

simple as the realization that the purpose of the Honor Society and the Institute are historically and philosophically intertwined.

If the goals and vision of DSI and Alpha Iota Delta are intertwined, and if this is the justification for faculty interest, why would a student be interested in being initiated into the Society? The answer might be found, in part, in an excerpt from an Alpha Iota Delta Initiation Ritual which addresses the meaning of the Greek letters A (Alpha), I (Iota), and Δ (Delta).

ALPHA represents the beginning. It not only signifies the beginning of a career in the decision sciences and/or computer information systems but also it signifies a commitment to leadership. A leader develops guiding ideas and articulates them deliberately, demonstrating philosophical depth and recognizing the process as ongoing. The meaning, and sometimes the expression, of these guiding ideas evolve as people reflect and talk about them, and as they are applied to guide decisions and actions.

IOTA represents integration, both of knowledge and also of concept. The synergy between theories, methods, and tools lies at the heart of any field of human endeavor that truly builds knowledge. The continuous cycle of creating theories, developing and applying practical methods and tools based on the theories, leading to new insights that improve the theories – is the primary engine of growth in decision sciences and computer information systems.

DELTA is the universal symbol for change. It signifies that the initiate will respond to change with rationality and logic. (Initiation Ritual, Alpha Iota Delta Chapter, University of Detroit Mercy).

Honor society membership, like most worthwhile things in life, does not come easily. Therefore, when an invitation to membership arrives, it truly is a *matter of honor*, reflecting exceptional academic achievement and, perhaps, outstanding campus leadership and service. It is an honor typically bestowed upon students by faculty, and it provides lifetime distinction. The mem-

bers of an honor society share similar interests; in the case of Alpha Iota Delta, the members share an interest in the decision sciences and information systems. Through the society and the parent Decision Sciences Institute, the member can maintain currency in the fields of interest. Alpha Iota Delta allows its members to stay in contact through meetings at the annual DSI meeting, and it provides lifelong recognition of a member's search for excellence (Association of College Honor Societies website, "A Matter of Honor," www.achsnaatl.org).

If you are interested in creating a chapter of Alpha Iota Delta at your college or university, or if you are interested in membership in the national chapter, please contact Greg Ulferts (ulfertgw@udmercy.edu) or Steve Lunce. For more information about Alpha Iota Delta, please visit the website at <http://www.alphaiotadelta.com> ■

NAMES IN THE NEWS

CAROL LATTA, Executive Director, Decision Sciences Institute

Jeff Harper, Indiana State University, has been promoted to the rank of full professor. He joined ISU in 1998 where he teaches graduate and undergraduate courses including Systems Analysis and Design, Electronic Commerce [Grad.], and Management of Information Systems [Capstone]. He holds a Ph.D. in MIS from Auburn University. Professor Harper's research and consulting interests include aligning information technology with strategic intent and technology transfer. His research has appeared in a variety of academic publications and his book, *Practical Student Outcomes Assessment: A Faculty-Driven Approach*, will be published later this year by Jossey-Bass, Inc. He has served as an IT consult-

ant for such organizations as NASA, the U.S. Justice Department, the Department of the Navy, Monroe Guaranty Insurance Corporation, and BellSouth Corporation. He is also the program coordinator for Management Information Systems in the College of Business.

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Sandra P. Storrod, the Institute's Home Office Accounting and Membership Services Supervisor, was one of the few appli-

cants chosen from Georgia State University's College of Business to participate in the Georgia 100 one-year mentoring program which is

sponsored by the Advancement of Women Committee (AofW) at Georgia State. The program combines mentoring by a senior executive with leadership education and peer networking. The AofW serves as a resource for developing programs and initiatives toward the promotion of women faculty, administrators, and staff. The mission of the AofW is to enhance collective efforts to improve the status of women at Georgia State University.

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