

## 2000 Program Chair's Message

Gary L. Ragatz, Michigan State University



THE 2000 ANNUAL MEETING Program Committee is already working to develop sessions for the upcoming meeting in Orlando, but the real key to a successful conference is your participation. We need your help to create an interesting and exciting program that meets the diverse needs of the Institute's membership. One important way you can contribute is by volunteering to serve as reviewers, discussants, and session chairs. For additional information, please visit the DSI Program Chair Web Page at:

<http://mgt.bus.msu.edu/dsi2000/>

The theme of this year's Annual Meeting is "Decision Making in a Wired World." As we enter the new millennium, the global marketplace is a reality and the advancement of technology has created new opportunities for competing in that marketplace. A wide range of tools, such as e-mail, teleconferencing, electronic data interchange, ERP systems, global information systems, and the Internet are changing the way managers communicate, share and use information for making decisions. We are truly doing business in a "wired world."

The wired world offers new ways for companies to meet the needs of customers and creates opportunities to achieve a competitive advantage through speed, cost, and/or better responsiveness to market demands. Companies buy and sell via the web, make decisions using virtual teams, share information, and develop plans collaboratively with customers and suppliers.

Along with the opportunities, though, come challenges. Managers must not only determine whether and how to deploy new technologies, but they must learn how to use them to competitive advantage. This means developing appropriate strategies and organizational structures, redesigning business processes, integrating the technologies and associated information into

decision-making processes, evaluating costs and benefits, and managing new types of business relationships.

Decision scientists are positioned to play a critical role in helping managers meet the challenge of doing business in a wired world. Through research and teaching, they can help develop and disseminate the concepts, tools, and techniques needed for success in this environment. A review of the presentations at recent annual meetings shows that DSI members are actively involved in this important work.

The 2000 Annual Meeting will provide opportunities for the dissemination of research results as well as innovation in teaching and curriculum. Competitive submissions related to the conference theme, as well as to the broader array of important decision sciences topics are welcome.

The conference program will again be organized in a "matrix" structure, with presentations cross-listed according to the Institute's core tracks and interdisciplinary themes to help attendees find sessions of interest (see list of tracks and themes below). Note that two new themes have been introduced for the 2000 Annual Meeting: "Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) Systems" and "Technology and Innovation."

### Core Tracks

- Accounting: Theory, Applications and Practice
- Case Studies
- DSS/AI/Expert Systems
- Finance/Financial Management
- Innovative Education
- International Business
- Management Information Systems
- Marketing: Theory, Models and Applications
- MS/OR: Techniques, Models and Applications
- Organizational Behavior/Organizational Theory
- P/OM—Manufacturing

- P/OM—Service
- Quality and Productivity
- Statistics and Decision Analysis
- Strategy and Policy

### Interdisciplinary Themes

- Educational Issues
- Engineering/Business Coordination
- Environmental Issues
- Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) Systems
- Ethical Issues
- Global Issues
- Health Care Issues
- Interdisciplinary Studies
- Public Sector Issues
- Small Business, Entrepreneurship, and Industry Applications
- Technology and Innovation

In addition to regular program sessions, the Annual Meeting will include several competitions and professional programs, including the Case Studies Award Competition, Curricular Issues Miniconferences, Doctoral Dissertation Competition, Doctoral Student Consortium, Instructional Innovation Award Competition, New Faculty Development Consortium, and Professional Development Program.

Please plan to join friends and colleagues at the 2000 Annual Meeting at the Marriott Orlando World Center in Orlando, Florida. ■

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## 2000 Competitions and Programs

### Best Paper Awards Competition

Four Best Paper Awards will be presented at the annual meeting, each with a \$200 prize:

- Best Theoretical/Empirical Research Paper,
- Best Application Paper,
- Best Interdisciplinary Paper, and
- Best Environmental Issues Paper.

Reviewers will be asked to nominate competitive paper submissions for these awards. Nominations will then be reviewed by a best paper review committee, which will make award recommendations.

### Case Studies Award Competition

The Case Studies Workshop serves an active role in the dissemination of new ideas with respect to case studies topics. The Best Case Studies Award, with a \$200 prize, will be presented in conjunction with the 26th annual DSI Case Studies Workshop on "Case Techniques in the Decision Sciences." Cases may be methodological in nature (i.e., crafted to support the learning of a specific technical skill) or integrative (i.e., designed to foster the integration of scientific approaches and analyses with real-world decision making). Submission deadline was March 1, 2000. For information concerning this competition, please contact the coordinator.

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### Elwood S. Buffa Doctoral Dissertation Competition

The purpose of the Doctoral Dissertation Competition is to encourage and publicize outstanding dissertation research by selecting and recognizing the best dissertations written in the past year in the decision sciences. The Elwood S. Buffa Dissertation

Award, accompanied by a \$1,500 stipend, will be presented at the annual meeting. Submission deadline was March 1, 2000. For information concerning this competition, please contact the coordinator.

#### Nancy C. Weida

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### Instructional Innovation Award Competition

The Instructional Innovation Award Competition seeks to recognize outstanding contributions that advance instructional approaches within the decision sciences. The focus of this award is innovation in college or university-level teaching. Four finalists will be chosen to make presentations at the conference competition. The winning entry receives a prize of \$1,500 and each of the other finalists receives \$250. Submission deadline was March 1, 2000. For information concerning this competition, please contact the coordinator.

#### Janet Hartley

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### Curricular Issues Miniconferences

The Curricular Issues Miniconferences include four programs that focus on administrative and curricular issues. The Academic Administrator Program addresses various issues and problems that confront the department chair and other academic administrators. It is of special interest to those who hold or expect to hold department- and college-level administrative positions. In addition, there are degree-focused programs at the Undergraduate, MBA, and Ph.D. levels. The Undergraduate Curricular Issues program provides a forum for exchange of teaching and curriculum ideas. The 6th Annual MBA Curricular Issues program continues its focus on

changes in MBA curricula. The Ph.D. Curricular Issues program discusses the changing environment in the business Ph.D.

#### Barbara Flynn

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### Doctoral Student Consortium

The Doctoral Student Consortium provides a unique opportunity for doctoral students from across the nation to interact with one another and with distinguished scholars in a one-day program devoted to career development. Attendance at this consortium is by invitation based on an application. All students who meet the criteria will be accepted (see page 31 for more information).

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### New Faculty Development Consortium

The New Faculty Development Consortium deals with research, teaching, publishing, and other professional development issues for faculty who are beginning their academic careers. Attendance at this consortium is by application and is open to faculty members who have completed their Ph.D. degree and are in the first two years of their teaching career. Application deadline is September 8, 2000 (see page 33 for more information).

#### Scott Young

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### Professional Development Program

The Professional Development Program keeps the Institute's membership current in their fields. The content of the sessions offered is designed to provide insight into the challenges and opportunities of an academic career in this rapidly changing environment. Topics include, but are not constrained to, the following: new instructional and research methodologies, professional service and consulting, globalization of business education, obtaining research funding, career path strategies, meeting increasing demands in teaching, service, and research, and the challenge and opportunities of new technologies. Please submit proposals for professional development workshops, tutorials, and other special sessions directly to the Professional Development Program Coordinator by May 1, 2000.

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### Case Study Writers' Workshop

The Case Study Workshop for members engaged in developing new instructional cases will be held for the 26<sup>th</sup> year. The deadline for submissions is April 1, 2000. The Workshop will be scheduled for several back-to-back conference sessions. The format includes some short presentations by seasoned authors and 'round-table' presentations and critiques of the 'case-writing-in-progress' of invited participants. Attendance at the Case Study Writers' Workshop is open to all conference attendees.

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### Case-Based Research Track and Case Research Workshops

Members are invited to submit case-based research manuscripts. Members are also invited to propose workshops on case-based research methods. Submission deadline for manuscripts and proposals was March 1, 2000. These will be reviewed for inclusion in the Case Studies Track of the DSI program for regular sessions or topic tables.

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### Innovative Approaches for Teaching with Spreadsheets Mini-Conference

*Submission deadline is May 1, 2000*

We invite submissions for a professional development mini-conference focused on the topic of innovative approaches for teaching with spreadsheets to be held on Saturday, November 18, 2000, as part of the DSI Annual Meeting in Orlando (see page 34 for more information).

**James R. Evans**

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### 2000 DSI Annual Meeting Program Chair Web Page

For the latest materials pertaining to the 2000 DSI Annual Meeting, check out the Program Chair Web Page at:

<http://mgt.bus.msu.edu/dsi2000/>

From this web page, you can access the 2000 DSI Call for Papers and lists of the coordinators, track chairs, and theme chairs. There is also a link to the 2000 DSI Annual Meeting Participation Request Form Web Page, where you may volunteer to participate as a reviewer of the competitive paper submissions and/or as a discussant or session chair for any of the tracks. We look forward to your participation in the 31<sup>st</sup> annual meeting, November 18-21, 2000, in Orlando.

# Doctoral Student Consortium

*Job placement and professional development for students pursuing an academic career*

The Decision Sciences Institute and Irwin/McGraw Hill will sponsor the Institute's 18th annual Doctoral Student Consortium on Saturday, November 18, at the 2000 DSI Annual Meeting to be held at the Marriott Orlando World Center in Orlando, Florida. The focus of the consortium will be on job placement and professional development for students planning to pursue an academic career.

The Doctoral Student Consortium is a unique program devoted to critical career development, teaching, and research issues for students who are near the end of their doctoral studies and entering the job market. The Consortium will consist of interactive large-group sessions and small-group workshop sessions with prominent academicians from a variety of institutions and disciplines. The sessions will include such topics as:

- Interviewing for a job
- Institutional expectations of new faculty
- Developing research strategies
- Enhancing teaching effectiveness
- Successful career planning

All participants must apply for the Consortium and submit (one copy each):

1. A current curriculum vita (please include e-mail address—most pre-Consortium correspondence will be handled electronically);
2. A letter of recommendation from your dean, doctoral program director, or dissertation chair, attesting to your qualifications and your expected entry into the job market;
3. A one-page abstract of your planned dissertation, including the title and a description of your research problem.

Applications will be evaluated by the consortium coordinator. The minimum criteria for acceptance are that the applicant must have his/her dissertation research well underway by October 2000, be involved in placement activities starting in the 2000-2001 academic year, be within two

years of degree completion, and not have received the doctoral degree by the time of the annual meeting. Repeat attendance is offered on a space-available basis only. First-time participants receive priority over all second-time applicants. Students in any discipline related to the decision sciences are invited to apply.

Applicants are encouraged to submit early, and should send their complete package of application materials to the Doctoral Student Consortium Coordinator by July 30, 2000. Individuals who apply by this date and meet the criteria stated above will be accepted for participation. Applications will be considered on a space-available basis through October 1, 2000.

Attendees must pay the regular student registration fee for the annual meeting. There is no additional charge for the Consortium itself.

Consortium participants will be recognized in *Decision Line*, the Institute's news publication. At the annual meeting participants will receive special recognition in the placement system, special designation on their name badges, and an introduction at the breakfast and plenary session.

Please note that participation in the 2000 Doctoral Student Consortium is by invitation only, based upon review of the application materials. Each participant will be responsible for his/her own student registration fee for the annual meeting as well as travel, lodging, and meal expenses. Customarily, the participant's school will provide some monetary support for expenses. ■

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**2000 TRACKS**

**Accounting: Theory, Applications and Practice**  
Akhilesh Chandra, North Carolina A&T State University

**Case Studies**  
David P. Christy, The Pennsylvania State University

**DSS/AI/Expert Systems**  
Gary Koehler, University of Florida  
Siddhartha Bhattacharyya, University of Illinois - Chicago

**Finance/Financial Management**  
Amy Puelz, Southern Methodist University

**Innovative Education**  
Karen Brown, Seattle University

**International Business**  
Tomas Hult, Florida State University

**Management Information Systems**  
Paul Cronan, University of Arkansas

**Marketing: Theory, Models and Applications**  
Kathy Pettit-O'Malley, University of Idaho

**MS/OR: Techniques, Models and Applications**  
Holly Lewis, Pennsylvania State University

**Organizational Behavior/Organizational Theory**  
Anne M. O'Leary-Kelly, University of Arkansas

**P/OM - Manufacturing**  
Peter M. Arnold and J. Robb Dixon, Boston University

**P/OM - Services**  
Larry Jacobs and Kathleen L. McFadden, Northern Illinois University

**Quality and Productivity**  
Paul M. Bobrowski, Syracuse University

**Statistics and Decision Analysis**  
Robert J. Pavur, University of North Texas

**Strategy and Policy**  
Catherine Daily, Indiana University

**2000 THEMES**

**Educational Issues**

**Engineering/Business Coordination**  
Michael P. D'Itri, Dalton State College

**Environmental Issues**

**Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) Systems**  
Ted Weston, Colorado State University

**Ethical Issues**

**Global Issues**

**Health Care Issues**  
David Mendez, University of Michigan

**Interdisciplinary Studies**

**Technology and Innovation**

**Public Sector Issues**

**Small Business, Entrepreneurship, and Industry Applications**