

INFORMS Optimization Society Business Meeting - November 9, 2014

Agenda

- Optimization Society Conference (Sanjay Mehrotra)
- Secretary/Treasurer's report (Jim Luedtke)
- OS Prizes (Sanjay Mehrotra)
- Election results (Sanjay Mehrotra)
- Optimization Society Special Interest Group Name Changes (Sanjay Mehrotra)

Optimization Society Conference

2014 OS Conference was held March 6-8, 2014; Rice University, Houston, TX

- Theme: "Theory and Practice: Dealing with Big Data and Other Challenges"
- Website: <http://www.caam.rice.edu/~ios2014>
- Many thanks to the general chair Ilya Hicks for a successful conference
- Organizing Committee: Matthias Heinkenschloss, Ilya Hicks, Wotao Yin
- Plenary Speakers: Bob Bixby, Anatoli Juditsky, Jorge Nocedal, Ben Recht
- ~104 regular talks were given in 29 sessions
- Sponsors: PROS, AMPL, IBM, SAS, Gurobi

If anyone is interested in hosting the 2016 Optimization Society Conference, please contact Suvrajeet Sen (sen at datadrivendecisions.org) by January 20, 2015.

Secretary/Treasurer's report

Financials:

- 2009: Ending balance \$38,830.
- 2010: Ending balance \$50,165.
- 2011: Ending balance \$51,685.
- 2012: Ending balance \$62,102.
- 2013: Ending balance \$61,711.
- 2014: Ending balance \$72,343 (projected).
- In years without a conference, revenue and expenses are approximately balanced. We've had several financially successful conferences, including 2014 at Rice, which has led to an increase in the balance over time.
- Business meeting expenses have been increasing. The consensus appears that this is a worthwhile expense.

Membership as of Nov. 1, 2014:

- Total members: 1434 (up 379 from 2013)
- Full members: 782 (up 145 from 2013)
- Student members: 597 (up 216 from 2013)
- Retirees: 40 (up 15 from 2013)
- Other: 15 (up 3 from 2013)

OS membership increased substantially in the last year, and the student membership increase more than made up for the slight decrease in student membership last year. In general, the student membership level is highly variable from year to year. The steady increase in full membership is encouraging.

OS Prizes

- The Society awards four annual prizes.
- Webpage <http://www.informs.org/Community/Optimization-Society/Prizes> contains information on winners and nomination deadlines for future prizes.
- The prize winners presented their work and received the plaques and prizes at a special conference session sponsored by the OS on Tuesday, November 11, 2014.
- Below is the information on each award --- congratulations again to all the winners, and many thanks to all the prize committee members!

2014 Student Paper Prize

- Committee: Santanu S. Dey (chair), Serhat Aybat, Güzin Bayraksan, François Margot

- Winner: Damek Davis of UCLA, for his paper "Convergence rate analysis of several splitting schemes", with Wotao Yin.

2014 Prize for Young Researchers

- Committee: Andrzej Ruszczyński (chair), Katya Scheinberg, Javier Peña, Jean-Philippe Richard
- Winner: Jiawang Nie of the UC San Diego, for his paper "Optimality conditions and finite convergence of Lasserre's hierarchy," Mathematical Programming, Ser. A (2014) 146:97-121.

The 2014 Farkas Prize for Mid-career Researchers

- Committee: Yinyu Ye (chair), Garud N. Iyengar, Jean B. Lasserre, Zhi-Quan (Tom) Luo.
- Winner: Farid Alizadeh of Rutgers University, for his groundbreaking work in the field of semidefinite programming.

The 2014 Khachiyan Prize for Life-time Accomplishments in Optimization

- Committee: Tamás Terlaky (chair), Daniel Bienstock, Immanuel Bomze, John Birge.
- Winners:
 - Dimitri Bertsekas of MIT, his fundamental and far-reaching contributions to optimization theory, computational methods, and the application of optimization methods in multiple application domains.
 - Clóvis C. Gonzaga of Federal University of Santa Catarina, Brazil, for his remarkable fundamental contributions to the theory and applications of continuous optimization, in particular to the field of interior point methods and complexity theory.

Election results

Continuing officers:

- Secretary/Treasurer: Jim Luedtke (2013-2015)
- Editors: Shabbir Ahmed (newsletter), Pietro Belotti (website)
- Vice chairs (2013-2015): Imre Pólik (Computational Optimization and Software), Juan Pablo Vielma (Integer and Discrete Optimization), Vladimir Boginski (Network Optimization), John Mitchell (Conic Optimization)

Thanks to the officers finishing their terms:

- Chair: Sanjay Mehrotra (Chair 2012-2014; Most-recent past Chair 2014-2015)
- Vice chairs (2012-2014): Andreas Waechter (Nonlinear Optimization), Andrew Schaefer (Optimization Under Uncertainty), Leo Liberti (Global Optimization)

Incoming officers:

- Chair: Suvrajeet Sen (2014-2016)
- Vice chairs (2014-2016): Daniel P. Robinson (Nonlinear Optimization), Warren Powell (Optimization under uncertainty), Aida Khajavirad (Global Optimization)

Optimization Society Special Interest Group Name Changes

The results on the vote for changing the names of the special interest groups to use the word "Optimization" were announced. The vote was held online in early 2014, and all proposed changes passed successfully. The old and new names are listed below, along with the percentage of the votes that approved the change.

- Networks -> Network Optimization (90%)
- Nonlinear programming -> Nonlinear Optimization (85%)
- Stochastic programming -> Optimization under Uncertainty (75%)
- Integer programming --> Integer and Discrete Optimization (92%)
- Linear Programming and Complementarity --> Linear and Conic Optimization (81%)

Thanks

Thanks to all of you for supporting the INFORMS Optimization Society.

Society officers welcome any questions, suggestions and ideas related to the Optimization Society activities.

See you at the the next INFORMS Annual Meeting in Philadelphia in 2015!

Jim Luedtke

Secretary/Treasurer

INFORMS Optimization Society

jrluedt1 at wisc.edu