INFORMS Roundtable Spring Meeting Agenda
April 11-12, 2015
Hyatt Regency Huntington Beach
Huntington Beach, CA

THEME: “Roundtable Companies”

Saturday, April 11, 2015

2:30PM  Outing – Whale Watching - Meet in the lobby at 1:15pm

6:30PM  Reception  Fountain East

Sunday, April 12, 2015

7:00 AM  Continental Breakfast  Grand Ballroom Terrace

8:00 AM  Session 1: Dayana Cope- Disney  Huntington North

Walt Disney World presents a World of analytic applications. Using a decentralized approach to analytic teams, we target analytic applications by the specific role we play and the objectives that we address. The Advanced Analytics team focuses on providing analytical insight to solve operational challenges at the Disney Theme Parks and Resorts. Our primary objectives of focus are Guest satisfaction and efficiency, not optimizing revenue or profit. This presentation will focus on giving the Roundtable an overview of the Advanced Analytics team at Disney and how it fits within other analytic organizations within the company. I will also cover a few recent projects in our three main areas of expertise: Optimization, Forecasting and Simulation.

Dayana Cope leads the Advanced Analytics group at Walt Disney World. Her team focuses on providing analytical insight to solve operational challenges at the Disney Theme Parks and Resorts. Throughout her career, Dayana has spearheaded the inception and advancement of analytics efforts within global corporations in various industries. She obtained a Ph.D. in Industrial Engineering from the University of Central Florida with a focus in the area of Supply Chain Management and Simulation Modeling and Analysis. She currently serves as the INFORMS Roundtable representative for Disney.
The Institute for Defense Analyses (IDA) is a not-for-profit corporation that operates in the public interest. This presentation will first provide a brief overview of IDA, its mission, and its history starting from its founding in 1956. The main focus of the presentation will be to show how analytics have recently been used at IDA’s Cost Analysis and Research Division to provide products to better inform government decision makers. Two examples of IDA projects will be discussed. First, we will review a standard analysis of alternatives for a proposed major defense acquisition program, in this case the C-130 Avionics Modernization Program. The second project example will be for analytical analyses done at IDA in support of the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). The main question in this project focused on explaining the apparent inequity in VA’s multibillion dollar disability compensation program.

Dr. David Hunter is currently an Assistant Director in the Cost Analysis and Research Division (CARD) at the Institute for Defense Analyses (IDA). He joined IDA in 1997, shortly after earning a doctorate degree in Operations Research from the State University of New York at Buffalo. During his 18 year career at IDA, Dr. Hunter has been project leader for numerous important studies. He led an influential study on state variances in disability compensation in the Department of Veterans Affairs. The results of this study have been the subject of a congressional hearing and have been cited in more than 200 newspapers across five countries. His work has touched on several other aspects of national security as well. For example, he led a large IDA task analyzing modernization issues for the aging production complexes in the National Nuclear Security Agency (NNSA). In a separate study, he managed a team examining the budgetary implications of various proposals to procure and field a European missile defense system. Dr. Hunter is a graduate of the Harvard Kennedy School program for Senior Executives in National and International Security, a fellow in the MIT Seminar XXI program, and IDA’s representative on the INFORMS Roundtable.
12:00 Lunch
Grand Ballroom Terrace

1:00 PM Session 3: Larry Megan – Praxair Huntington North

Praxair is one of the world’s largest industrial gas companies, providing products such as oxygen, argon and hydrogen to a wide variety of manufacturing sectors. In this presentation, Larry will describe how a 100 year old company selling commodity products can leverage analytics and operations research to fuel a new generation of opportunities across its complete supply chain. We will touch on a several program areas including predictive reliability, logistics and price management. Finally, we will discuss the organizational culture and structure needed to enable this work.

Larry Megan is currently R&D Director for Global Productivity for Praxair. Larry joined Praxair in 1993 and was elected a Corporate Fellow in 2008. In this current role, he is responsible for managing a portfolio of R&D programs focused on improving the efficiency of Praxair’s process plant operations, supply chains, and business processes. He is a member of the University at Buffalo Industrial Engineering Advisory Board and is actively involved in collaborative efforts between UB and the Buffalo Public Schools to improve science and math education. Larry has a BS in Chemical Engineering from Worcester Polytechnic Institute and a PhD in Chemical Engineering from the University of Connecticut.

1:45 PM Break

2:00 PM Session 4: Doug Mohr – UPS Huntington North

UPS is the world's largest package delivery company and a leading global provider of specialized transportation and logistics services. UPS provides a suite of time definite delivery options which customers can choose from when shipping packages. Meeting these time commitments while utilizing multiple modes of transportation creates opportunities to provide improvements to our integrated network plans. In this presentation, Doug will give an overview of how advanced analytics are used in network design and network planning. He will also present a more in-depth look at how advanced analytics is used in package flow and long-haul driver scheduling.

Doug Mohr is currently a Director of Operations Research at UPS. He is responsible for managing the development of Advanced Analytics for both surface and air Transportation. Doug has worked for UPS for 30 years and has held various assignments in Engineering including job setup, process improvement, advanced analytics, and tactical and strategic network planning. Doug has a BS in Industrial Engineering & Management from North Dakota State University and an MS in Operations Research from the Robert H. Smith School of Business at the University of Maryland.
2:45 PM  Break

3:00 PM  Roundtable Strategic Planning Overview –Bill Browning  Huntington North

4:00 PM  Adjourn

**Tuesday, April 14, 2015**

6:30PM  Informal Networking Dinner (Dutch Treat)  The Watertable

Participants should meet in the hotel lobby at 6:15p.m.

The Watertable
21500 Pacific Coast Highway
Huntington Beach, CA 92648