

*MSOM Business Meeting Minutes, INFORMS Fall Conference
October 27, 1997 (Dallas)*

Mark Spearman started the meeting with the announcement that *MSOM* has become the largest section within *INFORMS* having 909 members (610 *INFORMS* members, 283 students, 13 retirees, and 3 non *INFORMS*).

Motion to approve minutes from May meeting was made, seconded, and passed.

Harry Groenevelt reported on our current budget which has grown by \$2000-\$4000 each year. The current balance is \$34,412.

Valerie Tardif was recognized for having a great idea with the *MSOM* Mixer on Sunday night. There was general agreement that it should be continued.

John Birge and Mark Spearman reported the pros and cons regarding *MSOM* upgrading its status within *INFORMS* from a technical section to an *INFORMS* society. John explained that the *INFORMS* board encourages mature sections (i.e., sections with several of the following characteristics: a large membership, sustained interest, meetings in addition to *INFORMS*, and who have their own journal) to become *INFORMS* Societies. Such societies remain within *INFORMS*. The *INFORMS* Office continues to keep records, manage the finances, and all the other functions that are currently performed.

The benefits are better recognition outside of *INFORMS*, more prestige in the name (for awards and the like), and slightly more autonomy. The downside is that it would become more complex to disband *MSOM* if the need ever arose, and there is some paperwork that must be done one time to make the change.

A motion to change the name from the Manufacturing and Services Operations Management Section of *INFORMS* to the Manufacturing and Services Operations Management Society: an *INFORMS* Organization was made, seconded, and passed with 4 dissenting votes.

However, even though the topic was mentioned at the spring meeting and input from the membership was sought, no formal vote was announced before this meeting. Therefore, no official decision of whether to make the change could be made at this meeting. After the meeting, the Executive Board decided to solicit input from the membership via our web-site and to add the question to our paper ballot for officers to go out in January, with results to be announced at the Montreal meeting.

Ted Klastorin gave a report on *MSOM 98* Conference in Seattle. The call for papers was announced to be coming out out shortly.

In Lee Schwarz' absence, Tim Lowe gave a report on the *M&SOM Journal*. The average response time for providing the authors with input remains very short.

Mark Spearman reported on some ideas regarding co-sponsoring *MSOM 2000* with the manufacturing group in *IIE*. There was some confusion as to whether this would be with the IE Research Conference (IERC) or was independent of that. Later discussions with *IIE* indicated that this is independent of the IERC and will involve only *IIE* members specifically interested in manufacturing. On one hand, this provides us an opportunity to host a larger gathering specifically interested in manufacturing. On the other hand, *MSOM* is broader than manufacturing and the *IIE* group is less focused on operations management and more focused on hard manufacturing (e.g., robotics, FMS). Spearman asked for input from the membership as to their thoughts regarding jointly sponsoring *MSOM 2000* with *IIE*. Please send them to mark.spearman@isye.gatech.edu.

A call for *MSOM* officer nominations was announced and are due by Dec 1 to Joe Mazzola,

jmazzola@mail.duke.edu . Officer positions are: Executive Vice-President/President-Elect, Secretary/Treasurer, Vice President, Meetings and Communications.

A report and a usage survey on the *MSOM* Information System Infrastructure was given. A usage survey was held among the members attending the meeting. Knowledge of the *INFORMS* web site (www.informs.org/) and the *MSOM* web site (www.sie.arizona.edu/MSOM/) appears to be fairly widespread. Frank Ciarallo was recognized for his excellent *MSOM* Web Page.

Raj Veeramani reported on an *MSOM* Working Papers Repository. Please send any comments to *mark.spearman@isye.gatech.edu*.

Larry Robinson announced the winners of the *MSOM* student paper competition.

Cluster Chairs for *MSOM* Seattle are Rachel Zhang and Tava Olson. Rachels e-mail is *rzhang@engin.umich.edu*.

Cluster Chair for Cincinnati Meeting is Timothy Smunt, (tim_smunt@mail.mba.wfu.edu).

Service Awards, nominations are due by Nov 14 to John McClain.

Harry Groenevelt discussed the request from the *INFORMS* VP of Sections that our officers all have two year terms. He indicated that the Executive Committee decided that we would make it a practice to have a single nomination for the offices of: Secretary/Treasurer and Vice President, Meetings and Communication s after serving one year. Since there is already continuity in the office of President and Vice-President/President Elect, a new nomination for President-Elect will be made each year. A suggestion was made that the 2 year terms be staggered to facilitate transfer of knowledge from one set officers to the next.

Compiled by:

Harry Groenevelt

Secretary/Treasurer