Dear colleague,

We are looking for sponsors for the WORMS (Women in Operations Research and Management Sciences) events at the 2018 INFORMS Annual Meeting in Phoenix this November.

The WORMS Forum benefits the INFORMS community in several ways, including:

- The **WORMS Family Care Travel Fund** to offset family care costs incurred while attending the Annual Meeting.
- The **WORMS Travel awards** to support students attending the Combined Colloquia at the Annual Meeting and the Professional Colloquium at the Analytics Meeting.
- The **Award for the Advancement of Women in OR/MS** which celebrates and recognizes a person who has contributed significantly to the advancement and recognition of women in the field of Operations Research and the Management Sciences (OR/MS).
- The **WORMS luncheon, business meeting and networking reception** at the Annual Meeting, which are great networking and celebratory events for women in OR/MS and other supporters of diversity in the profession.
  - Last year, more than 200 people attended the WORMS luncheon and over 150 members and friends of WORMS interacted in an informal setting at the networking reception.
- The **WORMS sessions and panel discussions** at the Annual Meeting. This year we are planning two panel sessions:
  - A panel entitled “He for she: What does it mean for us at INFORMS” where male panelists will share their ideas on how to help women be successful in our field.
  - A session entitled “Advancing Diversity of Women in STEM” with inspirational talks by successful female speakers.
- The **WORMS Mentorship network** connecting WORMS members at all stages of their careers.
We are asking if your institution could sponsor WORMS this year. Because the forum has been growing and the cost of all of our initiatives (luncheon, business meeting, networking reception and awards) may exceed the budget of any one organization, we are pursuing joint sponsorships for our activities. Typical sponsorship is about $1000, but of course, any amount is welcome.

In addition to supporting women in OR/MS, the benefits of sponsorship include our acknowledgements at the luncheon, business meeting and networking reception as well as on the WORMS website and in our e-mail and print communications. During the luncheon, we will set up a table to host sponsor materials such as job ads, recruitment materials, sign-up sheets, and other items upon request of our sponsors. This is a highly visible outlet for our sponsors to reach women in OR/MS. Further, we offer our sponsors a complimentary WORMS annual membership and, for sponsorship above $1000, one complementary luncheon ticket at the Annual meeting.

To sponsor WORMS, please fill out the online donation form via https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfuIPrwFTHHj7ckyyrmATXnbYnrVFKggPF5J6gbw427xFFRzw/viewform?usp=sf_link. The form contains information on how to proceed with the payment to INFORMS.

Thank you again for your help and support; we truly appreciate the sponsorship that your institution may be providing to us. We look forward to hearing from you and seeing you in Phoenix at the 2018 INFORMS Annual Meeting and at the WORMS sessions and gatherings.

Sincerely,

Dorothée, Sudharshana, Maga & Guang

___________________________________
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