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Update on Campus Rep Program

Scott M. Shafer, Feature Editor

As I mentioned in my inaugural column that appeared in the May 1998 *Decision Line*, one of my top priorities as your Member Services Coordinator is to reinvigorate the campus rep program. As you may know, this program was designed to promote Institute activities and to help identify and attract new members. The Institute has long had the goal of establishing at least one representative at each campus with Institute members.

My first task was to update the campus representative database that I received from my predecessor Mark Davis. Using the email database that President Terry Rakes developed, I attempted to contact the 200-plus people listed as campus reps to determine their interest in continuing to serve the Institute in this capacity. I am pleased to report that thus far 56 of the people on the list have indicated an interest in continuing to serve as campus reps. I would also like to apologize to those of you who are currently campus reps that I have not been able to contact and let you know that your continued participation in this program would be greatly appreciated.

I have to admit that when I first assumed the role of Member Services

Coordinator, I was somewhat troubled by the exhaustive list of responsibilities assigned to campus reps. Thus, this year I asked the Member Services Committee to reexamine the responsibilities of the campus representatives and to identify ways to better recognize their contributions. In our report that was submitted to the Board of Directors in December, the Member Services Committee recommended that the roles of the campus reps be narrowed to the following:

- Provide information such as calls for papers, membership brochures, and announcements about upcoming events to faculty and Ph.D. students at their respective schools. It is particularly important for campus reps to provide this information to faculty and students who are currently not members but would find this information of value.
- Be the liaison between the faculty and students on the campus and the Institute by knowing how to obtain calls for papers, membership forms, conference submission forms, information on special journal issues, and officer contact information.
- Attend regional and national meetings.



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operations strategy, business process design, and information technology. Dr. Shafer is the current member services coordinator of the Decision Sciences Institute, a former member of the Board of Advisors of SOLE (The International Society of Logistics), and is certified in Production and Inventory Management (CPIM) by the American Production and Inventory Control Society.

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Previous Column Update

MY LAST COLUMN ENDED WITH A REQUEST for you to visit a form that I posted on the Web in order to react to the ideas presented in the column. Unfortunately, this feature of the Membership Roundtable column got off to a bit of a slow start with only three responses. At any rate, when asked to rank the value of eight uses of technology, these respondents indicated that they would be most interested in being able to renew their membership over the Web and having a Web resource available with links to relevant teaching and research sites. In terms of my statement that "the individuals who oversee the maintenance and development of content in a specific subject area on the Web will attain the status of journal editor," one respondent agreed, one indicated it was a distinct possibility, and one wasn't sure. Finally, all three respondents believe that in ten years from now, *Decision Sciences* will be distributed online over the Web. See how much fun you missed out on by not responding.

At the national meeting in Las Vegas, I hosted a reception honoring the campus reps as a small token of my appreciation for their contributions. This event was co-sponsored by the Institute and the Babcock Graduate School of Management at Wake Forest University. I would also like to thank President-Elect Lee Krajewski, Past President Jim Evans, and Executive Director Carol Latta for taking time out of their busy conference schedules to attend this reception. Let me express my continued appreciation to the following members who serve as our campus reps:

Hossein Arsham, University of Baltimore
Snehamay Banerjee, Rutgers University
Mo Bayou, University of Michigan – Deaborn
Charlene Bebko, Indiana University of Pennsylvania
Peter Bobko, Guilford College
T.H. Bonitsis, New Jersey Institute of Technology
Injazz Chen, Cleveland State University
Shaw Chen, University of Rhode Island
Chen Chung, University of Kentucky
Krishna Dhir, Pennsylvania State University
Harold Dyck, California State University San Bernardino
Maling Ebrahimpour, University of Rhode Island
Benjamin Eichhorn, Rider College
Michael Eierman, University of Wisconsin–Oshkosh
Stephen Floyd, University of Alabama–Huntsville
Barbara Flynn, Wake Forest University
Edward Grasso, Eckerd College
Wallace Growney, Susquehanna University
Janelle Heineke, Boston University
Jay Heizer, Texas Lutheran
Dale Hockstra, University of Evansville
Eugene Hughes, East Carolina University
Peter Ittig, University of Massachusetts–Boston
Ray Jacobs, Ashland University
Thomas Jones, University of Arkansas
Lynn Judd, California State University
Frederick Kohun, Robert Morris College
Geoffrey Lantos, Stonehill College
David Levine, Bernard M. Baruch College
John Malley, University of Central Arkansas

David Meinert, Southwest Missouri State
Donald Messner, College of William and Mary
Farrokh Nasri, Hofstra University
William Newman, Miami University
Chike Okechuku, University of Windsor
Javad Paknejad, Hofstra University
Susan Pariseau, Merrimack College
Carl Pegels, State University of New York–Buffalo
David Pentico, Duquesne University
Stephen Porth, St. Joseph's University
Dharam Rana, Jackson State University
Dan Reid, University of New Hampshire
Luis Rivera, Dowling College
John Sanford, Philadelphia College of Textile and Science
Cem Saydam, University of North Carolina–Charlotte
Stan Schenkerman, University of Bridgeport
Larry Scheuerman, University of Southwestern Louisiana
Arthur Smith, University of Toledo
Edward Szewczak, Canisius College
Joe Thomas, Cornell University
Ercan Tirtiroglu, University of Massachusetts–Dartmouth
B.S. Vijayayaman, University of Akron
Marwan Wafa, University of Southern Indiana
Nancy Weida, Bucknell University
G.W. Willis, Baylor University
Barbara Withers, University of San Diego

Let me close by noting that becoming a campus representative is a great way to increase your level of participation in the Institute. And to facilitate the task of volunteering, I have created a simple form at:

www.mba.wfu.edu/faculty/shafer/dsi/campus_rep.htm

Also, for those of you who were previously campus reps but somehow slipped through the cracks, please feel free to use this form if you would like to continue as a campus rep. ■

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President Terry R. Rakes (Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University) chaired the Board of Directors meeting that was held on Saturday, November 21, 1998, in Las Vegas, Nevada. The following is a report of the actions taken by the Board and matters brought to its attention. The Executive Committee also met on November 21. Its recommendations to the Board are included in the items reported below.

1. The minutes of the April 1998 meeting of the Board of Directors were approved.
2. The Midwest, Northeast, Southeast, and Southwest regional budgets for FY 1998-99 were accepted.
3. Changes to chapter one of the Policies and Procedures Manual were approved.
4. A budget amendment was approved for the expense of a computer for the Executive Director at the Home Office.
5. The Institute's co-sponsorship of Dartmouth's second conference in 1999 on Teaching Management Science was approved.
6. A recommendation was accepted to conduct a mini-conference on "Teaching with Spreadsheets," on a one-year trial basis during the 1999 Annual Meeting.
7. The following reports and information items were reviewed and accepted:
 - a. Report on the 1998 Asia-Pacific Regional meeting.
 - b. Slate of nominees for the 1999 election of officers.
 - c. Schedules and locations of the 1999 Executive Committee and Board of Directors meetings.
 - d. Board representation at the 1999 Annual Regional Meetings.
 - e. Report on the 1998 Annual Meeting and plans for the 1999 Annual Meeting.
 - f. 1998 membership survey ■