



INSTITUTE FOR OPERATIONS RESEARCH
AND THE MANAGEMENT SCIENCES

I-Sim Newsletter

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President's Message

John F. Shortle

I am glad to report that I-Sim continues to be an active and growing society. We have a current membership of around 650 members. We have been active at the INFORMS Annual Meeting, with 15 sponsored sessions at the meeting in Nashville, and we continue to be a sponsoring organization of the highly successful Winter Simulation Conference. This summer, I-Sim will host its own semi-annual workshop at the University of Durham, UK, devoted to the topic of big data and simulation (further details below).

But first I would like to report about events at the 2016 Winter Simulation Conference, held in Arlington, VA. The conference features a Ph.D. Colloquium that is co-sponsored by I-Sim. This year, the colloquium featured 18 student presentations and 23 posters, as well as a keynote talk by Gabriel Wainer on "Discrete Event Modeling and Simulation Methodologies: Past, Present, and Future." In addition to the many great presentations and plenary talks given throughout the conference, the highlight was recognizing the outstanding achievements of members in the community. At the I-Sim business meeting, we recognized the following individuals:

- Lifetime Professional Achievement Award (LPAA): Russell C. H. Cheng

The *INFORMS Simulation Society Newsletter* is published in the spring and fall each year by the INFORMS Simulation Society (I-Sim), <http://connect.informs.org/simulation/>. Membership in I-Sim is independent of INFORMS membership. To join, visit <https://www.informs.org/About-INFORMS/Member-Benefits/Join-INFORMS-and-or-INFORMS-Communities>, or contact the I-Sim Secretary. © 2017 The Institute for Operations Research and the Management Sciences. All rights reserved.

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President's Message, Continued

John F. Shortle

- Distinguished Service Award (DSA):
Douglas Morrice
- Outstanding Publication Award (OPA):
Chang-Han Rhee and Peter Glynn
- WSC Best Student Paper Award:
Sara Shashaani
- Diversity Award: Jessica P. Dorismond,
Mariam Kotachi, and Wen Zhang

Further details (and pictures!) of these awards can be found in this newsletter. As a reminder, these awards are given on an annual basis, and I-Sim is currently soliciting calls for nominations for the 2017 awards (for the LPAA, DSA, OPA, and Diversity awards). The nomination deadlines are Sep. 1, 2017 for the LPAA, OPA, and Diversity awards and Sep. 15 for the DSA award. Further details about the nomination process of each award can be found on the I-Sim website (see <http://connect.informs.org/simulation/>).

Going forward, the semi-annual I-Sim research workshop will be held at the University of Durham, UK, Jul. 31 – Aug. 2, 2017, with a theme of “Towards an Ecosystem of Simulation Models and Data.” The focus of the workshop is to promote fruitful interactions between the data science and simulation communities. The workshop will feature plenary talks over three days in the following areas: Data assimilation into simulation models, data farming and experimental design for large-scale simulation experiments, online data-driven simulations, calibration of complex data-hungry simulations, robust simulation to handle data uncertainty, application of database technology to large scale simulations, machine-learning and visual-analytic techniques for understanding massive simulation output, and collaborative modeling and simulation. The workshop will also include several poster sessions. Some travel grants are available. Graduate students and early-career researchers are particularly encouraged to apply. Further information can be found in this newsletter and on the web at <http://isim2017.tk/>. A special issue of *ACM*

Transactions on Modeling and Computer Simulation (TOMACS) will be devoted to extended versions of selected presentations from the workshop.

Planning has also started for the INFORMS Annual Meeting to be held in Houston, TX and the 2017 Winter Simulation Conference, which is the 50th Anniversary of the conference, to be held Las Vegas, NV. Further details can be found in this newsletter.

Since the fall, there have been several updates to the committee membership of I-Sim. Most of the award committees have rotating memberships, and new members are invited to join every year. Russell Cheng has joined the LPAA award committee. Doug Morrice has joined the DSA award committee. Christos Alexopoulos has joined the OPA award committee. Giulia Pedrielli has joined the CUMW committee. Weiwei Chen has joined the Ph.D. Colloquium Committee. In addition, Theresa Roeder is now serving as the I-Sim Representative to the INFORMS Subdivisions Council. Thank you to all of the outgoing committee members for their hard work over the last several years – Doug Morrice (LPAA), Peter Haas (DSA), Jeremy Staum (OPA), Mauricio Cabrera (Diversity), and Esfandiyar Mazhari (Ph.D. Colloquium). And thank you to all of the current I-Sim officers and committee members for all of the work to make I-Sim the best we can.

Finally, I would like to remind everyone to vote for our incoming I-Sim Council members. Details about the candidates and voting instructions are given at the end of this newsletter. Thank you to the nominations committee, Seong-Hee Kim (chair), Susan Sanchez, and Peter Haas, for identifying great candidates. I would also like to remind everyone to vote for the proposed change in the bylaws, also given at the end of this newsletter. The purpose of the change is to simplify the structure of the Communications Committee and to allow for greater flexibility in the future composition of the committee. We had an in-person vote at the WSC I-Sim business meeting (the change was unanimously approved), but the process also requires a vote via the newsletter.

As always, I appreciate any feedback or suggestions on how to improve our society. Please feel free to contact me with any comments, concerns, or ideas. □

Editor's Corner

Susan R. Hunter

Jie and I are pleased to bring you the Spring 2017 volume of the I-Sim Newsletter. Thank you to all contributors! This issue is packed with information, so I'll use this space to draw your attention to a few key items related to communications:

1. After the INFORMS website update, our society has a new web address, <http://connect.informs.org/simulation/>. Please update your bookmarks. We appreciate your patience while we learn how to maintain the new website.
2. There is a [ballot](#) on page 24 of this newsletter to revise the I-Sim Bylaws regarding the composition of the Communications Committee. Send your ballots to Secretary Enlu Zhou, enlu.zhou@isye.gatech.edu, by May 1, 2017.
3. The 2014–2016 LPAA speech videos are available on YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCWdr724RQ9mIRyHuHh9czMg>.

Enjoy the newsletter, and we look forward to seeing you at upcoming I-Sim events! □

Treasurer's Report

Dashi Singham

Beginning Balance (1/1/2016)	\$115,958.66	
Total Revenue	\$5,785.00	
• Dues		\$5,785.00
• Other		\$0.00
• Interest		\$0.00
• WSC Sponsorship, surplus		\$0.00
Total Expenses	\$(9,991.60)	
• National meeting expense (INFORMS)		\$(796.26)
• Local meeting expense (WSC)		\$(2,148.91)
• Subdivision payment (WSC awards)		\$(1,650.00)
• Bank fees		\$(162.93)
• Misc/General Expense		\$(5,233.50)
Net Gain / Loss	\$(4,206.60)	
Ending Balance* (12/31/2016)	\$111,752.06	

* The I-Sim account includes \$20,750 that belongs to the liability account shared by all four WSC sponsors (see Fall 2012 newsletter).

□

Secretary's Corner

Enlu Zhou

As of March 10, 2017, we have 647 members. This is 130 more members than at the same time of last year (April 2016). Thank you for your support!

We have 9 members who have been members since 1976! Thank you for your long-standing support. We have 127 members who joined on or after Jan 1, 2017. Welcome to I-Sim!

We have 200 international members. The most well-represented non-US country is Canada (31 members), followed by the United Kingdom (15 members), and Germany (13 members).

Please remember to renew your I-Sim membership when you renew your INFORMS membership this fall or winter. You can renew online at <https://www.informs.org>. If you are not currently a member and want to join I-Sim, please visit

<https://www.informs.org/About-INFORMS/Member-Benefits/Join-INFORMS-and-or-INFORMS-Communities>.

Members receive discounts on conferences sponsored by the Simulation Society, including the Winter Simulation Conference. Membership is also a great way to participate in and support the simulation community.

□

COMMITTEE REPORTS

WSC Ph.D. Colloquium

Emily Lada, Chair

Call for Participation: Ph.D. Colloquium.

During the 2017 Winter Simulation Conference, ACM-SIGSIM and INFORMS-Sim will once again sponsor the Ph.D. Colloquium for students who are within one year of their graduation (planning to graduate by Dec. 2018). Students close to graduation will be given an opportunity to showcase their work during a short presentation session (apart from the regular tracks). All Colloquium students will then participate in the Colloquium poster session. Presenting your Ph.D. efforts to your peers and supporting society members will give you valuable feedback and support for your research and introduce you to a network that can help your career once you graduate. The Ph.D. Colloquium will be conducted on Sunday, December 3, 2017, starting with lunch. Additional information about the 2017 Ph.D. Colloquium can be found on the Winter Simulation Conference website, <http://meetings2.informs.org/wordpress/wsc2017/phd-colloquium/>. □

Report on the Simulation Archive

Simulation Archive Advisory Committee: Richard E. Nance (Chair), Robert G. Sargent, James R. Wilson

Established in the fall of 1998 at the N.C. State Libraries, the Computer Simulation Archive (see <http://d.lib.ncsu.edu/computer-simulation>) continues to evolve as an asset in the revelation and preservation of the history of computer simulation. The SAAC serves to advise the library staff, to promote the development of the Archive, and to provide channels of communication for those interested in the evolution of the Archive.

The Committee gratefully acknowledges the \$5,000 donation to the Simulation Archive Endowment by the INFORMS Simulation Society (I-Sim) in their business meeting at WSC 2016. An equal donation by the Association of Computing Machinery (ACM) Special Interest Group on Simulation and Modeling (SIGSIM) at WSC 2016 is an affirmation of the professional support of the role of the Archive in capturing the history of modeling and simulation

Members of the SAAC and the NCSU Libraries' leadership, with whom they work closely, are devoting much time and effort to the history track in WSC 2017. Bob Sargent is the track coordinator, and his effort to develop the session coverage is impressive. Since this conference celebrates its 50th anniversary this year in Las Vegas, history is receiving a strong emphasis, for which we are indebted to the General Chair, Ernest Page, and the Program Chair, Gabriel Wainer.

SIMULA exerted a major influence on modeling and simulation; but, as the first object-oriented programming language, its legacy arguably surpasses that of any general-purpose language from the last quarter of the twentieth century. The production of a

panel session video in July that captures the history and legacy of SIMULA represents a major addition to the oral history project. This video and related material are now accessible.

Members of the simulation community, and others with related interests, are invited to visit the Simulation Archive website. Feedback, reactions, and suggestions for improvement can be sent to Dick Nance (nance@vt.edu). Additional and 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. □

EDITORS' REPORTS

Report on *INFORMS Journal on Computing*

Bruno Tuffin, Simulation Area Editor

The INFORMS Journal on Computing (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, simulation-based optimization, variance-reduction methods for simulation experiments, and other aspects of simulation modeling, experimentation, and analysis.

Submissions to the Simulation Area should not merely use simulation as a tool for generating experiments to test another methodology (these manuscripts should instead be submitted to the IJOC area for which the methodology applies), nor should they only present experimental results from a simulation program. Rather, manuscripts submitted to the area must make a significant contribution to the field of stochastic simulation, as described in the previous paragraph. Complete instructions for preparing manuscripts are available at <http://joc.pubs.informs.org>.

Submissions must be done electronically through Manuscript Central:

<http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/ijoc>

During 2016, the Simulation Area of IJOC received 20 new submissions. During that period, no paper was also accepted and 12 were rejected. The average turnaround time over all rounds of submissions completed during this period was 83 days. I'd like to thank the associate editors (Zdravko Botev, Seong-Hee Kim, Henry Lam, and Raghu Pasupathy) for their truly outstanding work, and for making my job much more manageable.

Bruno Tuffin, Simulation Area Editor, INFORMS JOC

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Report on the *Journal of Simulation*

Christine Currie, John Fowler, and Loo Hay Lee, Editors

The *Journal of Simulation* had a successful year last year, with an increase in its impact factor to 1.164 (5-year impact factor 1.558).

Current acceptance rate is estimated to be about 14%; time between submission and the final decision is on average around 140 days.

We have two special issues in the pipeline: data driven and large-scale distributed simulations; system dynamics. Anyone interested in editing a special issue should contact one of the editors.

Journal of Simulation (JOS) aims to publish both articles and technical notes from researchers and practitioners active in the field of simulation. In JOS, the field of simulation includes the techniques, tools, methods and technologies of the application and the use of discrete-event simulation, agent-based modelling and system dynamics. JOS encourages theoretical papers that span the breadth of the simulation process, including both modelling and analysis methodologies, as well as practical papers from a wide range of simulation applications in domains will examine a wide range of domains including for example, manufacturing, service, defence, health care and general commerce. JOS will particularly seek topics that are not “mainstream” in nature but interesting and evocative to the simulation community as outlined above.

For more information, visit: <http://www.palgrave-journals.com/jos/index.html> □

Report on *Management Science*

Noah Gans, Stochastic Models and Simulation Department Editor

Submissions: Please submit manuscripts electronically via Management Science’s Manuscript Central Site: <http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/ms>

Editorial Activity in the Department:

The statistics for Management Science’s SMS Department for the past six months (Sept 6, 2016 through March 5, 2017), are as follows:

	New Submission	Revision	Total
Accept	0	3	3
Minor revision	0	2	2
Major revision	4	0	4
Reject	24	0	24
In process	12	1	13
Total	40	6	46

□

Report on Operations Research

Stephen E. Chick, Operations Research Simulation Area Editor

Activity in the Simulation Area of Operations Research (5 Oct 2016 to 15 Mar 2017):

For the period specified of approximately 5.5 months, there were 9 new submissions and 6 resubmissions. During this period there were 3 acceptances, 8 rejections, and 8 revise-and-resubmit decisions. Of the editorial decisions made in this period, 2 were late (4-6 months from date of submission) and 4 were very late (180 days or more). I would like to thank the Associate Editor team, Russell Barton, Peter Frazier, Peter Haas, Jeff Hong, Jiaqiao Hu, Henry Lam, Raghu Pasupathy and Enlu Zhou, for their continued conscientious service to the journal.

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> □

CONFERENCE ANNOUNCEMENTS

2017 SIAM Conference on Optimization

May 22–25, 2017, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada

Raghu Pasupathy (source: <http://www.siam.org/meetings/op17/>)

“The SIAM Conference on Optimization will feature the latest research in theory, algorithms, software and applications in optimization problems. A particular emphasis will be put on applications of optimization in health care, biology, finance, aeronautics, control, operations research, and other areas of science and engineering. The conference brings together mathematicians, operations researchers, computer scientists, engineers, software developers and practitioners, thus providing an ideal environment to share new ideas and important problems among specialists and users of optimization in academia, government, and industry.”

The conference is held once every three years in early summer. The conference venue is beautiful Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. □



2017 INFORMS Simulation Society Research Workshop: Towards an Ecosystem of Simulation Models and Data

July 31– August 2, 2017, University of Durham, UK

Peter J. Haas (Organizers: Peter J. Haas, Georgios Theodoropoulos, John Shortle, and Ibad Kureshi; see also <http://www.isim2017.tk>)



The 2017 Simulation Workshop will be hosted by Durham University, Durham, UK. This year's theme is "Towards an Ecosystem of Simulation Models and Data." Data is becoming a ubiquitous resource via, e.g., social networks, sensors, and the Internet of Things; at the same time, simulation models are increasingly complex, detailed, and large-scale. In this new world, the simulation community faces major challenges and opportunities both in exploiting available real-world data and in extracting insights from the massive data sets produced from large-scale simulation experiments. The goal of the 2017 Workshop is to promote fruitful interactions between the data science and simulation communities. Posters will include the following non-exhaustive list of topics:

1. Data assimilation into simulation models (e.g., via Kalman or particle filtering)
2. Data farming and experimental design for large-scale simulation experiments
3. Online, data-driven simulations
4. Calibration of complex, data-hungry simulations
5. Robust simulation to handle data uncertainty
6. Application of database technology to large scale simulations
7. Metamodeling, machine-learning and visual-analytic techniques for understanding massive simulation output
8. Collaborative modeling and simulation (data and model sharing, provenance management, social network tools) □

34th International Conference on Machine Learning

Aug 6–11, 2017, Sydney, Australia

Raghu Pasupathy (source: <http://icml.cc/2017>)

"The 34th International Conference on Machine Learning (ICML 2017) will be held in Sydney, Australia from August 6th to August 12th, 2017. The conference will consist of one day of tutorials (August 6), followed by three days of main conference sessions (August 7-9), followed by two days of workshops (August 10-11). We invite submissions of papers on all topics related to machine learning for the conference proceedings, and proposals for tutorials and workshops." The conference is held annually in early fall. The conference venue is beautiful Sydney, Australia. □

2017 INFORMS Annual Meeting

October 22–25, 2017, Houston, TX

Raghu Pasupathy (source: <http://meetings2.informs.org/wordpress/houston2017/>)

The INFORMS Annual Meeting will be held in Houston, TX, October 22–25, 2017. The conference venue is the George R. Brown Convention Center and Hilton Americas-Houston Hotel. The theme is, “Houston, we solve problems.” The I-Sim Society will be sponsoring a simulation track at the conference. The deadline for organizing a sponsored session in the simulation track has passed. However, you can still submit contributed talks. The deadline for abstract submission is May 15, 2017. The I-Sim business meeting will be held on Sunday evening. More information can be found on the website. □



2017 Winter Simulation Conference

December 3–6, 2017, Las Vegas, Nevada

Raghu Pasupathy (source: <http://meetings2.informs.org/wordpress/wsc2017/>)



“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.”

WSC 2017 will be held in Las Vegas, NV, at the Red Rock Casino Resort & Spa. The theme of the conference is “WSC Turns 50: Simulation Everywhere!” The keynote address will be given by Barry L. Nelson, Walter P. Murphy Professor, Department of Industrial Engineering & Management Sciences, Northwestern University. The conference will feature two Titans of Simulation talks by Robert G. Sargent and Bernard P. Zeigler. The I-Sim business meeting will be on Tuesday evening. For additional information, see the conference website. □

9th International Workshop on Simulation

June 18–22, 2018, Barcelona, Spain

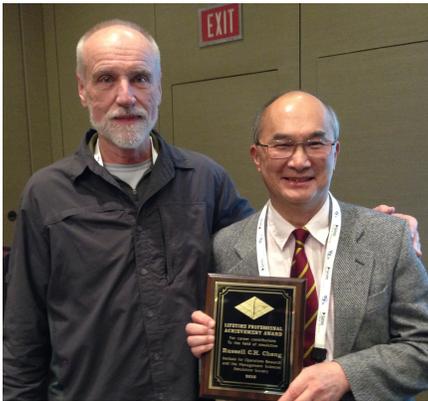
John F. Shortle

This international conference is devoted to statistical techniques in stochastic simulation, data collection and analysis of scientific experiments and studies representing broad areas of interest. The Ninth Workshop will take place in the UPC Campus of Polytechnic University of Catalonia in the cosmopolitan city of Barcelona in June 18–22, 2018. Further details about registration can be found at <http://ssa.cf.ac.uk/iws2018/>. □

2016 AWARD RECIPIENTS

Russell C.H. Cheng Receives the 2016 Lifetime Professional Achievement Award

Douglas Morrice, Marvin Nakayama, and Bruce Schmeiser (Chair)



Bruce Schmeiser and Russell Cheng
Video: <https://youtu.be/SLmvd1NGzdc>

The Lifetime Professional Achievement Award is the highest honor given by the Institute for Operations Research and the Management Sciences' Simulation Society. The purpose of the award is to recognize major contributions to the field of simulation that are sustained over most of a professional career, with the critical consideration being the total impact of those contributions on computer simulation.

The selection committee, consisting of Douglas Morrice, Marvin Nakayama, and Bruce Schmeiser, is pleased to select Russell C.H. Cheng for the INFORMS Simulation Society's 2016 Lifetime Professional Achievement Award.

To be chosen for this award, an individual's contributions may be in one or more of the following areas: research, practice, knowledge dissemination, software or hardware development, professional service, and field status or visibility advancement. Russell has made significant and sustained contributions in all of these areas. We summarize all six areas here.

Area 1. Research: Russell first published in 1970. His first simulation paper, "A note on the effect of initial conditions on a simulation run," was published in 1976, forty years ago. Since then, Russell has been a prolific and seminal contributor to the simulation methodology literature in numerous areas. Quoting the taxonomy used in the nomination document, "Among the 130 publications...there are several strong and influential research threads, including random-variate generation, input modeling, variance reduction, metamodeling, input uncertainty, factor screening, design of experiments for queueing simulation, and optimization via simulation." Quoting from a supporting letter, "Russell never ceases to amaze me with his ingenuity, his playful curiosity and his uncanny knack of asking what sound like the simplest of questions yet get right to the heart of the problem. He also makes research fun and interesting, as anyone who has heard him speak will testify."

Area 2. Practice: Again, from the nomination document, "These [research threads] are accompanied by a substantial number of application-driven papers that employ simulation to address problems in manufacturing, telecommunications, revenue management, air traffic control, emergency services and combat. One distinguishing feature of these applications is how many of them employed simulation for the difficult task of real-time control, rather than system design." From a supporting letter, "he is also one of those rare guys whose work ultimately gets used by practitioners."

Another supporting letter says that within the past fifteen years, “He has worked with a very diverse set of organisations including Shell, as part of a PhD project; Ford, working on input modelling for assembly lines; the World Health Organization, modelling tuberculosis and HIV; the UK Defence Science and Technology Laboratories, working on battle simulations; the UK Fire Service in which he worked to determine the optimal deployment of fire engines; and EURO Control, the European Air Traffic Control organisation, for whom he used a discrete event simulation model to test scheduling strategies for aircraft.”

Area 3. Knowledge Dissemination: Russell has been an invited speaker or an active member of the WSC program committee virtually every year for the past twenty-seven years. Editorially, he has actively served several journals, including *TOMACS*, the *Journal of Simulation*, the *International Journal of Simulation: Systems, Science and Technology*, and *Operations Research Letters*. His book, *Non-Standard Parametric Statistical Estimation*, will appear shortly.

Area 4. Software and Hardware Development: In addition to his many software codes arising from his research (available online), a nominator provides the example that Russell “spent a number of years designing marine simulators for pilots to use to practice manoeuvring ships around the world’s major harbours, all using DOS screens and very basic graphics.”

Area 5. Professional Service: Russell’s list of service roles is long. In 2007, he received the I-Sim Distinguished Service Award. In the United Kingdom, Russell has played a significant role in simulation societies’ leadership, including being General Secretary of the United Kingdom Simulation Society (1991-1997) and then Chairman (1997-1999). He was a Board Member of EUROSIM, the Federation of Simulation Societies in Europe (2000-2005).

Area 6. Field Status or Visibility Advancement: As a start, Russell has graduated twenty-two Ph.D. students. From a supporting letter, “To the degree that our community now has a significant international presence, Russell can take a good measure of the credit” and from another supporting letter, “Russell has been key to maintaining the mathematical basis of simulation within the Operational Research community and to introducing statisticians to the interesting problems of simulation.”

Russell’s being a Fellow of the Royal Statistical Society and Fellow of the Institute of Mathematics and its Applications also reflects well on our simulation community.

Beyond these six official areas, it is no surprise that phrases such as “Russell’s unassuming and humble nature” arise repeatedly in the nomination and supporting letters. Russell has been influential in developing our simulation community’s enviable collegiality while maintaining high standards.

From two other supporting letters, we have summary statements, “Russell is truly one of the giants of simulation in terms of scholarship, teaching, and service; and his impact in these areas has been profound and tremendously beneficial to all of us in our field.” And “Russell Cheng’s contributions to the field of computer simulation are remarkable not only for their scope, depth, and impact, but also for the extended period of time over which that impact has been sustained.” The selection committee is honored to present the INFORMS Simulation Society’s 2016 Lifetime Professional Achievement Award to Russell Cheng. □

Douglas Morrice Receives the 2016 Distinguished Service Award

Peter J. Haas, Jeffrey A. Joines (Chair), and Enver Yücesan



Douglas Morrice and Jeffrey A. Joines

The INFORMS Simulation Society (I-Sim) presented its 2016 *Distinguished Service Award* to Douglas J. Morrice, Bobbie and Coulter R. Sublett Centennial Professor of Business, at Red McCombs School of Business, The University of Texas at Austin, for his outstanding contributions in service over the past twenty-five years to I-Sim, the Winter Simulation Conference (WSC), and the broader simulation community. A presentation of the award took place on December 12, 2016, during the opening session of the 2016 WSC in Arlington, VA; an extended

re-presentation of the award took place on December 13, 2016, during the I-Sim business meeting held at WSC.

I-Sim established its *Distinguished Service Award* in 1986 to recognize each year at most one individual who has provided “long-standing, exceptional service to the simulation community (<http://connect.informs.org/simulation/awards/distinguished-service-award>) acquitted with distinction.” In 2016, the award selection committee consisted of Peter J. Haas (IBM Research Division), Jeffrey A. Joines (North Carolina State University), and Enver Yücesan (INSEAD), with Peter Haas completing his final year of service on the committee and Jeff Joines serving as chair.

Over a 25-year career, Doug Morrice has indeed rendered exceptional service. Between 1994 and 1996, he was the Secretary for the INFORMS *College on Simulation*. In addition, Doug has served WSC in almost every possible capacity. He was the INFORMS Simulation Society Representative to the Winter Simulation Conference Board of Directors from 2004 to 2012, chairing the Board in 2011. He served as the WSC Program Chair in 2005 and Proceedings Editor in 1996. He also frequently served on the Program Committee organizing numerous conference sessions and tracks (Healthcare Track 2013, 2014, and 2016, Advanced Tutorials Chair 2005, Introductory Tutorials Chair 2002). Beyond the WSC, he was the Contributed Papers Chair at the INFORMS Conference, Fall, 1997.

Doug also has a long list of editorial contributions, including: Editor-At-Large, Simulation Area for *Interfaces*, 2005 – present; Senior Editor in Supply Chain Management for *Journal of Production and Operations Management*, 2003 – present; Area Editor, *IIE Transactions on Healthcare Systems Engineering*, 2014 – present; Associate Editor for *ACM Transactions on Modeling and Computer Simulation*, 2000 – 2001.

Beyond his specific contributions, what truly distinguishes Doug is his universally admired collegial style, which has been described as humble, altruistic, and generous.

□

Chang-Han Rhee and Peter Glynn Receive the 2016 Outstanding Simulation Publication Award

L. Jeff Hong (Chair), Barry L. Nelson, and Jeremy Staum



Chang-Han Rhee and Peter Glynn

The INFORMS Simulation Society's Outstanding Publication Award recognizes exceptional contributions to the simulation literature in the form of articles, books, book chapters and monographs, copyrighted between 2013 and 2015.

The award committee, consisting of Jeff Hong, Jeremy Staum and Barry Nelson, are pleased to present the 2016 Award

to Chang-Han Rhee and Peter Glynn for their paper:

“Unbiased Estimation with Square Root Convergence for SDE Models,” which appeared in *Operations Research*, Volume 63 (2015), 1026–1043.

The paper formalizes an idea by which a given sequence of biased estimators that converge to a quantity of interest can be strategically manipulated to construct an unbiased estimator of the quantity. It then applies this novel idea to the specific context of solving stochastic differential equations (SDEs), resulting in a method that is guaranteed to achieve the canonical square root convergence rate for any SDE solution scheme having strong order $p > 1/2$. But, as pointed out by the nominator, the contribution of this paper is “more far-reaching [than the SDE example] in that it opens the door for researchers to pursue similar but specific schemes for use within other areas,” such as derivative estimation, simulation optimization and function approximation. The committee adds that for a paper so technically deep, the exposition is amazingly clear. □

Sara Shashaani Receives the 2016 WSC Ph.D. Colloquium Best Student Paper Awards

Susan R. Hunter, Communications Editor



Emily Lada and Sara Shashaani

The I-Sim best MS/OR-focused student paper is:

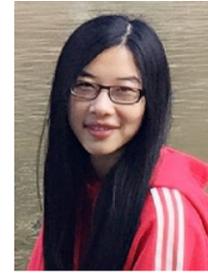
“ASTRO-DF: Adaptive Sampling Trust-Region Optimization Algorithms, Heuristics, and Numerical Experience” by Sara Shashaani, Purdue University.

Her co-authors are Susan R. Hunter and Raghu Pasupathy. □

Jessica P. Dorismond, Mariam Kotachi, and Wen Zhang Receive the 2016 CUMW WSC Diversity Awards

Wie Xie, Chair of the Committee on Underrepresented Minorities and Women (CUMW)

The recipients of the 2016 Committee on Underrepresented Women and Minorities (CUMW) Diversity Award are Jessica P. Dorismond (University of Buffalo), Mariam Kotachi (Old Dominion University), and Wen Zhang (University of Warwick).



Jessica P. Dorismond, Mariam Kotachi, and Wen Zhang

To improve the diversity in the simulation community, the INFORMS Simulation society is proud to award \$500 sponsorships each year to assist eligible graduate students to attend the Winter Simulation Conference. We encourage high-quality applications, especially from women, underrepresented minorities and international students, to apply for the coming 2017 WSC meeting. □

2017 CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

Call for Nominations: 2017 Lifetime Professional Achievement Award

Marvin Nakayama

To recognize major contributions to the field of simulation that are sustained over most of a professional career, with the critical consideration being the total impact of those contributions on computer simulation, the INFORMS Simulation Society (INFORMS-Sim, <http://connect.informs.org/simulation/>) has established the Lifetime Professional Achievement Award (LPAA). This award can be given at most once annually. An individual's contributions may fall in one or more of the following areas:

- contributions to research,
- contributions to practice,
- dissemination of knowledge,
- development of software or hardware,
- service to the profession, and
- advancement of the status or visibility of the field.

Anyone is eligible to win the award, although individuals selected for this award should normally be in or near their retirement. The award may be received posthumously. Nominations may be submitted by anyone (including self-nominations), but they may not be made anonymously. The burden of offering evidence of merit falls on the nominator. Each nomination should include:

- the nominee's complete resumé;
- a clear-cut, comprehensive description of the nominee's major contributions to the profession, with complete supporting documentation; and
- at least three letters of endorsement providing evidence of the significance and magnitude of the nominee's professional achievements.

If given, the award will be presented at the Winter Simulation Conference in Las Vegas, Nevada, December 3–6, 2017 (<http://www.wintersim.org>). A list of previous award recipients, and more details about the award process, can be found at <http://connect.informs.org/simulation/awards/professional-achievement-award>.

The LPAA Award Committee consists of Bruce Schmeiser, Russell Cheng, and Marvin Nakayama (Chair, marvin@njit.edu). The nomination should be submitted as a PDF file attachment to an email to the committee chair. At least two weeks before the submission deadline of September 1, 2017, nominators should alert the committee chair by email of forthcoming nominations. Any questions should be directed to the committee chair.

Marvin Nakayama
e-mail: marvin@njit.edu
phone: +1-973-596-3398

□

Call for Nominations: 2017 Distinguished Service Award

Enver Yücesan

To recognize individuals who have provided long-standing, exceptional service to the simulation community, the INFORMS Simulation Society annually sponsors a Distinguished Service Award, given to at most one person each year. This award is for sustained service to the simulation community over at least fifteen to twenty years or longer, and acquitted with distinction. The concept of service for this award does not include teaching or research contributions. Areas of volunteer service include, for example: (i) elected offices in simulation societies; (ii) editorial responsibilities such as area editor or editor-in-chief, for simulation; (iii) responsibilities such as program chair, proceedings editor, general chair, or member of the program or organizing committee, for conferences involving simulation; (iv) appointed positions for simulation-related activities, such as newsletter editor or serving on committees; and (v) undertakings and actions that promote simulation.

Nominations for the award to be given in 2017 can be made by anyone and should be sent by September 15, 2017, to the Distinguished Service Award Committee Chair:

Enver Yücesan
Professor of Operations Management, INSEAD
enver.yucesan@insead.edu

The other committee members are Jeff Joines (NC State University) and Doug Morrice (University of Texas-Austin).

Letters of nomination should identify the nominee's areas of exceptional service, detailing the activities for which the nominee is believed to deserve this award. The nominator has the responsibility for justifying why the nominee should receive this award.

If given, the award will be presented at the Winter Simulation Conference, in Las Vegas NV, December 3 – 6, 2017: <http://www.wintersim.org>. A list of previous winners is available at: <http://connect.informs.org/simulation/awards/distinguished-service-award/dsa-awardees>. □

Call for Nominations: 2017 Outstanding Simulation Publication Award

Barry L. Nelson

To recognize outstanding contributions to the simulation literature, the INFORMS Simulation Society annually sponsors an Outstanding Simulation Publication Award. Nominations for the award to be given in 2017 should be sent by September 1, 2017 to the Awards Committee Chair:

Barry Nelson
Department of Industrial Engineering & Management Sciences
Northwestern University
nelsonb@northwestern.edu

The other committee members are Jeff Hong and Christos Alexopoulos.

Journal articles, proceedings articles, books, book chapters, and monographs copyrighted in 2014, 2015 and 2016 and written in English are eligible for the award. Technical reports, research memoranda, working papers, theses, and dissertations are not eligible. Nominations for the award may be made by anyone, including the author(s), but they may not be made anonymously.

Nominations should include:

- a copy of the written work, including all bibliographical information (in the case of books, the Awards Committee will obtain copies);
- a short statement suitable for reading at the award ceremony if the work is chosen; and
- any other information thought relevant by the nominator.

If given, the Outstanding Simulation Publication Award will be presented at the Winter Simulation Conference in Las Vegas, Nevada, December 3–6, 2017: <http://www.wintersim.org/>.

The Award carries with it a cash prize of \$500. A list of previous winners is available at the website: <http://connect.informs.org/simulation/awards/simulation-publication-award/awardees>. □

Call for Nominations: 2017 CUMW WSC Diversity Award

Qiong Zhang

To improve outreach and diversity among young researchers in the field of simulation, the INFORMS Simulation Society is proud to award sponsorships each year to assist graduate students to attend the Winter Simulation Conference (WSC). We especially encourage applications from women, underrepresented minorities, international students, or students who may add to the diversity of the community in other ways.

In 2016, each awardee received an honorarium of \$500.00. The WSC Diversity Committee is looking forward to receiving high-quality applications for the coming 2017 WSC meeting.

For information on eligibility and how to apply, please visit our website:
<http://connect.informs.org/simulation/awards/wsc-diversity-award>

A complete application package consists of the application form, a letter of intent written by the applicant, and a letter of recommendation written by an advisor.

Applications for the award to be given in 2017 should be sent by September 1, 2017 to the Awards Committee Chair:

Qiong Zhang

Department of Statistical Sciences and Operations Research

Virginia Commonwealth University

qzhang4@vcu.edu □

I-SIM BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

INFORMS Simulation Society Business Meeting:

2016 Winter Simulation Conference, Arlington, VA, December 13, 2016

Enlu Zhou, Secretary

For details on many items from these minutes, see the Spring 2017 I-Sim newsletter at <http://connect.informs.org/simulation/simulation-resources/newsletter>.

At 6:52pm, John Shortle, President of the Society, called the meeting to order after all attendees introduced themselves.

At 6:53pm, John Shortle announced the I-SIM election results and thanked departing officers and committee members. John Shortle congratulated Peter Haas elected INFORMS Fellow, class of 2016, Michael Fu elected INFORMS Treasurer, and Russell Barton elected INFORMS VP for sections and societies.

At 6:55pm John Shortle motioned to approve the minutes from 2015 WSC, and the motion to pass the minutes was approved.

At 6:56pm, Raghu Pasupathy, Vice President of the Society, thanked session organizers of INFORMS and presented upcoming conferences. For details on upcoming conferences, please see the spring newsletter. He encouraged I-SIM society to participate in optimization conferences and machine learning conferences: two upcoming conferences are SIAM Conference on Optimization, International Conference on Machine Learning (ICML).

At 6:57pm Peter Haas introduced ISIM 2017 Research Workshop: Towards an Ecosystem of Models and Data, which is to be held on July 31-August 2 at University of Durham.

At 6:59pm Pierre L'Ecuyer introduced the International Conference on Monte Carlo Methods and Applications, which is to be held on July 3-7 in Montreal, Canada.

At 7:00pm Enlu Zhou, Secretary of the Society, presented the secretary's report.

Remember to renew! For detailed numbers see the spring newsletter.

At 7:01pm Dashi Singham, Treasurer of the Society, presented the Treasurer's report. For detailed report see the spring newsletter.

At 7:03pm Peter Haas presented the Nominations Committee's report. The Nominations Committee is currently seeking input on nominations for two council members. Ballots will appear in the spring newsletter.

At 7:03pm Russell Barton presented the report from the Subdivisions Council.

- Following last year's recommendations, the Self-Reflection Subcommittee identified liaisons for each chapter and section. Every subdivisions council member is now connected with the subdivision.
- The key activities of the Subdivisions Council this year include: clarify relationship between the Chapters/Fora Committee and the Subdivisions Council, incorporate role of SC in bi-directional communication of INFORMS strategic plan and related activities, clarify section/society requirements.
- Other subcommittees include Chapter Health, Storytelling of INFORMS impact, and INFORMS Connect.
- Russell Barton has ended his second term on Subdivisions Council. (Thanks, Russell!) Doug Morrice will serve as the next I-SIM representative to Subdivisions Council.

At 7:08pm Russell Barton presented on the WSC foundation.

- The WSC Foundation develops and manages a fund to help ensure the continuance and high quality of WSC. The fund balance is approximately \$69,000 at present. The WSC Foundation offered a grant of \$5,000 to WSC to help defer costs for military personnel to attend WSC 2013, and is supporting travel for the Cross-Fertilization Track speakers at WSC 2016.
- Following discussions with the WSC Board, the Foundation trustees have contracted with INFORMS to establish permanent Web pages including donation information, history, project descriptions and past officers. There is an internal portion to the site for trustee information such as meeting minutes, prior versions of bylaws, and discussion streams.
- A call for donations to WSC Foundation was passed around. Donation is tax deductible. To donate, make your check payable to "INFORMS" with a note indicating that the check is a donation to the WSC Foundation. Send the check to:

Joe Hugan
734-644-1777
Forward Vision
2701 Troy Center Drive, Suite 275
Troy, MI 48084

At 7:13pm Christos Alexopoulos gave the update on WSC contract. The MOU between WSC and INFORMS will be signed soon, if not by now. It includes the cost proposal for conference management services 2017-2019 Winter Simulation Conference. The fixed management fee for year one (2017) is \$69,500. There will be a 3% per year increase in the fixed management fee for years two and three. INFORMS shall have the right to justify and request a higher percentage if warranted.

Additional services requested by WSC will be provided on a case-by-case basis with the cost being mutually agreed upon. All direct expenses will be estimated with the WSC Business Chair when the budgets are created.

At 7:16pm John Shortle announced that Christos Alexopoulos would step down after 9 years of service on the WSC board and Michael Kuhl would succeed. A big round of applause was given to Christos to thank his service.

At 7:18pm Raghu Pasupathy proposed the idea of spending some WSC Foundation balance to make short course videos. These videos could be simulation tutorials posted on ISIM website, and consistency between videos need to be considered. He then opened the floor for discussions.

- Robert Sargent asked whether there would be charges for these videos. Raghu Pasupathy said it would be free.
- Doug Morrice asked about the target audience. Raghu Pasupathy said it could be reference materials for professors, practitioners, alternative to books for students.
- Paul Sanchez asked whether there would be an editorial board. Raghu Pasupathy answered yes, and said the board would be needed for considerations of consistency.
- Andrea Matta asked if these videos would be offered as a MOOC (Massive Open Online Courses) course or on Coursera. Christos Alexopoulos said offering such courses would need the approval from universities. Juergen Branke mentioned MOOC courses were expensive and a cheaper alternative was to record WSC tutorials every year.
- Enver Yucesan asked if there were competitors, and someone mentioned Jeff Smith's Simio course online.
- Susan Sanchez said there would be benefits to gear towards high school students and teachers. Christos Alexopoulos mentioned there were INFORMS video series for high-schoolers.
- Soumyadip Ghosh said the videos would be more of an informal thing and could be put on Youtube channels for people who need simulation. Peter Haas agreed with the idea of Youtube channel for a wide dissemination.
- Steve Chick asked about the creation process of the videos. Susan Hunter said the videos could be fully scripted from the editorial board to make them consistent.
- John Shortle ended the discussion and welcomed more comments sent to either Raghu Pasupathy or himself.

At 7:29pm Richard Nance reported on the Simulation Archive.

- Simulation Archive Endowment Fund has a balance of \$78,420 as of October 31, 2016. He is very appreciative past support by I-Sim, SIGSIM, Brunel, individual donors.
- The project "A Retrospective Oral History of Computer Simulation" was completed in August 2016. A session on the first object-oriented language SIMULA was videotaped and included in the project.
- Collection of Professor Thomas J. Schriber is now accessible via two sources: WSC and Simulation Archive.

- Robert Sargent is coordinating the history track at WSC 2017. Presentation of Simulation Archive development and vision for the future will be part of the history track at WSC 2017.
- Donations are welcome and tax deductible. Email greg.raschke@ncsu.edu.

For detailed report see the spring newsletter.

At 7:35pm Robert Sargent presented the Endowment Financial Report. For detailed report see the Spring 2016 Newsletter. He mentioned the motion from last year that I-SIM donates \$5K to Simulation Archive, which was discussed in the last WSC I-SIM business meeting but did not get approved last year. He motioned that I-SIM donates \$5K to Simulation Archive, and the motion was approved.

At 7:37pm John Shortle presented a proposed change to by law on the Communications Committee: replace “this committee shall consist of three Society members” by “this committee shall consist of at least two Society members, a Communications Editor and an Associate Communications Editor”; delete “The President shall appoint editorial staff for the Newsletter after consultation with the Communication Committee” and “The President may also appoint a Webmaster after consultation with the Communication Committee”. The rationale is that primary duties (newsletter, website) do not require 5 members on committee, and the proposed bylaws allow flexibility in the number of members / roles without further change to bylaw. The motion was approved. Email votes on Communication Committee members will be sent out later.

At 7:39pm Journal Editor reports.

- Bruno Tuffin, replacing Marvin Nakayama as the area editor since 01/01/2016, reported on Journal on Computing.
- Steve Chick reported on Operations Research. He noted the rate of incoming paper increased from last year.
- Raghu Pasupathy reported on IIE Transactions.
- John Shortle reported on ACM TOMACS.
 - TOMACS has established a new series called "State of the Art and Open Challenges" (MS:STAROC) in modeling and simulation.
 - TOMACS has been starting a reproducibility initiative to improve the quality and reproducibility of modeling and simulation research
 - As every year, there will be a PADS-Sigsim special issue. There will also be a special issue on Formal Methods for Adaptive Collective Systems, Deadline for submissions January 27, 2017.
- Christine Currie reported on the Journal of Simulation. The impact factor of JOS has risen up to 1.164. This year is the 10th anniversary of JOS. There is a WSC panel session *Simulation: The Past 10 Years and the Next 10 Years* – Russell Cheng, Charles Macal, Barry Nelson, Markus Rabe.

At 7:43pm John Shortle called for new business. There is no new business.

At 7:43pm the award session started.

- At 7:43pm Anastasia Anagnostou presented the awards from the WSC'16 Ph.D. Colloquium
 - There were 18 presentations by PhD students.

- Students received funding for WSC'16 PhD colloquium.
- The I-SIM WSC best student paper award went to Sara Shashaani, co-authored by Susan Hunter and Raghu Pasupathy
- At 7:45pm Wei Xie presented the WSC Diversity Award to Mariam Kotachi, Wen Zhang, and Jessica P. Dorismond. They each got a \$500 check and a certificate of appreciation.
- At 7:46pm Barry Nelson presented the Outstanding Simulation Publication Award. The awardees are Chang-Han Rhee and Peter Glynn, for their paper on unbiased estimation for SDE models.
- At 7:50pm Jeffery Joines presented the 2016 I-Sim Distinguished Service Award to Douglas Morrice.
- At 7:54pm Bruce Schmeiser presented the Lifetime Professional Achievement Award to Russell Cheng. Russell graciously accepted the award, and shared some aspects of his life and research with the membership. Susan Hunter videotaped the speech.

At 8:25pm John Shortle adjourned the meeting.

Attendees: To deter email harvesting, @ has been replaced with <of>.

Russell Cheng rchc<of>maths.soton.ac.uk
Enlu Zhou enlu.zhou<of>isye.gatech.edu
Dashi Singham dsingham<of>nps.edu
Ragu Pasupathy pasupath<of>purdue.edu
Shane Henderson sgh9<of>cornell.edu
Barry L Nelson nelsonb<of>northwestern.edu
Russell Barton rbarton<of>psu.edu
Susan Sanchez ssanchez<of>nps.edu
Paul Sanchez pjs<of>alum.mit.edu
Weiwei Chen wchen<of>business.rutgers.edu
Jim Wilson jwilson<of>ncsu.edu
Soumyadip Ghosh ghoshs<of>us.ibm.com
Eunhye Song eunhyesong2016<of>u.northwestern.edu
John Fowler john.fowler<of>asu.edu
Pres White kpwhite<of>virginia.edu
Marvin Nakayama marvin<of>njit.edu
Ilya Ryzhov iryzhov<of>rhsmith.umd.edu
Susan Hunter susanhunter<of>purdue.edu
Kalyani Nagaraj kalyanin<of>purdue.edu
Sanjay Jain jain<of>gwu.edu
Sally Brailsford s.c.brailsford<of>soton.ac.uk
Mingbin (Ben) Feng benfeng<of>u.northwestern.edu
Stewart Robinson r.robinson<of>lboro.ac.uk
Michael Kuhl mekeie<of>rit.edu
Young-Jun Son son<of>sie.arizona.edu
Marie Chau mchau<of>vcu.edu
Andrew Collins ajcollin<of>odu.edu
Bruce Ankenman ankenman<of>northwestern.edu
Haobin Li lihb<of>ihpc.a-star.edu.sg

Bruce Schmeiser bruceshmeiser<of>gmail.com
Giulia Pedrielli giulia.pedrielli<of>asu.edu
Dave Goldsman sman<of>gatech.edu
Vitali Volovoi vitali<of>volovoi.com
Enver Yucesan enver.yucesan<of>insead.edu
John Shortle jshortle<of>gmu.edu
Steve Chick stephen.chick<of>insead.edu
Wei Xie xiew3<of>rpi.edu
Osman Balci balci<of>vt.edu
Dick Nance nance<of>vt.edu
Mengyi Zhang myra<of>sjtu.edu.cn
Ziwei Liw linziewi<of>sjtu.edu.cn
Sara Shashaani sshashaa<of>umich.edu
Siyang Gao siyangao<of>cityu.edu.hk
Andere Metta metta<of>cityu.edu.cn
Maurizio Tomasella maurizio.tomasella<of>ed.ac.uk
Emily Lada Emily.lada<of>sas.com
Henry Lam khlam<of>umich.edu
Todd Huschks todd.hushcka<of>mayo.edu
Dean Charfield dchatfie<of>odu.edu
Jeff Joines jeffjoines<of>nscu.edu
Christine Currie Christine.currie<of>soton.ac.uk
Kyle Couper coupe149<of>purdue.edu
Cruseina Ruiz Marein cruiz<of>ell.uua.edu
Ehsan Salimi esalimi<of>usc.edu
Ashkan Negahbam anegahban<of>psu.edu
Shu Pan sp4g13<of>soton.ac.uk
Michael Fu mfu<of>umd.edu
Jessica Dorismond jpdorism<of>buffalo.edu
Nanjing Jian njss7<of>cornell.edu
Ki Hwan Bae kihwan.bae<of>Louisville.edu
Xi Chen xchen6<of>vt.edu
Vahab Vahdarzad vahdarzad.v<of>husley.nev.edu

□

I-SIM BALLOTS

Ballot for Bylaws Change

John Shortle, President

To vote on the proposed changes to the bylaws, please return the ballot below by e-mail to:

Enlu Zhou
I-Sim Secretary
enlu.zhou@isye.gatech.edu

Please include the words “I-Sim Bylaws” in the subject line. Return the ballot by **May 31, 2017**.

Proposed change: Article V – Committees, Section 1.D. (A Communications Committee responsible for the Newsletter and Website): Unless a procedure for appointing members to this committee is established by the membership, this committee shall consist of **at least two** ~~three~~ Society members, **a Communications Editor and an Associate Communications Editor**, appointed by the President and whose term shall coincide with the President’s term. ~~The President shall appoint editorial staff for the Newsletter after consultation with the Communication Committee.~~ At least two Newsletters shall be produced each calendar year. ~~The President may also appoint a Webmaster after consultation with the Communication Committee.~~

Do you approve the proposed change to the bylaws?

_____ Yes

_____ No

Discussion and rationale: The primary duties of the Communications Committee (newsletter and website) can be accomplished with 2 members, rather than the 5 members specified in the current bylaws. This has been pointed out recently by members of the Communications Committee. The proposed change specifies a reasonable minimum number of members to complete the primary duties while allowing for future flexibility in the number of members and roles (e.g., adding a member responsible for “social media” would not require a formal change to the bylaws).

For reference, the existing I-Sim bylaws can be found at <http://connect.informs.org/simulation/about-us/bylaws>. □

I-Sim Elections Ballot for Council Members

Seong-Hee Kim, Past President

To vote in the election for I-Sim Council Members, return the ballot below by e-mail or mail by **May 31, 2017** to:

Seong-Hee Kim
H. Milton Stewart School of Industrial and Systems Engineering
Georgia Institute of Technology
755 Ferst Drive, NW
Atlanta, GA 30332
E-Mail: skim@isye.gatech.edu

If you use email, please include the words *I-Sim Ballot* in the subject line.

Two candidates will be elected for the I-Sim Council for a period of two years. The candidates are presented in alphabetical order.

COUNCIL (vote for up to two)

_____ SIGRÚN ANDRADÓTTIR, Georgia Institute of Technology

_____ MAURICIO CABRERA-RÍOS, University of Puerto Rico at Mayaguez

_____ ILYA O. RYZHOV, University of Maryland

_____ FENG YANG, West Virginia University

(This part will be used only to certify the ballot — your vote will be kept confidential. Your e-mail address will serve as your signature if you vote electronically.)

Your name (print): _____

Your signature: _____

□

Candidate Biographies

SIGRÚN ANDRADÓTTIR is a Professor in the Stewart School of Industrial and Systems Engineering at the Georgia Institute of Technology. She received a B.S. in Mathematics from the University of Iceland in 1986, an M.S. in Statistics from Stanford University in 1989, and a Ph.D. in Operations Research from Stanford University in 1990. Her research interests include simulation, applied probability, and stochastic optimization. She is a member of I-Sim and has served on both the Lifetime Professional Achievement Award Committee and the Committee on Underrepresented Minorities and Women. She has also served as program committee member, track coordinator, and Proceedings Editor for the Winter Simulation Conference. She was the Simulation Area Editor of *Operations Research Letters* from 2002 to 2008 and has served as Associate Editor for various journals.

MAURICIO CABRERA-RÍOS is a Professor in the Industrial Engineering Department at the University of Puerto Rico at Mayaguez. He has held academic positions in three countries since 2002: USA (lecturer 2002-2003), Mexico (Associate Professor 2003-2009) and Puerto Rico (2008- To Date). He obtained his B.S. degree in Industrial & Systems Engineering from Monterrey Institute of Technology (Mexico) in 1996 and the M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in the same field from The Ohio State University in 1999 and 2002 respectively. He has authored/coauthored 55 journal articles related to characterization, modeling and optimization of manufacturing, services and biological systems. In his research, he has kept a particular interest in integrating simulation with multiple criteria optimization and experimental design. He served as part of the WSC Committee for Diversity from 2014 to 2016 and, before such period of time, two of his students won the Diversity Award to participate in the WSC. He has served in the position of Ambassador (previously called co-chair) in the Engineering, Physics and Mathematics Judging Program of the Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Students (ABRCMS) five times since 2011. He is also the founder of JOUST, The Journal of Undergraduate Research Students, first of its kind in the Caribbean. Mauricio can be reached at mauricio.cabrera1@upr.edu and his research group has active Facebook and Twitter pages with the identifier @AppliedOptUPRM.

ILYA O. RYZHOV is an Associate Professor (from August 2017) of Operations Management and Management Science in the Department of Decision, Operations & Information Technologies at the Robert H. School of Business, University of Maryland. His research primarily focuses on simulation optimization and statistical learning, with applications in business analytics, revenue management, and nonprofit/humanitarian operations; this work has appeared in *Operations Research*, *Management Science*, *INFORMS Journal on Computing* and other journals. He is a coauthor of the book *Optimal Learning* (Wiley, 2012). He has attended WSC since 2009, coedited the WSC Proceedings in 2014, and chaired the Simulation Optimization track in 2014-2015. His work was recognized in WSC's Best Theoretical Paper Award competition on three separate occasions (winner in 2012, finalist in 2009 and 2016).

FENG YANG is currently an Associate Professor in the Industrial and Management Systems Engineering Department at West Virginia University. She received her Ph.D. degree in Industrial Engineering and Management Sciences from Northwestern University in 2006. Her research has focused on metamodeling, design of experiments and applied statistical methods, and she is interested in developing methodologies for various applications including production planning for manufacturing, service management, nanotoxicology, and sensor-based environment monitoring. Her research projects have been funded by NSF, NIH, NASA, and NIOSH. She has served as session chairs for the INFORMS annual meetings and the Winter Simulation Conferences, and she also has served as member and chair of the Committee for Underrepresented Minorities and Women (CUMW) of the Simulation Society. □

UPCOMING EVENTS

Event Calendar

Jie Xu

IIE Annual Conference and Exposition 2017, Pittsburgh, PA,
May 20 – 23, 2017, <http://www.iise.org/Annual/>

2017 SIAM Conference on Optimization, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada
May 22 – 25, 2017, <http://www.siam.org/meetings/op17/>

2017 INFORMS Simulation Society Research Workshop: Towards an Ecosystem of Simulation Models and Data, University of Durham, UK
July 31 – August 2, 2017, <http://www.isim2017.tk>

34th International Conference on Machine Learning, Sydney, Australia
Aug 6 – 11, 2017, <http://icml.cc/2017>

13th IEEE Conference on Automation Science and Engineering, Xi An, China
Aug 20 – 23, 2017, <http://case2017.org/>

2017 INFORMS Annual Meeting, Houston, TX
October 22 – 25, 2017, <http://meetings2.informs.org/wordpress/houston2017/>

2017 Winter Simulation Conference, Las Vegas, Nevada
December 3 – 6, 2017, <http://meetings2.informs.org/wordpress/wsc2017/>

□



5521 Research Park Drive
Suite 200
Catonsville, MD 21228