ICS Business Meeting @ 2019 INFORMS Annual Meeting

October 21, 2019

Simge Kucukyavuz, ICS vice-chair/chair-elect chaired the meeting because Cole Smith, chair, was unable to attend. Simge opened the meeting at 6:30.

- The 2021 ICS Conference will be held in Tampa, Florida, January 24-26, 2021. The later date is in response to feedback received on the 2019 Knoxville conference. Hardi Charkhgard, Tapas Das, and Changhyun Kwon of University of South Florida are the organizers. They are planning a JuMP workshop in association with the conference and hope it will boost attendance. (Note: dates changed to Jan. 17-19)
- Doug Shier, prize committee chair, presented the ICS Prize to William E. Hart, Carl D. Laird, Jean-Paul Watson, David L. Woodruff, Gabriel A. Hackebeil, Bethany L. Nicholson & John Siirola for their work on Pyomo. Fatma Kilinc-Karzan and Tom Sharkey served on the committee.
- Frank Curtis, prize committee chair, presented the ICS Student Paper Award to Ryan Cory-Wright and Jean Pauphilet of MIT for their paper “A Unified Approach to Mixed-Integer Optimization: Nonlinear Formulations and Scalable Algorithms”. Honorable mention was presented to Sebastián Pérez-Salazar of Georgia Tech for his paper “Dynamic Resource Allocation in the Cloud with Near-Optimal Efficiency”. Liyan Xie of Georgia Tech was not present to receive honorable mention for her paper “Robust Hypothesis Testing Using Wasserstein Uncertainty Sets.” Sergiy Butenko and Georgina Hall served on the committee.
- Ted Ralphs, on behalf of committee chair Karen Aardal, presented the ICS Harvey J. Greenberg Award for Service to Alan Holder. Andreas Waechter also served on the committee.
- This is the last time the service award will be presented as the Harvey J. Greenberg award because of the new Harvey J. Greenberg research award. The research award will be funded by an endowment with 2-to-1 matching by Bill Pierskalla. Fundraising is ongoing and needs to be completed by the end of the year. Donations can be made on the INFORMS website.
- Priyadarshan Patil of UT Austin was presented with the first-place prize in the new fORged-by-Machines Contest by Suvrajeet Sen, organizer, and Mike Huck of AWS, who sponsored the competition. Saeed Chavoshi and Rahman Khorramfar of NC State were runners up and Roshanak Khalegi and Juan Xu were given honorable mention.
- Mary Fenelon thanked outgoing board members Karen Aardal and Jim Ostrowski and outgoing chair Cole Smith. She asked for nominations for Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect, Secretary-Treasurer, and two board members. Nominations will remain open for about two weeks. Those elected take their positions on January 1.
- Mary gave the treasurer’s report. The ICS Conference in Knoxville had poor attendance and incurred about a $10,000 loss. Causes and mitigations were discussed at the ICS business meeting in Knoxville; see those notes for details. The balance of $47,731.00 compares with the 2018 balance of $55,392 and does not yet reflect expenses from the annual meeting (refreshments and awards). The annual dues revenue balances award, refreshment, and administrative expenses.

- Alice Smith, editor of INFORMS Journal on Computing, gave an update on changes to the leadership team and editors. Review time has been reduced. Backlog is up to the equivalent of 7 issues but will be helped by increase of 160 pages in 2020. Awards have been established for reviewers and for a “Test of Time” paper.

- Merve Bodur helped Simge on organizing the ICS cluster and presented a summary.

Simge closed the meeting at 7:30.