

INFORMS 2007 (Seattle) MSOM Business Meeting Minutes

Martin Lariviere (President) conducted the meeting. The agenda was as follows:

1. MSOM 2007 Distinguished Service Award

Marty reminded the audience that the service award "recognizes individuals whose distinguished service to MSOM has helped to advance significantly the goals and objectives of the Society." Past recipients are Gabriel Bitran, John Buzacott, Frank Ciarallo, Uday Karmarkar, Michael Magazine, Lee Schwartz, Mark Spearman, Garrett van Ryzin, and Candace Yano.

The 2007 MSOM Service Award recipient is Kathryn E. Stecke, Ashbel Smith Professor of Operations Management at The University of Texas at Dallas School of Management.

2. MSOM Student Paper Competition

Jeremie Gallien was chair of the 2007 competition. He thanked the 64 judges that were involved this year. Due to more stringent requirements (e.g. membership in MSOM), there were 58 submissions this year, down from more than 80 the previous year. The winners of the competition are as follows:

First Prize

Tong Wang from INSEAD for the paper "Inventory Management with Advance Demand Information and Flexible Delivery" with primary advisor Beril Toktay from the Georgia Institute of Technology.

Second Prize

Soo-Haeng Cho from the UCLA Anderson School of Management for the paper "The Optimal Composition of Influenza Vaccines Subject to Random Production Yields" with primary advisor Kevin McCardle from UCLA.

Finalists

Gongtao (Lucy) Chen from the National University of Singapore for the paper "The Impact of Financial Turbulence on Inventory Control" with primary advisor Lawrence Robinson from Cornell University;

Richard Lai from Harvard Business School for the paper "Inventory's Fiscal Year End Effect" with primary advisor Noel Watson from Harvard University;

Pamela Pen-Erh Pei from the MIT Operations Research Center for the paper "Towards a Unified Theory of Procurement Contract Design: Production Flexibility, Spot Market Trading and the Structure of Options Contracts" with primary advisor David Simchi-Levi from MIT;

Shanshan Hu from the University of Michigan for the paper "Price Dispersion in Electricity Auctions: Strategic Analysis and Economic Implications" with primary advisor Roman Kapuscinski from the University of Michigan.

Jeremie extended his congratulations to all six finalists.

3. MSOM 2008 Conference

This conference will be held in University of Maryland, on June 5-6, 2008. The conference co-chairs are Wedad Elmaghraby and Gil Souza. This year's conference will also be refereed, with initial extended abstract submissions due on January 21, 2008 and notifications to authors going out by March 22, 2008. The early registration deadline will be April 22, 2008.

4. Update on Special Interest Groups (SIGs)

Marty explained that Special Interest Groups are communities within INFORMS communities. They were recently instituted within MSOM, with the following anticipated benefits: (i) Clearer definition of what MSOM covers; (ii) Visibility/support for research areas; (iii) Designated tracks at INFORMS with greater transparency in how sponsored tracks are allocated; and (iv) Recasting of Multiechelon Conference, since every SIG is expected to host a one-day, single-track conference in conjunction with the MSOM meeting.

According to our bylaws, Society officers may create up to three "initial" SIGs by a majority vote of the officers. The 2007 officers voted to create the Supply Chain Management SIG and the Service Management SIG. Pinar Keskinocak and Francis de Vericourt graciously agreed to act as Founding Chairs for these SIGs; chairs will be voted on in subsequent years. Both of these SIGs will host their conferences on June 7, 2008, following the MSOM conference. Beril Toktay and Francis de Vericourt will chair the SCM and SM SIG Conferences, respectively. They announced that full paper deadlines will be the same as the MSOM conference for convenience. Authors can submit papers to both conferences but can only present in one. A submission to the SIG conference implies a commitment to present there if accepted in both venues.

Marty explained that beyond initial SIGs, additional SIGs may be created by petition to the Society President. A call for new SIG petitions shall be sent out no later than February 1 of each year. Petitions will be due no later than April 1 and the officers must vote on each SIG petition no later than June 1. A majority vote is required to pass. A petition must include the following:

- A Statement of Purpose which briefly but clearly defines the research area the SIG shall cover.
- A Statement of Necessity which briefly but clearly explains how the research area is not covered by an existing Society SIG.
- Signatures expressing support for the new SIG from current Society members. Fifty signatures are needed.

- The name of a Founding Chair who has agreed to lead the SIG until elections can be held.

5. Administrative Announcements

Marty made the following announcements:

- The new MSOM webmaster is Joern Meissner, Lancaster University Management School.
- The new list serve moderator is Yavuz Gunalay, Bahcesehir University
- The non-SIG MSOM sessions for INFORMS 2008 will be organized by Justin Ren, Boston University
- According to the latest financial statement available (2nd quarter 2007), our revenues in 2007 are \$13,675 to date. With no expenditures posted yet, the total balance is \$51,349.
- MSOM Reception: In 2006, we had a room for 300 and a budget of \$11,000, and ran out of food and drinks almost immediately. In 2007, we booked a room for 500, and spent close to \$15,000, with better performance – food lasted a little under half an hour. A good reception appears to be unsustainable, so the MSOM reception will have to be rethought.

Marty adjourned the meeting by asking members to let him know their thoughts on this last topic.

Recorded by Beril Toktay