President's Message

Bahar Biller

Greetings! As the new I-Sim President, I would first like to thank outgoing President Peter Haas for his outstanding leadership and guidance over the last two years. As a result, our society continues to grow and is one of INFORMS’ largest societies. I-Sim will have a strong presence this October at the INFORMS Annual meeting in Phoenix, Arizona, sponsoring 14 sessions.

Furthermore, I would like to express my gratitude to the departing Council members Oliver Rose and Paul Sanchez; Communications Committee members Roberto Lu, Peter Welch, and Jim Wilson; Recruiting Committee members Raghu Pasupathy and Sharif Melouk; Committee on Underrepresented Minorities and Women, member and past-chair Demet Batur; Ph.D. Colloquium Committee member and past-chair Ali Tafazzoli; and Awards Committee members Preston White, Averill Law, and Thanos Avramidis. I would also thank John Fowler for his service as the treasurer of our society. Special thanks to Preston White also for his service as I-Sim representative to the INFORMS Subdivision Council and Doug Morrice for his work as I-Sim representative to WSC.

Congratulations to the newly elected I-Sim officers and council members including Seong-Hee Kim as Vice-president/President-elect; Young-Jun Son as Secretary; and John Shortle as Treasurer. The newly elected Council members include Sujin Kim and Peter Frazier who join Jeff Hong and Raghu Pasupathy in their continued service as council members. Russell Barton will be the I-SIM representative to INFORMS Subdivision Council and Enver Yucesan will join Christos Alexopoulos as I-Sim WSC Board Representatives. Also, thanks to past-President Mike Kuhl for his service on the I-Sim Council and to the Election Committee for their efforts in the election process. Finally, thanks to the new, continuing, and past volunteers serving our society.

There have been some changes to other various committees. Loo Hay Lee continues to chair the Membership Committee with Ilya Ryzhov and Jie Xu as the new members. Sharif Melouk has transitioned from the Membership Committee to the Communications Committee; Emily Lada will chair the Communications Committee with Nilay Tanik Ergon as the new member. Dashi Singham has joined the Committee on Underrepresented Minorities and Women, and Feng Yang is chairing this committee. Nurcin Celik will be chair of the PhD Committee.

Theresa Roeder and Enlu Zhou remain as our Newsletter Editor and Associate Editor. Theresa and Enlu together with Peter Welch and Peter Haas have been instrumental in the migration of the I-Sim website to its home under INFORMS. I would like to thank each one of them for the tremendous work they have done. We would like to keep improving the content of the I-Sim website and make it as vibrant and resourceful as possible for the I-Sim membership. Please send us your comments and suggestions.
Last June, I-Sim sponsored seven sessions at the INFORMS International 2012 Meeting in Beijing, China, with topics ranging from methodology to applications in manufacturing, healthcare, finance, and energy. Special thanks are due to the session organizers: Ning Cai, Jin Dong, Jeff Hong, Evin Uzun Jacobson, Sujin Kim, Guangwu Liu, and Xiaoyun Xu. In addition, the NSF Workshop on Simulation Methodology was held in Shanghai, China, July 23-25, which was organized by simulation community members Jeff Hong, Jian-Qiang Hu, and Seong-Hee Kim. The theme of the workshop was “Computer Simulation – Opportunities and Challenges” with Peter Glynn, Richard Fujimoto, Raghu Pasupathy, and Sheldon Jacobson as the keynote speakers.

The Winter Simulation Conference will be held in Berlin, Germany, December 9-12. It is exciting that the WSC goes to Europe! Our simulation community continues to promote and advance simulation modeling, analysis, and applications worldwide. Additionally, the 2013 I-Sim Research Workshop will be held at Georgia Tech in Atlanta, GA, with the theme of "Simulation for Modeling, Analysis, and Optimization of Large Scale Systems" under the leadership of Christos Alexopoulos, Sigrun Andradottir, David Goldsman, and Seong-Hee Kim.

The next upcoming event is the 2012 INFORMS Annual meeting, which will be held in Phoenix, AZ, October 14-17. The business meeting is scheduled to take place on Sunday, October 14 in C-West 103B between 6:15pm and 7:15pm. I am looking forward to seeing you at the conference.

Please pass along printouts of the newsletter to friends and colleagues, or let them know about the INFORMS Simulation Society Web page. You’ll get more than just a newsletter. Its URL is http://www.informs.org/Community/Simulation-Society

This web page is designed to be a general source of information and WWW links for the simulation community, with a particular focus on society interests and activities. There are often additional special items, such as the Winter Simulation Conference and upcoming INFORMS conferences.
Editor’s Corner
Theresa Roeder

Welcome to the Fall 2012 edition of the I-Sim newsletter. This issue is rather shorter than its spring counterpart was, but that is merely because we are all revving up for the INFORMS Annual Meeting and the Winter Simulation Conference!

Enlu and I would like to thank “The Peters” (Haas and Welch) for their help and support over the last year.

Hope to see you soon!

INFORMS Simulation Society Treasurer’s Report
John Shortle


<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>R/E Beginning Balance</th>
<th>$ 95,221.16</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Net Revenue</td>
<td>$ 4,705.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net Expense</td>
<td>($178.41)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R/E Ending Balance</td>
<td>$ 99,747.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deferred Future Dues</td>
<td>$ 10.00</td>
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</tbody>
</table>


| Dues Revenue            | $ 4,705.00  |
| Total Revenue           | $ 4,705.00  |
| Membership Expense      | ($178.41)   |
| Total Expense           | ($178.41)   |
| Net Gain/Loss           | $ 4,526.59  |
| Total Deferred Dues     | $ 10.00     |
| Total Deferred Revenue  | $ 10.00     |

Note: In the next earnings statement, there will be a drop in the I-SIM society balance. This drop does not appear in the current earnings statement. The drop will be to correct an erroneous credit of approximately $43K that appeared in 2008. The explanation is as follows:

- Between Fall 2008 and Fall 2009, there was a large increase in the I-SIM balance from $38,770.24 to $101,102.35, an increase of approximately $62K. (For comparison, a typical yearly surplus is less than $20K.)
- This increase was due to in large part to two credits:
  - A $43,485.76 credit at the end of 2008. This credit was incorrect / unauthorized
  - A $22,735.76 credit in May 2009. This credit was correct.
- The explanation is as follows: In 2008, it was computed that each of 5 societies – ACM, ASA, IIE, I-SIM and SCS – had $43,485.76 in WSC capital. One of the societies, ASA, no longer wanted to be a financial sponsor for WSC. Their $43,485.76 was returned to them and then donated back to WSC and eventually the WSC Foundation. The remaining 4 societies (ACM, IIE, I-SIM and SCS) remained financial sponsors for WSC. Each of these societies allotted $20,750 of their $43,485.76 to be held as seed money. The remaining $22,735.76 per society was returned. This is what I-SIM received in May 2009. It was incorrect that I-SIM was also returned $43,485.76 at the end of 2008.

In summary, the outcome will be to reduce the I-SIM balance from its current value of $99,747.75 as follows:

- About $22K of the $43,485.76 will be deducted from the I-SIM account (returned to INFORMS), leaving a balance of about $78K.
- The remaining ~$21K (of $43,485.76) will remain in the I-SIM account and will belong to the liability account shared by all 4 WSC sponsors.

The society is still in a good financial situation with respect to the absolute balance. Special thanks are given to Doug Morrice, Christos Alexopoulos, Seong-Hee Kim, and Ernie Page for their work in handling this financial issue and clarifying what needs to be done.
Secretary’s Corner

Young-Jun Son

As of 9/30/12, the Society has 592 members. The good news is that we have 116 more members compared to the number of members as of 4/04/12 and 40 more members compared to the number of members as of 10/18/11.

We have 12 members who have kept their I-Sim membership since 1976! There are 158 international members with highest non-US numbers from Canada, followed by UK and Netherlands. There are 186 new members who joined I-Sim on or after 1/1/2012. Welcome!

As member, you get discount on registration for conferences sponsored by the I-Sim Society, which includes Winter Simulation Conference. If your membership expires soon, please do not forget to renew your membership. You can renew your membership online at http://renew.informs.org. While you are at the web site, please have time to check your information and update it if there has been any change. If you are not a current member and want to join I-Sim, please visit http://www.informs.org/Community/Simulation-Society/Join-Us.

Society Sponsors Under-Represented Minorities and Women

Feng Yang

In order to cultivate the interest and encourage the participation of under-represented minorities and women in the field of simulation, the INFORMS Simulation Society is proud to award sponsorships to assist graduate students and postdocs from these population groups in the costs of attending the 2012 Winter Simulation Conference (WSC). Each award will consist of an honorarium of about $500.00, which can be applied towards the awardee's registration fee, accommodation expense, or airfare for the 2012 WSC.

Preference will be given to those candidates who have not previously attended WSC.

Prospective candidates should provide a letter of interest and a letter of recommendation explaining how the WSC can make a positive contribution to expanding their knowledge on simulation, and demonstrating the applicant's promise as a member of the simulation community. Please submit your application package electronically by October 22 to Feng Yang at feng.yang@mail.wvu.edu

Ph.D. Colloquium and Poster Session

Sponsored by the ACM-SIGSIM and I-Sim Societies

Andreas Tolk

The Winter Simulation Conference will this year conducted in Berlin, Germany. On the first day, Sunday December 9, the PhD Colloquium is on the schedule. More than 30 PhD students competed to participate this year. 18 of them contributed regular papers as main authors and are competing for the awards sponsored by I-Sim and ACM SIGSIM. The submissions are still under review at the time this contribution is written. The PhD Colloquium starts with an invited lunch, followed by the keynote delivered by Dr. Lin Uhrmacher, University of Rostock. The afternoon will be filled with presentations and discussions conducted in four sessions in two parallel tracks. A Poster session of all presentations on Sunday evening will not only be a social and networking event, it also will give all committee members the chance to have a last critical look at the award candidates before making a final decision.

We are looking forward to see many interested guests visiting this event designed for our new generation of simulation experts.
Nominations for I-Sim 2013 Election

Peter J. Haas

The I-Sim Nominations Committee is seeking your input for potential nominees for the 2013 I-Sim Election. The I-Sim Nominations Committee comprises Peter Haas (chair), Jeff Smith, and Bruce Schmeiser.

For 2013, elections will be held for two Council Members. The duties of Council members are outlined in the I-Sim bylaws, which are available on the I-Sim website. The term of commitment for a Council member is two years.

INFORMS 2012 Annual Meeting
Phoenix, Arizona, October 14-17
Seong-Hee Kim (source: http://meetings2.informs.org/phoenix2012)

The INFORMS Fall Meeting is coming up soon: It will be held in Phoenix, Arizona, October 14-17.

The theme of the meeting, “Informatics Rising,” blends the growing role of OR/MS techniques for understanding natural and artificial systems and coupling with computing and communication technologies to drive decision making for enriching our personal lives and enhancing our professional activity.

The INFORMS Simulation Society will make a strong contribution to the program with 14 sponsored sessions. Many thanks to the session organizers: Alp Akcay, Ozgur Araz, Demet Batur, Liming Feng, Peter Frazier, Moeed Haghnevis, Sujin Kim, Emily Lada, Louis Luangkesorn, Charles Macal, Eduardo Perez, Ilya Ryzhov, Jie Xu, and Feng Yang. We hope to see you at the I-Sim business meeting on Sunday evening.

2012 Winter Simulation Conference
Berlin, Germany, December 9-12
Seong-Hee Kim (source: http://www.wintersim.org)

The Winter Simulation Conference (WSC) is the premier international forum for disseminating recent advances in the field of system simulation. In addition to a technical program of unsurpassed scope and quality, WSC provides the central meeting place for simulation practitioners, researchers, and vendors working in all disciplines in industry, service, government, military, and academic sectors.

For the first time, WSC goes Europe. WSC 2012 will be held in beautiful Berlin, Germany, at the Hotel Intercontinental, December 9-12, 2012. Drs. Stefan Rahmstorf (Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research, Germany, December 10; “Climate Change - State of the Science”) and Thomas A. Henzinger (Institute of Science and Technology, Austria, December 11; “The Propagation Approach for Computing Biochemical Reaction Networks”) will be this year’s keynote speakers, and the popular Titans of Simulation track will feature a talk by Prof. Gianfranco Balbo (University of Torino, Italy; “Modeling and Simulation of Complex Systems: are Petri nets useful?”).
The premier conference on business analytics and Operations Research will be held in San Antonio, Texas, April 7-9. The deadline to submit a proposal to present is December 15, 2012.

EURO-INFORMS Joint International Meeting
July 1-4, 2013, Rome, Italy
Seong-Hee Kim (source: http://euro2013.org)

After 10 years from the EURO XIX in Istanbul, EURO and INFORMS have decided to have their Conferences joint and have accepted the proposal by the Italian Operational Research Society of organizing this meeting on behalf of EURO. For details about the conference, please visit the conference website at http://euro2013.org.

Report on the Informs Journal on Computing
Marvin Nakayama, Journal on Computing Simulation Area Editor

In the one-year period ending September 21, 2012, the Simulation Area of the INFORMS Journal on Computing (IJOC) has received 13 new submissions and 9 revised manuscripts. During this one-year period, 5 papers have been accepted and 9 rejected; there are 3 submissions currently awaiting various stages of editorial feedback. The average turnaround time over all rounds of submissions completed during this period is 81 days.

The Associate Editors in the IJOC Simulation Area are Russell Barton, James M. Calvin, Raghu Pasupathy, and Bruno Tuffin. I thank all of the AEs for doing a great job!

The IJOC Simulation Area covers all computational aspects of stochastic simulation. We seek high-quality research on the computational aspects of simulation model building, simulation data structures, simulation modeling and experiment environments, stochastic input modeling, random-variate generation, output analysis, optimization, variance-reduction methods for simulation experiments, and other aspects of simulation modeling, experimentation, and analysis.

Report on the Simulation Area for Operations Research

Stephen E. Chick, Operations Research Simulation Area Editor

For the period specified, there were 8 new submissions and 6 resubmissions. There were 6 rejections, 5 papers continue under review, 3 revise-and-resubmit decisions and 0 acceptances. Of the editorial decisions made in this period, 2 were late (between 4 and 6 months from date of submission) and none were very late.

The team of Associate Editors continues to be Russell Barton, Peter Frazier, Peter Haas, Jeff Hong, and Ragu Pasupathy. Shane Henderson continues to handle some papers that were submitted when he was Area Editor.

The simulation area of Operations Research looks for significant work in simulation modeling, methodology and applications that advance the knowledge and practice of simulation. In addition to the traditional research areas, we welcome contributions that develop the interface of simulation with other methodological areas, e.g., optimization and applied probability, and with application areas, e.g., service industries like healthcare and financial engineering, manufacturing, and business dynamics. In general, papers should be of interest to a broad O.R. audience, and not just to the simulation community, although we certainly welcome papers that represent major theoretical progress.

Please submit papers electronically via the Manuscript Central O.R. Web site (http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/opre).

Report on ACM Transactions on Modeling and Computer Simulation (TOMACS)

Pierre L'Ecuyer, Editor-in-Chief, ACM TOMACS, October 4, 2012

Statistics on the editorial activities for the period of 12 months ending:

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Papers submitted</td>
<td>91</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>163</td>
<td>168</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Immediate desk rejects by Editor-in-Chief</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final decisions made</td>
<td>93</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>111</td>
<td>126</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accepted</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Percentage Accepted/rejected</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>13%</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>16%</td>
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<td>Pending Manuscripts (with us)</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>34</td>
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<tr>
<td>Manuscripts in revision (with authors)</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>21</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Avg. time from submission to final decision

Warning: the average is often strongly influenced by a few high values and the median is much smaller than the average.

The four issues of 2012 have been produced and contain 25 articles. A special issue on Monte Carlo methods in statistics will come out in January 2013.

Articles in TOMACS tend to have a long-lasting impact: The median age of cited articles is more than 10 years.

The ACM Transactions on Modeling and Computer Simulation (TOMACS) provides a single archival source for the publication of high-quality research and developmental results in computer simulation. The subjects of emphasis are discrete event simulation, combined discrete and continuous simulation, as well as Monte Carlo methods. The use of simulation techniques is pervasive, extending to virtually all the sciences. TOMACS serves to enhance the understanding, improve the practice, and increase the
utilization of computer simulation. Submissions should contribute to the realization of these objectives, and papers treating applications should stress their contributions vis-a-vis these objectives.

For more information, visit http://www.linklings.net/tomacs/

Report on the IIE Transactions
Enver Yücesan and Chun-Hung Chen, Simulation Department Editors
Activity in the Simulation Area of IIE (October 1, 2011 to September 15, 2012)

The Associate Editors in the IIE Simulation Area are Wai Kin Victor Chan, Alan Johnson, Loo Hay Lee, Hüseyin Topaloglu, and Roberto Szechtman. We thank all of the AEs for doing a great job.

For the period specified, there were 14 new submissions. There were 6 rejections, 5 revise-and-resubmit decisions, and 3 acceptances. The 5 manuscripts are currently under various stages of review.

In addition, Loo Hay Lee from National University of Singapore is taking the lead on a special issue on “simulation optimization and its application”. The guest editors for this special issue also include Ek Peng Chew, Peter I. Frazier, Qing-Shan Jia, and Chun-Hung Chen. The submission has been very encouraging. There are 21 submissions, and it is expected to complete all of the reviewing process by the end of this year.

The goals of the IIE Simulation Department are (i) to seek out and disseminate state-of-the-art simulation research, and (ii) to illustrate how practice has both benefited from and motivated research. Submission of papers on all aspects of simulation from which industrial engineers might benefit are encouraged, including (but not limited to) analysis and modeling methodology, software, and surveys. Specific topics of interest in analysis methodology include random number and variate generation, input and output analysis, variance reduction, ranking and selection, and optimization. Modeling issues include verification and validation techniques, parallelization methods, and object-oriented programming, among others. Software-related papers might discuss new developments in the technology, comparisons between products, or interesting special-purpose programs. We strongly encourage submission of papers with innovative methodological advances.

Report on the Simulation Archive
Simulation Archive Advisory Committee (SAAC)
Richard E. Nance (Chair), Robert G. Sargent, James R. Wilson

Established in the fall of 1998 at the N.C. State Libraries, the Simulation Archive can be accessed at www.tinyurl.com/simulation-archive. The SAAC serves to advise the library staff and to promote the development of the Archive.

The Simulation Archive Endowment at this point exceeds $35,000. Interest on the endowment funds permits several historical preservation activities such as the digitization of documents to allow Internet access, the organization of individually contributed documents, and the capture, storage, and creation of rare or special artifacts.

The committee, primarily through the efforts of Bob Sargent, succeeded in capturing six papers that were presented at the 1979 Winter Simulation Conference but not included in the published proceedings. The papers were published in Volume 11, Issue 2, Winter 1979-1980 of SIMULETTER, the newsletter of the ACM/SIGSIM (Special Interest Group on Simulation).

We continue to encourage visits to the Simulation Archive website, and feedback reactions and suggestions for improvement are welcomed. Additional and much needed tax-deductible donations can be made by contacting Greg Raschke, Associate Director for Collections and Scholarly Communication, at (919) 515-7188 or by e-mail at greg.raschke@ncsu.edu.
Event Calendar

Enlu Zhou


INFORMS Annual Meeting 2013, Minneapolis, Minnesota October 6 - 9 2013, WWW: http://www.informs.org/Attend-a-Conference/Annual-Meeting


INFORMS Annual Meeting 2013, Minneapolis, Minnesota October 6 - 9 2013, WWW: http://www.informs.org/Attend-a-Conference/Annual-Meeting


INFORMS Annual Meeting 2013, Minneapolis, Minnesota October 6 - 9 2013, WWW: http://www.informs.org/Attend-a-Conference/Annual-Meeting

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