufacturing. He has served in the program committee of most editions of the conference and co-organized it multiple times. He was behind the integration of MASM with the Winter Simulation Conference, making it the most important annual event in the community. He played a leading role in expanding the use of discrete event simulation in semiconductor manufacturing.

Dr. Fowler has also assumed many leadership roles within the Winter Simulation Conference since 2005. In particular, he was the Program Chair in 2008. He served as the SCS Representative on the WSC Board of Directors in 2005 – 2013; he was the Chair of the WSC Board of Directors in 2011; he served as the INFORMS Simulation Society Treasurer in 2010 – 2011; he was the IIE Representative on the WSC Board of Directors in 2014 – 2017. Dr. Fowler has also been a driving force behind the

international expansion of WSC, taking the Conference to Berlin in 2012 and to Gothenburg in 2018.

With respect to editorial responsibilities, Dr. Fowler has an impressive track record. He was the founding editor-in-chief of *IIE Transactions on Healthcare Systems Engineering* during 2011 – 2016; an Area Editor, for *Production and Operations Management*, Modeling & Simulation during 1996 – 1998; an Area Editor for *SIMULATION: Transactions of the Society for Modeling and Simulation International, Applications, Manufacturing*, during 2001 – 2009; an Associate Editor for *Transactions on Modeling and Computer Simulation* (TOMACS) during 2013-2015, and an Editorial Board Member of the *Journal of Simulation* during 2005 – 2012. Since 2012, he is serving as the Editor of the journal.

Dr. Fowler also has important, but less-visible, service. He is an amazing mentor to doctoral students and junior faculty. He particularly promotes the careers of women, both Ph.D. students and junior faculty. He is generous with his time and his ideas; he is always encouraging rather than critical. And he is unfailingly honest. Many colleagues have witnessed him act as the conscience of a meeting or event.

Dr. Fowler has the highest ethical and professional standards. As a colleague eloquently put it, “if a part of ‘service’ is putting your field or your colleagues ahead of yourself, then John is without peer.” □

Ilya Ryzhov Receives the 2017 Outstanding Simulation Publication Award

Christos Alexopoulos, L. Jeff Hong, Barry L. Nelson (Chair)



Ilya Ryzhov and Barry L. Nelson

The selection committee enthusiastically agrees and is pleased to give the INFORMS Simulation Society’s Outstanding Publication Award to Ilya Ryzhov for his paper:

Ryzhov, I. 2016. On the convergence rates of expected improvement methods, *Operations Research*, **64**(6), 1515–1528.

Only in simulation is “complete enumeration” an optimization method; this is the case because we can only estimate system performance, simulation of feasible solutions does actually cost time or

money, and the cost can be considerable when the number of feasible solutions is large or the simulation is slow. We tend to want to make simulation optimization problems into complete enumeration problems—better known as ranking and selection (R&S) problems—because it is the one type of optimization that we know how to do effectively. When I say we know how to do it “effectively” I mean that there are a bunch of us with different approaches who argue that we know how to do it “more effectively” than the other folks do.

Dr. Ryzhov’s paper does not introduce a new R&S method. Instead, it shines an

incisive light on the performance of a class of methods that have great intuitive appeal and mountains of good empirical performance, but have defied a rigorous comparison with other approaches: these are the so-called “expected improvement” or EI methods. Typically defined within a Bayesian setting, EI uses the current joint posterior distribution of the objective function values of all feasible solutions to assess the upside of exploring each of them next, relative to what we know now. EI methods are therefore naturally sequential, which is good, but myopic, which might seem to be bad. However, Dr. Ryzhov shows that, under fairly broad conditions, following the EI prescription leads to simulating the systems such that their sampling ratios are asymptotically the same as those of Optimal Computing Budget Allocation, which is known to yield near optimal performance in ranking and selection. Not only is the analysis clever, but it clarifies the relationships among several EI variants. Quoting the nomination letter, “I believe that this paper represents a fundamental unifying development in R&S.” □

Michael Pearce Receives the 2017 WSC Ph.D. Colloquium I-Sim Best MS/OR-Focused Student Paper Award

Susan R. Hunter, Communications Editor

The I-Sim best MS/OR-focused student paper is:

“Bayesian Simulation Optimization with Input Uncertainty” by Michael Pearce, University of Warwick. His co-author is Juergen Branke.

In addition to a certificate, to honor the 50th anniversary of WSC in 2017, the winner of the Ph.D. Colloquium Best Student Paper Award received a copy of the book *Advances in Modeling and Simulation: Seminal Research from 50 Years of Winter Simulation Conferences*, edited by Andreas Tolk, John Fowler, Guodong Saho, and Enver Yücesan. □



Michael Pearce and Emily Lada (award committee)

Rana Azghandi, Ange Lionel Toba, and Vahab Vahdat Receive the 2017 CUMW WSC Diversity Awards

Qiong Zhang, Chair of the Committee on Underrepresented Minorities and Women



Wie Xie (award committee), Vahab Vahdat, Rana Azghandi, and Ange Lionel Toba

To improve the diversity in the simulation community, I-Sim is proud to award \$500 sponsorships each year to assist eligible graduate students to attend WSC.

The recipients of the 2017 Committee on Underrepresented Women and Minorities (CUMW) Diversity Award are Vahab Vahdat, Rana Azghandi, and Ange Lionel Toba. □

2018 CALLS FOR PROPOSALS AND NOMINATIONS

Call for Proposals: 2019 I-Sim Research Workshop

John F. Shortle

Given the success of past I-Sim Research Workshops, we would like to continue the tradition and hold a workshop in the summer of 2019. We are soliciting proposals from potential organizers (i.e., chairs and co-chairs).

If you are interested in organizing the 2019 I-Sim Research Workshop, please send John Shortle a brief proposal at jshortle@gmu.edu by April 30, 2018. The proposal should be at most two pages, and briefly describe the following items:

1. Proposed organizers (chair and co-chairs).
2. Research theme and high level description of technical program structure (e.g., rough composition of plenary speakers, posters, invited / contributed papers, etc.)
3. Proposed venue.
4. Potential sources of local administrative and financial support.
5. A short list of local academic departments and industrial groups who are active in the proposed research / application areas.
6. Any other factors that would help ensure the success of the workshop.
7. Suggested dates (may be approximate). With respect to dates, the goal is to avoid, as much as possible, conflicts with other INFORMS-sponsored conferences and with other major conferences in the areas of simulation and applied probability.

You can find details of past workshops from the following link:

<http://connect.informs.org/simulation/conferences/workshops>

If you have any questions, please contact John Shortle, I-Sim President. □

2018 Lifetime Professional Achievement Award

Russell Cheng

To recognize major contributions to the field of simulation that are sustained over most of a professional career, with the critical consideration being the total impact of those contributions on computer simulation, the INFORMS Simulation Society (INFORMS-Sim, <http://connect.informs.org/simulation/>) has established the Lifetime Professional Achievement Award (LPAA). This award can be given at most once annually. An individual's contributions may fall in one or more of the following areas:

- contributions to research,
- contributions to practice,
- dissemination of knowledge,
- development of software or hardware,
- service to the profession, and
- advancement of the status or visibility of the field.

Anyone is eligible to win the award, although individuals selected for this award should normally be in or near their retirement. The award may be received posthumously. Nominations may be submitted by anyone (including self-nominations), but they may not be made anonymously. The burden of offering evidence of merit falls on the nominator. Each nomination should include:

- the nominee's complete resumé;
- a clear-cut, comprehensive description of the nominee's major contributions to the profession, with complete supporting documentation; and
- at least three letters of endorsement providing evidence of the significance and magnitude of the nominee's professional achievements. (Each endorsement letter must come from a single person.)

The deadline for nominations is September 1, 2018. Nominators should alert the committee chair (Russell Cheng, cheng@btinternet.com) of their forthcoming nomination at least one month prior to the deadline. The nomination should be submitted as a PDF file attachment to an email to the committee chair. Any questions should be directed to the committee chair.

If given, the award will be presented at the Winter Simulation Conference in Gothenburg, Sweden, December 9-12, 2018 (<http://www.wintersim.org>). A list of previous award recipients, and more details about the award process, can be found at <http://connect.informs.org/simulation/awards/professional-achievement-award>.

The LPAA Award Committee consists of Russell Cheng (Chair, cheng@btinternet.com), Marvin Nakayama, and Lee Schruben. □

2018 Distinguished Service Award

Douglas Morrice

To recognize individuals who have provided long-standing, exceptional service to the simulation community, the INFORMS Simulation Society annually sponsors a Distinguished Service Award, given to at most one person each year. This award is for sustained service to the simulation community over at least fifteen to twenty years or longer, and acquitted with distinction. The concept of service for this award does not include teaching or research contributions. Areas of volunteer service include, for example: (i) elected offices in simulation societies; (ii) editorial responsibilities such as area editor or editor-in-chief, for simulation; (iii) responsibilities such as program chair, proceedings editor, general chair, or member of the program or organizing committee, for conferences involving simulation; (iv) appointed positions for simulation-related activities, such as newsletter editor or serving on committees; and (v) undertakings and actions that promote simulation.

Nominations for the award to be given in 2018 can be made by anyone and should be sent by September 1, 2018, to the Distinguished Service Award Committee Chair:

Douglas Morrice
 Professor of Supply Chain and Operations Management, The University
 of Texas at Austin
morrice@mail.utexas.edu

The other committee members are Enver Yücesan (INSEAD) and John Fowler (Arizona State University).

- the nominee's complete resumé;
- a nomination letter identifying the nominee's areas of exceptional service and detailing the activities for which the nominee is believed to deserve this award;
- three letters of endorsement supporting the nomination and providing evidence of the nominee's significant service contributions

If given, the award will be presented at the Winter Simulation Conference, in Gothenburg, Sweden, December 9 – 12, 2018: <http://www.wintersim.org>.

A list of previous winners is available at:

<http://connect.informs.org/simulation/awards/distinguished-service-award/dsa-awardees>. □

2018 Outstanding Simulation Publication Award

Christos Alexopoulos

To recognize outstanding contributions to the simulation literature, the INFORMS Simulation Society annually sponsors an Outstanding Simulation Publication Award. Nominations for the award to be given in 2018 should be sent by September 1, 2018 to the Awards Committee Chair:

Christos Alexopoulos
School of Industrial and Systems Engineering
Georgia Institute of Technology
christos@gatech.edu

The other committee members are Barry Nelson (Northwestern) and Christine Currie (U. Southampton).

Anyone is eligible to win the award. Journal articles, proceedings articles, books, book chapters, and monographs copyrighted in 2015, 2016 and 2017 and written in English are eligible for the award. Technical reports, research memoranda, working papers, theses, and dissertations are not eligible. Nominations for the award may be made by anyone, including the author(s), but they may not be made anonymously.

Nominations should include:

- a copy of the written work, including all bibliographical information (in the case of books, the Awards Committee will obtain copies);
- a short statement suitable for reading at the award ceremony if the work is chosen; and
- any other information thought relevant by the nominator.

If given, the Outstanding Simulation Publication Award will be presented at the Winter Simulation Conference in Gothenburg, Sweden, December 9-12, 2018:

<http://www.wintersim.org/>.

The Award carries with it a cash prize of \$500. A list of previous winners is available at the website:

<http://connect.informs.org/simulation/awards/simulation-publication-award/awardees>. □

2018 CUMW WSC Diversity Award

Giulia Pedrielli

To improve outreach and diversity among young researchers in the field of simulation, the INFORMS Simulation Society is proud to award sponsorships each year to assist graduate students to attend the Winter Simulation Conference (WSC). We especially encourage applications from women, underrepresented minorities, international students, or students who may add to the diversity of the community in other ways. Awardees typically receive an honorarium of \$500.

The WSC Diversity Committee is looking forward to receiving high-quality applications for the coming 2018 WSC meeting.

Please download the following application form with instructions on how to apply at our website:

<http://connect.informs.org/simulation/awards/wsc-diversity-award>

A complete application package consists of this form, a letter of intent written by the applicant, and a letter of recommendation written by an adviser.

Applications for the award to be given in 2018 should be sent by September 1, 2018 to the Awards Committee Chair:

Giulia Pedrielli
School of Computing, Informatics, and Decision Systems Engineering
Arizona State University
giulia.pedrielli@asu.edu

To view previous award recipients, visit:

<http://connect.informs.org/simulation/awards/wsc-diversity-award/awardees> □

I-SIM BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

INFORMS Simulation Society Business Meeting:

2017 Winter Simulation Conference, Las Vegas, NV, December 5, 2017

Dashi Singham, Treasurer, on behalf of Enlu Zhou, Secretary

For details on many items from these minutes, see the Spring 2018 I-Sim newsletter at <http://connect.informs.org/simulation/simulation-resources/newsletter>.

6:19 President John Shortle called the meeting to order.

6:20 Treasurer Dashi Singham passed out copies of the minutes.

6:21 Introductions were conducted around the room.

6:25 The sign-in sheet was passed around to collect attendance.

6:25 John Shortle presented the meeting agenda.

- He acknowledged the officers of the society and the members who supported I-Sim this year.

6:26 John Shortle asked if there was a motion to approve the minutes from the past

INFORMS business meeting.

- Susan Sanchez moved, Lee Schruben seconded.
- The minutes were approved.

John Shortle congratulated Shane Henderson and Susan Sanchez for being inducted into INFORMS Fellows Class of 2017. Congratulations!

6:27 Conference Announcements began

- Michael Fu presented the upcoming meetings for the INFORMS International Conference in Taipei. He asked for people to submit topics for sessions.
- 6:28 Raghu Pasupathy and Bruno Tuffin presented the upcoming meeting for the International Conference in Monte Carlo and Quasi-Monte Carlo methods in Rennes, France.
- Raghu recommended the ISMP workshop which will happen in Bordeaux, France at the same time in early July.
- Raghu recommended a machine learning conference, COLT, which will happen in July in Stockholm, Sweden.
- 6:30 John Shortle presented a summary of the I-Sim Workshop from 2017 and thanked Peter Haas for spearheading it. He asked for proposals for organizing the I-Sim Workshop for 2019.

6:31 John Shortle presented the Secretary's report.

- We have a big increase in membership in previous years, and are well represented internationally. Please remember to renew membership!

6:32 Dashi Singham presented Treasurer's Report.

- There are no significant changes to I-Sim's finances.
- Christos Alexopolous suggested having two columns for actual expenses and available expenditures because of the liability account.

6:33 Demet Batur presented the Recruiting and Retention Committee report.

- Students were given free membership with their attendance at last year's WSC, which is part of the reason we have a large increase in membership.
- John Shortle pointed out the price for student members was now zero, and I-Sim wishes to encourage students to remain members of I-Sim.

6:35 The Nominations Committee report was presented by Peter Haas.

- The committee is seeking nominations for VP/PE, Treasurer, Secretary, and two Council Members.
- The committee will accept nominations through March.

6:36 Theresa Roeder presented the Subdivisions Council Report.

- There have been changes in model bylaws, so community-only members pay a 50% premium on section dues, and cannot serve or vote for officers or board members.
- Russ Barton pointed out that Jim Wilson was helpful in getting the committee through in passing the changes to the bylaws.
- Theresa Roeder sought offers of help for evaluating collaborative opportunities and asked for contacts in this area.

6:38 Susan Sanchez spoke about the WSC Foundation.

- The website is now up and available, and will soon be a button so people can donate to the foundation online instead of writing a check. The committee worked with the WSC board of directors to find ideas for long-term support for the WSC community, as the role as a financial backstop has been overtaken by the joint agreement.

6:39 Richard Nance presented the Simulation Archive report.

- He thanked the support of I-Sim for the \$5k donation from 2016. Thanks to donations the archives have reached their target for 2017. This money helps maintain the current information but does not necessarily ensure future ability to add new resources. The endowment gives the opportunity to take advantage of things that come up unexpectedly. Sally Brailsford has brought some items remaining from the career of Keith Douglas Tucker, the father of simulation in the UK, and other members have items of interest to the archives. The archive wants to pay for the freight to transport these items to the library. There will be a simulation archives session tomorrow at 8am. He publicly thanked Susan Nutter for her support to the archives. She is retiring after 17 years. Greg Raschke will serve as the interim director.
- Russell Barton asked a question about whether there is an ultimate target for the endowment. Richard Nance said the solution would be a dynamic programming problem but there is no absolute number. Bob Sargent commented on past archive target numbers. The library dedicated resources to the archives and if I-Sim is supporting, it helps them allocate state funds to the archives. He encouraged I-Sim to continue to support each year.
- Pres White asked if a gift to Susan Nutter was appropriate. Richard Nance said within the library there are funds for an award for her for innovating leadership. She was recognized for all her work across the university.
- Russell Barton made a motion to make a \$5k donation to the simulation archive, as we are only covering a third of the operating costs. Lee Schruben seconded.
- Russell Barton said that in preparing for the history talks, he used the resources in the archives and found many interesting videos for the field. He strongly supports the motion.
- Richard Nance called to question. John Shortle asked for a vote.
- 6:50 The motion passed with no objections. Bob Sargent thanked the group.

6:51 Journal Editor Reports began

- Bruno Tuffin presented the report for IJOC and thanked the associate editors.
- Raghu Pasupathy presented the report IISE Transaction.
- Russell Barton presented the report for Operations Research.
- The TOMACS report slide was presented. There are a number of special issues, and reproducibility initiative has been offered.
- 6:52 Christine Currie presented the report for the Journal of Simulation. The journal is moving to a new publisher in 2018, Taylor and Francis.
- 6:54 Shane Henderson presented the report for the Stochastic Simulation Journal, which is joining INFORMS and is open access. The papers should have a significant probability/mathematical slant. The review turnaround times

have improved greatly.

- 6:56 Jie Xu presented a special issue in Flexible Service and Manufacturing Journal called “Simulation-Optimization in Manufacturing & Service” and invited submissions.

6:57 John Shortle asked for new business and there was none.

6:57 The award presentation began.

- 6:58 Emily Lada presented the Ph.D. Colloquium awards. There was a keynote from Jim Wilson on research ethics. The winner of the best I-Sim Best Paper award was Michael Pearce of the University of Warwick.
- 6:59 Wei Xie presented the WSC Diversity Award. Three winners were selected from four nominations. Rana Azghandi, Danho Ange-Lionel Toba, Vahab Vahdatzad were the winners, congratulations!
- 7:00 Barry Nelson presented the Outstanding Publication Award and read the citation for Ilya Rhyzov for his paper “On the convergence rates of expected improvement methods,” which appeared in Operations Research in 2016.
- 7:04 Enver presented the Distinguished Service Award to John Fowler, and presented the citation.
- 7:07 Russell Cheng presented the Lifetime Professional Achievement Award to Lee Schruben and read the citation.
- 7:15 Lee Schruben delivers his acceptance speech. Congratulations!

7:24 John Shortle called for motion to adjourn, and the meeting adjourned.

Attendees: To deter email harvesting, @ has been replaced with <of>.

Ashkan Negahban anegahban<of>psu.edu	Demet Batur dbatur<of>unl.edu
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Dashi Singham dsingham<of>nps.edu	Jie Xu jxu13<of>gmu.edu
David Eckman dje88<of>cornell.edu	John Fowler john.fowler<of>asu.edu
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 Peter Haas phaas<of>cs.umass.edu
 Pres White kpwhite<of>virginia.edu
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 Russell R. Barton rbarton<of>psu.edu

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 Shane Henderson sgh9<of>cornell.edu
 Susan Hunter susanhunter<of>purdue.edu
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 Zeyu Zheng zyzheng<of>Stanford.edu

□

I-SIM BALLOTS

I-Sim Elections Ballot

Seong-Hee Kim, Past President

To vote in the election for I-Sim Officers and Council Members, return the ballot on the following page by e-mail or mail by May 31st, 2018 to:

Seong-Hee Kim
 Georgia Institute of Technology
 755 Ferst Drive, NW
 Atlanta, GA 30332
 E-Mail: skim@isye.gatech.edu

If you use email, please include the words *I-Sim Ballot* in the subject line.

The Vice-President/President-Elect will be elected to serve two years as Vice-President followed by two years as President. The Secretary and Treasurer will be elected to serve two years. Two members of I-Sim Council will serve for a period of two years. Per the I-Sim Bylaws at least one council member elected must be from outside the United States. The candidates are presented in alphabetical order.

Return to Seong-Hee Kim, skim@isye.gatech.edu, by May 31st, 2018:

VICE-PRESIDENT/PRESIDENT-ELECT (vote for one)

_____ PETER FRAZIER, Cornell University

_____ JEFF HONG, City University of Hong Kong

SECRETARY (vote for one)

_____ SOUMYADIP GHOSH, IBM TJ Watson Research Center

_____ SUSAN HUNTER, Purdue University

TREASURER (vote for one)

_____ GÜZİN BAYRAKSAN, The Ohio State University

_____ JIE XU, George Mason University

COUNCIL (vote for up to two)

_____ THEODORE ALLEN, The Ohio State University

_____ CANAN GUNES CORLU, Boston University

_____ TILLAL ELDABI, Brunel University London, UK

_____ ILYA RYZHOV, University of Maryland

_____ BRUNO TUFFIN, University of Rennes 1, France

(This part will be used only to certify the ballot — your vote will be kept confidential.
Your e-mail address will serve as your signature if you vote electronically.)

Your name (print): _____

Your signature: _____ ☐

Candidate Biographies

VICE-PRESIDENT/PRESIDENT-ELECT

PETER FRAZIER is an Associate Professor in the School of Operations Research and Information Engineering at Cornell University, and a Staff Data Scientist at Uber. He received a Ph.D. in Operations Research and Financial Engineering from Princeton 2009. His research interest is at the intersection of operations research and machine learning, focusing especially on optimization via simulation, and in applications to transportation and the sharing economy. He served as a Winter Simulation Conference Proceedings Editor in 2016, as the I-Sim Secretary from 2014 to 2016, and on the I-Sim Council from 2012 to 2014. He is also a regular program committee member for WSC and organizer of I-Sim sessions at INFORMS meetings. He is an associate editor for Operations Research, ACM TOMACS, and IIE Transactions, and edited the IIE Transactions 2013 Special Issue on Simulation Optimization and its Applications. He is the recipient of an NSF CAREER Award and an AFOSR Young Investigator Award, and his papers have won awards including WSC's Student Paper Award, the ACM Conference on Economics and Computation's Best Paper Award, and the INFORMS Computing Society's Student Paper Prize.

JEFF HONG is a Chair Professor in the Department of Management Sciences at City University of Hong Kong. He received his Ph.D. in Industrial Engineering and Management Sciences from Northwestern University in 2004. Prior to joining City University of Hong Kong, he was a Professor in the Department of Industrial Engineering and Logistics Management at the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology. His research interests include simulation modeling and analysis, simulation optimization, and financial risk management. He has been the I-Sim Newsletter Editor and has served on various I-Sim committees, including the Awards Committee, the Outstanding Publication Award Committee, and the Council. He has also served as program committee member and track coordinator for the Winter Simulation Conference. He is currently the Simulation Area Editor of Operations Research and an Associate Editor of Management Science and ACM TOMACS.

SECRETARY

SOUMYADIP GHOSH is a Research Staff Member at IBM Research (joined in 2004) in the AI division. His current research interests lie in stochastic optimization techniques as required for deep learning algorithms and decision-making under uncertainty via stochastic optimization. In the applications domain, his research is currently focused on the training of truly large heterogeneous deep neural network models that arise in domains such as speech recognition and natural language processing. He has previously worked on Smarter Grid and energy analytics, cloud infrastructure development and supply chain management. He has been attending the WSC for the past 17 years, and has been the PhD Colloquium Chair in 2009 and the Registration Chair in 2014. His efforts have led to IBM Research sponsorships for the I-Sim CUMW grants and

PhD colloquium lunches. He is currently a member of the I-Sim Council since 2015. He obtained his doctorate in operations research from Cornell University in 2004 and his bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering from the Indian Institute of Technology (Chennai) in 1999. His email is ghoshs@us.ibm.com and maintains a web presence at <https://researcher.ibm.com/researcher/view.php?person=us-ghoshs>.

SUSAN HUNTER is an assistant professor in the School of Industrial Engineering at Purdue University. Her research interests lie in simulation optimization methodology with a recent focus on multi-objective simulation optimization, methodological issues that arise when implementing simulation optimization algorithms in parallel computing environments, and applications of simulation optimization in plant breeding. She has won various awards and has served two terms as the I-Sim Communications Editor (July 2014 through July 2018). During this time, she converted the newsletter from Microsoft Word to LaTeX and from two columns to one column for easier electronic reading. She has also served as videographer for the LPAA acceptance speeches since 2014. As candidate for I-Sim Secretary, she would like to associate herself with the last sentence of Güzin Bayraksan's bio, particularly, that she looks forward to facilitating cross-fertilization with other communities. You can read more about Susan on her website, <http://web.ics.purdue.edu/~hunter63/>.

TREASURER

GÜZIN BAYRAKSAN is an Associate Professor in the Integrated Systems Engineering Department at the Ohio State University. Prior to joining OSU, she was a member of the Systems and Industrial Engineering Department and the Graduate Interdisciplinary Program in Applied Mathematics at the University of Arizona. She received her Ph.D. in Operations Research and Industrial Engineering from the University of Texas at Austin and B.S. in Industrial Engineering from Bosphorus (Bogazici) University in Istanbul, Turkey. Her research interests are in Monte Carlo simulation-based stochastic optimization and data-driven distributionally robust methods with applications in water resources management. She is the recipient of 2016 INFORMS ENRE Best Publication Award in Environment and Sustainability, 2016 Lumley Research Award (OSU), 2012 NSF CAREER award, 2012 Five Star Faculty Award (UA), and the 2008 INFORMS best case study award. She is currently serving as the Vice Chair of Optimization under Uncertainty in INFORMS Optimization Society (2017-2018) and on the editorial board of *IISE Transactions* in the Simulation area. Previously, she served as an elected member (2010-2016) and treasurer (2013-2016) of the Committee on Stochastic Programming (COSP) and president of the INFORMS Forum on Women in Operations Research and Management Science (WORMS). If elected, she is looking forward to working toward cross-fertilization of simulation with other fields involving modeling and optimizing systems under uncertainty.

JIE XU is an Associate Professor in the Systems Engineering and Operations Research Department at George Mason University. He received his Ph.D. degree in Industrial Engineering and Management Sciences from Northwestern University in 2009. His research has been focusing on simulation optimization and data analytics, with

applications in artificial intelligence, health care, manufacturing, power systems, and transportation systems. His research projects have been funded by NSF, AFOSR, Jeffress Trust Awards Program in Interdisciplinary Research, ONR, Oak Ridge Associated Universities, National Cancer Institute of France, and National Natural Science Foundation of China. He has been serving as I-Sim's Associate Communications Editor from 2014, and served as a member of I-Sim's Recruiting and Retention of Members Committee from 2012 to 2014. He has served as the co-chair for the Simulation Optimization track at the 2016, 2017, and 2018 Winter Simulation Conferences. He is an Associate Editor for the *Journal of Simulation* and *Asia-Pacific Journal of Operational Research*.

COUNCIL

THEODORE ALLEN is an Associate Professor in the Integrated Systems Engineering Department at the Ohio State University. He received his B.A. from Princeton, his M.S. from UCLA, and his Ph.D. from the University of Michigan (1997). He is currently the president of the Social Media Analytics section of INFORMS and the simulation area editor of *Computers & Industrial Engineering* (IF: 2.6). He has published over 60 refereed publications and received over 25 grants as PI including from NSF, ARCYBER, and GE Appliances. His research on simulation optimization for voting machine allocation has received national attention and he has contributed to millions of voters avoiding hours of waiting and effective or actual law changes in North Carolina, Ohio, and Michigan. He has also served as associate editor for the *Journal of Manufacturing Systems* and *Quality Approaches in Education* and as a reviewer for *Operations Research*, *Technometrics*, and many other journals.

CANAN GUNES CORLU is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Administrative Sciences at Metropolitan College, Boston University. She received her Ph.D. in Operations Management from Tepper School of Business at Carnegie Mellon University in 2010. Prior to joining Boston University in 2012, she was an assistant professor in the Industrial Engineering Department at Bilkent University, Ankara, Turkey. Her research interest is in the area of design and analysis of stochastic simulations with applications in operations management and finance. Her work appeared in *Operations Research*, *IIE Transactions*, *Surveys in Operations Research and Management Science*, *Journal of Simulation*, *International Journal of Production Research*, and other journals. Her work was recognized by INFORMS Minority Issues Forum Best Paper Competition in 2017. She is also the recipient of the INFORMS Simulation Society Committee for Underrepresented Minorities and Women (CUMW) award in 2009. She is a member of INFORMS Simulation Society, INFORMS Analytics Society, INFORMS Junior Faculty Interest Group (JFIG), Women in Operations Research and Management Science (WOMRS), and INFORMS Minority Issues Forum (MIF). Since 2016, she has served as the treasurer of the JFIG. She has served as a session chair for both INFORMS Annual Meeting and WSC for several times and she is a program committee member for the WSC since 2011.

TILLAL ELDABI is a Senior Lecturer at Brunel Business School, Brunel University London. He has a PhD in Simulation Modelling from Brunel University London in 2000. His main research area is focused on the use of Simulation Modelling to solve healthcare problems and more recently focusing on Hybrid Simulation methods. His works include: modelling approaches to enable stakeholders' engagement, to support A&E departments, developing frameworks for Hybrid Simulation. He is a member of I-Sim and has been attending WSC since 1999. He is a cofounder and track coordinator for the Hybrid Simulation Track at WSC. He served as a guest editor for *ACM TOMACS*. He has led a number of international collaborative projects funded by EPSRC, UNDP and the British Council. He has successfully supervised and graduated 16 PhD students.

ILYA RYZHOV is an Associate Professor of Operations Management and Management Science in the Department of Decision, Operations & Information Technologies at the Robert H. Smith School of Business, University of Maryland. His research primarily focuses on simulation optimization and statistical learning, with applications in business analytics, revenue management, and nonprofit/humanitarian operations; this work has appeared in *Operations Research*, *Management Science*, *INFORMS Journal on Computing* and other journals. He is a coauthor of the book *Optimal Learning* (Wiley, 2012), and an Associate Editor at *Operations Research* (Simulation area). He has attended WSC since 2009, coedited the WSC Proceedings in 2014, and chaired the Simulation Optimization track in 2014-2015. His work was recognized in WSC's Best Theoretical Paper Award competition on three separate occasions (winner in 2012, finalist in 2009 and 2016), and he received I-Sim's Outstanding Publication Award in 2017.

BRUNO TUFFIN received his PhD degree in applied mathematics from the University of Rennes 1 (France) in 1997. Since then, he has been with INRIA in Rennes. He also spent eight months as a postdoc at Duke University in 1999. His research interests include developing Monte Carlo and quasi-Monte Carlo simulation techniques for the performance evaluation of telecommunication systems and telecommunication-related economical models. He is currently Area Editor for *INFORMS Journal on Computing* and Associate Editor for *ACM Transactions on Modeling and Computer Simulation*. He has written or co-written three books (two devoted to simulation): *Rare event simulation using Monte Carlo methods* published by John Wiley & Sons in 2009, *La simulation de Monte Carlo* (in French), published by Hermes Editions in 2010, and *Telecommunication Network Economics: From Theory to Applications*, published by Cambridge University Press in 2014. His email address is bruno.tuffin@inria.fr and his web page http://www.irisa.fr/dionysos/pages_perso/tuffin/Tuffin_en.htm.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

Event Calendar

Jie Xu

IISE Annual Conference and Exposition 2018, Orlando, FL,
May 19 – 22, 2018, <http://www.iise.org/Annual/>

35th International Conference on Machine Learning, Stockholm, Sweden
Jul 10 – 15, 2018, <http://icml.cc>

14th IEEE Conference on Automation Science and Engineering, Munich, Germany
Aug 20 – 24, 2018, <http://case2018.ais.mw.tum.de/>

2018 INFORMS Annual Meeting, Phoenix, AZ
November 4 – 7, 2018, <http://meetings2.informs.org/wordpress/phoenix2018/>

2018 Winter Simulation Conference, Gothenburg, Sweden
December 9 – 12, 2018, <http://meetings2.informs.org/wordpress/wsc2018/>

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