



Dear Members of the ISS Community,

We are excited to share with you the president's message, upcoming events, and member news. If you have future relevant events and news to share with the community, please contact Newsletter Editor Yang Gao (ygaol@illinois.edu).

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



I hope you are enjoying a productive and rewarding summer.

First, I would like to thank all of you for your continued support of ISS and for the enthusiasm with which you have embraced our new initiatives. In my March message, I shared our goal of creating more year-round opportunities for engagement within our community. I am delighted to report that, as planned, we have officially launched two major initiatives: the ISS–ISR Webinar Series and the ISS Spotlight Series.

Launched jointly with *Information Systems Research* (ISR), the ISS–ISR Webinar Series aims to showcase outstanding ISR publications while providing insights into the research and publication process that are often invisible in the final article. Our inaugural webinar featured Arun Rai, who discussed his ISR paper on the business value of IT capabilities and shared valuable perspectives on idea generation, theory development, and the publication journey (see [LinkedIn Post](#)).

The ISS Spotlight Series highlights the broader influence and real-world impact of IS scholarship. Our inaugural Spotlight featured Anindya Ghose, who discussed how IS research and methodologies have shaped high-stakes antitrust and privacy litigation involving major technology firms (see [LinkedIn Post](#)). Our second Spotlight featured Ravi Bapna, who demonstrated how engaged scholarship can simultaneously generate scholarly impact, transform industry practice, and enhance teaching and executive education (see [LinkedIn Post](#)). Looking ahead, our forthcoming Spotlight podcast will feature Wei Chen and Liwei Chen, who will share their experiences teaching generative AI in business education and the lessons they have learned from integrating AI into the classroom.

These initiatives would not have been possible without the dedication of many volunteers and colleagues. I am deeply grateful to the speakers, organizers, hosts, and participants who have helped bring them to life.

Looking ahead, award season is fast approaching. The ISS awards program remains one of our Society's most important traditions, recognizing excellence in research, service, teaching, and community contributions. We anticipate a timeline similar to previous years. Award committees will be formed shortly and calls for nominations will be distributed in the coming weeks. I encourage you to nominate deserving colleagues and help us celebrate the many accomplishments within our community.

Preparations for CIST 2026 are also well underway. Prior to CIST, we will once again host the ISS Doctoral Consortium and the ISS–ISR Paper Development Workshop for Early Career Scholars, two important programs that reflect our commitment to supporting the next generation of IS scholars. Our conference co-chairs and organizing team have been working diligently to create another outstanding year for the IS

community. This year's conference will be held in beautiful San Francisco, and I hope to see many of you there.

Thank you again for your support, participation, and commitment to ISS. Together, we continue to build a vibrant, inclusive, and impactful community. I look forward to connecting with many of you through our virtual initiatives and, of course, in San Francisco this fall.

Jianqing Chen
President, INFORMS Information Systems Society (ISS)
Ashbel Smith Professor of Information Systems
The University of Texas at Dallas

UPCOMING EVENTS

Conferences

[Symposium on Statistical Challenges in E-Commerce Research \(SCECR\)](#)

Date: June 21–24, 2026.

Location: Tokyo, Japan.

Registration is still open.

[Conference on Information Systems and Technology \(CIST\)](#)

Date: October 31 and November 1, 2026

Location: San Francisco, CA

Paper submission is open and will be closed on June 21.

ISS Spotlight Series

We are excited to launch the inaugural podcast episode of the INFORMS Information Systems Society Spotlight Series. In this opening episode, we speak with Professors [Wei Chen](#) from the University of Connecticut and [Liwei Chen](#) from the University of Cincinnati, co-authors of [Generative AI for Business: Frameworks, Techniques, and Governance](#). What should we teach when GenAI tools change every few months? How do we move students from “AI feels too advanced” to “I can build with this”? And what happens when the classroom demo breaks—because the technology changed overnight?

A few surprising and counterintuitive insights stood out:

- **The concepts may be more stable than the tools.** As Wei Chen noted, “the frameworks are still the same”—prompting, RAG, agents, and workflows remain central even as platforms change.
- **Broken demos can become powerful teaching moments.** Liwei Chen shared that when a tool failed in class, she reframed it as part of working with frontier technologies: students learned not only the tool, but also how to adapt when systems break.
- **MBA and executive students may benefit even more from hands-on labs.** Working professionals bring real problems to class and can immediately see how GenAI workflows apply to their own organizations.
- **GenAI is not just changing human–AI interaction.** It is also changing “how human interact with other humans,” raising new questions about collaboration, service processes, and organizational design.

- **The biggest opportunity may not be automation, but transformation.** The conversation points beyond tools toward workflow redesign, AI-native organizations, and the role IS scholars can play in shaping the future of work.

Please listen to the podcast on YouTube (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IMmogEAS7BI>) or Spotify (<https://open.spotify.com/episode/37CqJrL5ugseVUAivjmvAh?si=8ivkbKY9S-iED9nkh7EuRg>).

ISS Initiatives at CIST

ISS will organize and support [two events](#) at CIST this year.

- **ISS Doctoral Consortium**

The ISS Doctoral Consortium will be held on Friday, October 30, 2026, in conjunction with CIST. [Martin Bichler](#), [Ting Li](#), [D.J. Wu](#), and [Ling Xue](#) will be chairing the event. Please contact [Ling Xue](#) at ling.xue@uga.edu if you have any questions regarding the event.

- **ISR/ISS Paper Development Workshop for Early Career Scholars**

[Suprateek Sarker](#) (ISR EIC) and [Yi-Chun \(Chad\) Ho](#) will be chairing the workshop, which will be held at the same time as the Doctoral Consortium on Friday, October 30, 2026.

ISS AWARDS

ISS will soon launch its annual awards program, which recognizes outstanding contributions in research, teaching, service, practice, and doctoral scholarship. We encourage members to nominate deserving colleagues and students who have made significant contributions to the Information Systems community. Awards include:

- ISS Distinguished Fellow Award
- ISS Sandra A. Slaughter Early Career Award
- ISS Nunamaker-Chen Dissertation Award
- ISS Gordon B. Davis Young Scholar Award
- ISS Andrew B. Whinston Pathbreaking Research Award
- ISS Practical Impacts Award
- ISS Teaching Innovation Award
- ISS President's Service Award
- ISS Social Justice Best Paper Award

For award descriptions, eligibility requirements, and nomination procedures, please visit: <http://connect.informs.org/iss/awards>. Please note that the website currently contains information from the previous awards cycle. Updated nomination procedures, deadlines, and committee information for this year's awards program will be announced soon.

MEMBER NEWS

ISS member, [Alok Gupta](#), is running for the INFORMS VP of Publications. Voting will be open soon. We sincerely encourage all ISS members to support and vote for Alok. Please find his candidate statement as follows.

Dr. Alok Gupta

INFORMS has a flourishing publication suite, yet our community faces three converging pressures that demand active leadership: a review process that inconsistency; a persistent gap between the rigor of our research and its reach beyond academia; and the rapid arrival of generative AI, which is disrupting how

manuscripts are written, reviewed, and consumed. Having spent six years as Editor-in-Chief of ISR and on the boards of Management Science and ISR, I have confronted these pressures as author, reviewer, AE, DE, and EIC. If elected as Vice President of Publications, I will pursue three concrete initiatives.

1. Restoring editorial accountability and protecting creative research from an overly conservative review culture. The most corrosive pattern I observed across thousands of manuscripts at ISR was not slow reviews -- it was editors relaying contradictory reviewer demands back to authors without exercising independent judgment. As an associate editor at ISR and Management Science, I overruled at least one reviewer on almost half the papers I accepted and roughly 10% of those I rejected, because the editor's job is to evaluate contribution, not aggregate reviewer opinion. I will bring some of the ideas (dashboards, active advice mechanisms) to other INFORMS' journals. I will work with editors to establish clear decision timelines, hold editors accountable for resolving reviewer conflicts rather than passing them to authors, and require that reviewers base their critiques on substantiated claims. Our journals commit too many Type II errors where they reject creative, high-quality ideas because the review process is designed primarily to avoid Type I errors. That balance needs to shift.

2. Using generative AI to close the gap between our research and the world that needs it. While at ISR, I launched a partnership with MIT Sloan Management Review and appointed a dedicated Senior Editor for Research Outreach to translate accepted ISR articles into content that practitioners and executives would actually read. That initiative worked, but it was manual and limited in scale. Generative AI now makes it possible to do this systematically across all 17 INFORMS journals. I propose to launch a Research Amplification Initiative that uses generative AI to convert accepted INFORMS articles into practitioner briefs, narrated executive summaries, and interactive knowledge bases grounded strictly in the published text. A short summary can be made open-access; whereas the full interactive layer becomes a membership benefit, simultaneously increasing societal impact and the value of INFORMS membership.

3. Establishing principled policies on AI in authorship and peer review (before the absence of policy causes lasting damage). Editors across INFORMS journals are already reporting a surge in manuscripts that appear substantially AI-generated, and some reviewers are using AI tools to write their reviews. Both trends, if left unaddressed, will hollow out the scholarly standards that make our journals worth publishing in. I will work with the INFORMS-wide task force to develop consistent author disclosure requirements that distinguish legitimate AI use, e.g., language editing, literature synthesis, from uses that compromise intellectual accountability. On the review side, AI tools offer real potential to help reviewers check internal consistency or flag statistical anomalies, and I am not opposed to that. But peer review derives its value from the exercise of expert human judgment, and I am in favor of developing guidelines that preserve authentic human involvement while allowing reviewers to use AI for specific, bounded tasks.

I have spent my career trying to make that process faster, fairer, and more open to genuinely creative work and to ensure that the research we publish reaches beyond the academy. I am committed to continuing that work for INFORMS and its members.