

INFORMS Computing Society Business Meeting
October 18, 2021

The meeting was held on Zoom from 6:00-7:05 PM ET the week before the INFORMS Annual Meeting – Hybrid 2021. The chair, Simge Küçükyavuz, led the meeting. The slides used in the various presentations are to be posted on the ICS website. The meeting started with 40 attendees which rose to 51 after a few minutes.

Changhyun Kwon reported on the upcoming ICS Conference in Tampa in January. There were 110 submissions and with the deadline extended, they expect more. The conference will be the first all in-person INFORMS meeting since COVID.

Akshay Gupte, vice-chair, reported that the number of ICS-sponsored sessions has returned to pre-COVID levels after a big drop last year. He gave a shout-out to Giacomo Nannicini and Ilya Safro for their work on organizing seven sessions on quantum computing.

Giacomo then reported on the accomplishments of the Quantum Computing Working Group that Simge chartered last year and which Giacomo chaired. They published an article in OR/MS Today and will soon post a list of resources. Other activities include the aforementioned sessions on quantum computing and a workshop at the Fields Institute in 2022.

Editor Alice Smith reported on the Computing Journal, noting the improved impact factor, reduction in days until first decision, and the happy news that INFORMS is likely to approve an increase in pages and issues which will help to reduce the backlog.

Simge introduced each of the ICS award chairs who then read each of the citations and introduced the winners. See the Awards page on the ICS site for details.

Secretary/Treasurer Mary Fenelon thanked outgoing officers and solicited nominations for 2022 officers. No nominations were given; nominations will remain open for a couple of weeks. Send nominations to mcfenelon@gmail.com.

Mary continued with the treasurer's report. Dues revenue was down by one-third last year. The balance increased slightly due to lower expense for the 2020 annual meeting. 2021 trends are similar but we are hoping dues revenue returns to historic levels which is what we need to cover typical expenses.

Simge concluded with some questions about plans for the next ICS conference. There is not time to plan a full conference for 2023. Irv suggested that the 2021 team adopt and publicize COVID safety protocols which would reassure and encourage attendees. Kevin Furman suggested we consider a small event like a workshop in 2023. Contact Simge with your ideas.