

*MSOM Business Meeting Minutes, INFORMS Fall Conference  
November 4, 1996 (Atlanta)*

The meeting was called to order by Joe Mazzola (President), who welcomed everyone in attendance. Joe noted a correction to the minutes of the *MSOM* Business Meeting at the 1996 *MSOM* Conference at Dartmouth; namely, all non-*MSOM* members who registered for the 1996 *MSOM* Conference AND who also belong to *INFORMS* will automatically receive a one-year membership to *MSOM* for the 1997 calendar year. Joe then announced the other *MSOM* officers: Mark Spearman (Executive Vice President and President Elect), Karla Bourland (Vice President for Meetings and Communications) and Karen Donohue (Secretary/Treasurer). Since the Treasurer could not be at the meeting, Joe gave a brief Treasurer's report, listing the balance of \$27,015.86 (as of May 1996) and noting that expenses typically arise from the Newsletter, mailings, receptions, and the Student Competition Awards.

Joe then went on to discuss meetings: past, present, and future. He thanked Medini Singh, Ken Baker, and the Program Committee (Karla Bourland, Yigal Gerchak, Stephen Powell, David Pike, and Candi Yano) for their combined effort in putting together an outstanding 1996 *MSOM* Conference at Dartmouth this past June. He then thanked Rich Daniels and Mark Spearman for organizing an excellent set of *MSOM* Sponsored Sessions at the present (Atlanta) *INFORMS* meeting. Looking ahead, Reza Ahmadi, Tek Ho, Uday Karmarkar, Rakesh Sarin, and Chris Tang are organizing the Sponsored Sessions for the Spring 1997 *INFORMS* Meeting in San Diego. The Multi-Echelon Inventory Systems Conference will be held next summer (although this is not formally a part of *MSOM*, this conference is of interest to many *MSOM* members). Dinah Cheng welcomed people to the conference to be held in New York in June 1997. She is expecting 50 to 100 people. The deadline for submitting abstracts is next April. Joe then mentioned future *INFORMS* conferences: Fall 1997 Dallas (cluster chair: Valerie Tardif), Spring 1998 Montreal (cluster chair: John Buzacott), and Fall 1998 Seattle. Ted Klastorin also spoke briefly about preparations for the 1998 *MSOM* Conference to be held in Seattle. The conference will run from Sunday, June 28 through Tuesday, June 30, 1998.

Frank Ciarallo informed us that the Newsletter is now on line (<http://www.sie.arizona.edu/MSOM>), and he welcomes input for the next issue. The electronic mailing list has just been placed into service and had been experiencing some start-up problems (e.g., some members are not on the list and responses to messages were being sent to everyone on the list, rather than to the individual who had sent the message). This latter problem has been corrected, and we are working to update the mailing list. Raj Veeramani discussed the research data base, mentioning that he hopes to develop a new data base using a new generation of applications (e.g., Java, etc.).

Moving on to Nominations, Joe turned the floor over to Michael Magazine, the immediate-past President of *MSOM*, and Chair of the Nominations Committee. The other members of the Nominations Committee are Ken Baker and Wally Hopp. Mike thanked Mary Magrogan for managing the scheduling of the sessions and for obtaining large rooms (which judging by the attendance at this meeting were necessary). Mike then asked for nominations for all of the elected positions (Executive V.P. and President Elect, V.P. Meetings and Communications, and Secretary/Treasurer), noting that nominations could be sent directly to him and that the ballots would need to be distributed in February 1997. Nominations were also solicited from the floor, but none were made.

The meeting progressed to the presentation of the *MSOM* Student Paper Competition Awards. The Award Committee was chaired by Wally Hopp. Since Wally could not be in attendance at the meeting, Yehuda Bassok made the award presentations. Yehuda noted that the Committee had received 27 high-quality papers, and then announced the 5 finalists. The first prize was awarded to Stefanos A. Zenios, and the second prize went to Siddharth Mahajan. The other finalists were: Philip Kaminsky, Anand Iyer, and Srinagesh Gavirneni. The Committee members were thanked for their hard work.

Moving to the *M&SOM Journal*, Lee Schwarz, Editor, outlined the status of the new journal. Thus far 15 papers have been received. The average turnaround time for the papers has been impressive, since authors of papers determined to be unsuitable for the journal were being notified quickly (the average cycle time for the first review is 10 days). Lee has designed the review process to provide fast turnaround, which apparently appears to be working. Lee also announced a special issue of the journal on "Global Operations Management". The Guest Editors of this issue, Mac Dada and Panos Kouvelis, prepared an announcement which was distributed at the meeting. Specifically, they are soliciting manuscripts with new problems and approaches, challenging opportunities for future research, and significant contribution to global operations management. They emphasized the journal's editorial philosophy, that is interdisciplinary but thorough, "uniqueness" of contribution, and innovation. Lee added that he would like to see more entrepreneurship practice oriented research. Center directors are welcome to contact him.

Turning to new business, Joe proposed the *MSOM* Distinguished Service Award where a plaque and cash award of \$400 would be made annually to an *MSOM* member who helped to advance significantly the goals and objectives of the Section. At the discretion of the Award Committee, the Award may be presented to a group of individuals who have worked jointly on a common project (provided that at least one member of the group is a member of *MSOM*). The Award Committee will consist of the *MSOM* Executive Vice President and President Elect (chair), the Vice President for Meetings and Communications, and the Secretary Treasurer. The award will be presented annually at the Spring *INFORMS* Meeting (or at the Summer *MSOM* Conference, should the *MSOM* conferences become an annual event). Nominations should be sent to the Chair of the Committee and must be received by January 31. Elected *MSOM* officers are ineligible for the Award during their terms of office. A motion was made to authorize the appropriation of *MSOM* Section funds to cover the expenses associated with the award. The motion was seconded and was subsequently approved by voice vote. Nominations for the 1997 *MSOM* Distinguished Service Award should be sent to Mark Spearman before January 31, 1997.

In two separate motions, two appointed positions, *MSOM* Newsletter Editor (3-year term, renewable) and Director of Communications (3-year-term, renewable) were also approved at the meeting. Each of these appointments will be made by a majority vote of the *MSOM* elected officers. Joe noted that Frank Ciarallo has done an excellent job of serving as the Editor of the *MSOM* Newsletter. He also noted that the *MSOM* elected officers had voted unanimously to appoint Frank to this position and that Frank had agreed to serve. The *MSOM* membership then applauded, acknowledging Frank's past performance and anticipating his future service in this role. A motion was then made to approve a \$5000 budget to support the *MSOM* Electronic Communication Initiative. There was much discussion on the appropriate amount of the budget and the specific nature of the projects to be performed under the initiative. It was decided that a committee should be appointed to consider the matter further and propose specific recommendations to the membership. The motion was tabled.

The meeting was then adjourned at approximately 7:15.

Minutes Submitted by

Rachel Zhang