

1999 Program Chair's Message

Tom Jones, University of Arkansas



Our recently concluded 1998 Annual Meeting was quite a success, due to the outstanding leadership of Mike Parent, the dedication of his Program Committee, and the support of all volunteers and participants. The 1999 Decision Sciences Institute Program Committee already is working to develop sessions for the upcoming 1999 Annual Meeting in New Orleans — the Institute's 30th anniversary meeting. We need your assistance to create a superb program. On behalf of my Program Committee, I invite you to submit a competitive paper or proposal for a special session (e.g., workshop, tutorial, panel, symposium, or colloquium). For additional information, please refer to the 1999 DSI Annual Meeting Call for Papers information appearing in this issue of *Decision Line*. The submission deadline is March 1, 1999.

In case you have not heard, the first DSI Program Chair Web Page has been developed by my graduate assistant Charles Finnell. From my perspective, this is really exciting and will benefit the Institute immensely. The Program Chair Web Page provides links to the latest materials pertaining to the 1999 DSI Annual Meeting at:

<http://comp.uark.edu/~finnell/dsi99/>

For example, there is a link to the 1999 DSI Annual Meeting Participation Request Form Web Page where you may volunteer as a reviewer of the competitive paper submissions and/or as a discussant or session chair for any of the tracks and themes. In addition, you may volunteer to assist with the Elwood S. Buffa Doctoral Dissertation Competition and you may indicate an interest in participating in the Doctoral Student Consortium or in the New Faculty Development Consortium. The Participation Request Form Web Page is at:

<http://comp.uark.edu/~finnell/dsi99/vpform.html>

From the Program Chair Web Page, you also may access the 1999 DSI Annual Meeting Call for Papers and lists of the

track chairs, theme chairs, and coordinators. (Please be sure to check this web page for future updates to conference materials.)

The Institute's mission statement reads,

The Decision Sciences Institute is an interdisciplinary, international organization dedicated to the advancement of the science and practice of education and research about business decisions. The Institute promotes excellence in teaching and scholarship, and seeks to serve current and future developmental needs of doctoral students, faculty, and academic administrators.

In concert with this mission, the 1999 Annual Meeting of the Decision Sciences Institute will provide new opportunities for the dissemination of innovation in teaching, curriculum, and scholarship. Many opportunities will be available for participants in addition to the research paper presentations. There will be a variety of professional development activities; special sessions on interdisciplinary issues, on globalization of business education, and on teaching international business concepts; as well as sessions for special interest groups.

The conference program will be organized such that papers are classified and cross-listed according to the Institute's core tracks and interdisciplinary themes to help attendees find sessions of interest. In 1999, two new themes have been introduced: (1) Ethical Issues and (2) Small Business, Entrepreneurship, and Industry Applications. These themes support policies adopted by the DSI Board of Directors to create sessions featuring business ethics issues and to set up industry panels within each track. Moreover, these themes reflect topic areas used for annual meetings of several regions. I hope you find that these new themes meet your needs and interests.

The annual meeting also includes the following competitions and professional activities: Case Studies Award Competition, Curricular Issues Miniconferences (Academic Administrator Program, Undergraduate Program, MBA Program, and Ph.D. Program), Elwood S. Buffa Doctoral Dissertation Competition, Doctoral Student

Consortium, Instructional Innovation Award Competition, New Faculty Development Consortium, and Professional Development Program. Please refer to the respective program announcements elsewhere in this issue of *Decision Line* for more details.

In conclusion, I want to thank my Program Committee. I am fortunate to be working with 37 enthusiastic, hard working track chairs, theme chairs, and coordinators who have agreed to serve the Institute in this important capacity. They are doing a super job, but much work lies ahead.

Please plan to join friends and colleagues at the 30th anniversary meeting, November 20 - 23, 1999, at the Sheraton New Orleans Hotel located near the French Quarter. ■

Check This Out!

1999 DSI Annual Meeting Program Chair Web Page

For the latest materials pertaining to the 1999 DSI Annual Meeting, check out the Program Chair Web Page at:

<http://comp.uark.edu/~finnell/dsi99/>

We look forward to your participation in the 30th anniversary meeting, November 20 - 23, 1999, in New Orleans. From this web page, you can access the 1999 DSI Call for Papers and lists of the coordinators, track chairs, and theme chairs. There is also a link to the 1999 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 and themes; volunteer to help with the Elwood S. Buffa Doctoral Dissertation Competition; and indicate an interest in participating in the Doctoral Student Consortium or the New Faculty Development Consortium. We look forward to your participation in the 30th anniversary meeting, November 20 - 23, 1999, in New Orleans.

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: March 1, 1999

1999 Competitions and Programs

Best Paper Awards Competition

Four Best Paper Awards will be presented at the Annual Meeting, each with a \$200 prize, for

- **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 25th 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). Submissions must be **received** by the Program Chair no later than March 1, 1999. For information concerning the Case Studies Award Competition, please contact the coordinator:

Brooke Saladin

Wake Forest University
Babcock Graduate School of
Management

7659 Reynolda Station Worrell 3136

Winston-Salem, NC 27109-7659

Phone: (336) 758-5050

fax: (336) 758-4514

e-mail: brooke_saladin@mail.mba.wfu.edu

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. Submissions in the required format must be sent directly to the Doctoral Dissertation Competition Coordinator by March 1, 1999. For information concerning this competition, please contact the coordinator:

Dorothy G. Dologite

City University of New York
Baruch College

Zicklin School of Business

17 Lexington Avenue

New York, NY 10010

Phone: (212) 876-3362

fax: (212) 996-6967

e-mail: dorothy_dologite@
baruch.cuny.edu

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. Submissions in the required format must be sent directly to the Instructional Inno-

vation Award Coordinator by March 1, 1999. For information concerning this competition, please contact the coordinator:

Cliff T. Ragsdale

Virginia Polytechnic Institute and
State University

Department of Management Science
and Information Technology

Pamplin College of Business

Blacksburg, VA 24061

Phone: (540) 231-5051

fax: (540) 231-3752

e-mail: cragsdal@mail.vt.edu

Curricular Issues Miniconferences

The Curricular Issues Miniconferences include four programs that focus on administrative and curricular issues. The Academic Administrator Program provides a forum for addressing 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 5th 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. For information concerning the Curricular Issues Miniconferences, please contact the coordinator:

Rose Sebastianelli

University of Scranton

Department of Operations and
Information Management

School of Management

602A O'Hara Hall

Scranton, PA 18510

Phone: (717) 941-4287

fax: (717) 941-4342

e-mail: sebastianer1@uofs.edu

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. For information concerning the Doctoral Student Consortium, please contact the coordinator:

James C. Hershauer

Arizona State University
Department of Management
College of Business
Tempe, AZ 85287-4006
Phone: (602) 965-5478
fax: (602) 965-8314
e-mail: james.hershauer@asu.edu

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. For information concerning the New Faculty Development Consortium, please contact the coordinator:

Maling Ebrahimpour

University of Rhode Island
Department of Management Science
and Information Systems
College of Business Administration
7 Lippitt Road
Kingston, RI 02881-0802
Phone: (401) 874-4369
fax: (401) 874-4312
e-mail: maling@uriacc.uri.edu

Professional Development Program

The Professional Development Program is aimed at helping the Institute's membership to keep 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, 1999. For additional information, contact the coordinator:

George A. Marcoulides

California State University, Fullerton
Department of Management Science/
Information Systems
School of Business Administration
and Economics
P. O. Box 6848
Fullerton, CA 92834-6848
Phone: (714) 278-7033
fax: (714) 278-5940
e-mail: gmarcoulides@fullerton.edu ■

1999 ANNUAL MEETING COORDINATORS

Program Chair

Thomas W. Jones
University of Arkansas
Computer Information Systems
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204 BADM, CISQA
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(501) 575-6128
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Associate Program Chair

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204 BADM, CISQA
College of Business
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e-mail: bchaney@comp.uark.edu

Job Placement Coordinator

Gary Klein
College of Business and
Administration
University of Colorado
at Colorado Springs
1420 Austin Bluffs Parkway
P.O. Box 7150
phone: (719) 262-3157
fax: (719) 262-3494
e-mail: gklein@mail.uccs.edu

1999 Instructional Innovation Award Competition

Recognizing outstanding contributions that advance instructional approaches within the decision sciences

A key element of the mission of the Decision Sciences Institute is the promotion of innovative teaching and pedagogy in the decision sciences. At the President's luncheon during the 1999 Annual Meeting, the twenty-first presentation of this prestigious award, sponsored by Prentice-Hall, Alpha Iota Delta (the national honorary in the decision sciences), and the Institute, will be made.

The Instructional Innovation Award is presented to recognize outstanding creative instructional approaches within the decision sciences. Its focus is innovation in college- or university-level teaching, either quantitative systems and/or behavioral methodology in its own right, or within functional/disciplinary areas such as finance, marketing, management information systems, operations, and personnel.

The award brings national recognition for the winner's institution and a cash prize of \$1,500. Each finalist will receive \$250. Author(s) of the winning submission will be encouraged to prepare a paper for possible publication in either *Decision Line* or *Decision Sciences*.

Please do not resubmit previous final entries. Submissions not selected for the final round of the competition will be considered for presentation in a regular session associated with the conference's Innovative Education track. Therefore, competition participants should not submit a condensed version of their submission to a regular track.

All submissions must adhere to the following guidelines and must be received no later than *March 1, 1999*.

Instructions

Prepare one original and 17 complete copies of your submission. Please adhere to all page limits.

1. Cover page: Include name, address, telephone number and school affiliation for each author. *Do not identify yourself or school by name or other means in any other area of your submission. A number of submissions last year included information in supporting materials (such as web addresses) that made the originating school rather obvious.*

2. Supplemental letter. Include a letter from your department chair, head, or dean attesting to the submission's authenticity. No copies of this letter are needed since it will not be part of the document that is reviewed.

3. Title Page: Provide the title of the submission and a table of contents. Number all pages in your submission in the upper right-hand corner.

4. Summary Document: Pages 3-7. Present a double-spaced short version of your submission, with the following headings:

- a. *Topic or Problem* toward which your approach is focused.

- b. *Level of students* toward which your approach is focused.

- c. *Number of students* with whom the approach has been used.

- d. *Major educational objectives* of your approach.

- e. *Innovative and unique features* of your approach.

- f. *Content*: Describe the content or substance of the material addressed with your approach. Indicate why you focused your innovative efforts on this material or content.

- g. *Organization*: Explain how you structured the material or content, unique features of your approach, and how your approach contributes to student learning.

- h. *Presentation*. Discuss how you designed the explanation and illustration of the material or content, what is unique about your approach, and how its use makes learning more effective.

- i. *Effectiveness and specific benefits* of your approach to the learning process. Indicate how your major educational objectives were met, the benefits derived from the presentation, students' reactions to the presentation, and how you evaluated the effectiveness or benefits derived. Include measures of the success of the approach, which may include, but should not be limited to, instructor or course evaluations.

The Summary Document will be used for the first round of reviews may also serve as the *Proceedings* version for both finalists and papers accepted for presentation in regular sessions.

5. Expanded Document: no more than 25 pages, including exhibits. This document permits you to describe the content, organization, presentation, and effectiveness in more detail. This is the full version of the submission. In addition to the information provided in the Summary Document:

- a. List experiential exercises, handouts, etc. (if any), which are part of your innovative approach and explain where they fit in your approach.

- b. Add any other discussion or material which you feel is essential to an understanding of your submission.

- c. Appendix. Attach copies of illustrative material, especially any that you have developed, and a copy of the most recent course syllabus in which the innovative activity was used.

6. Self-addressed, stamped postcard or envelope that will be returned to confirm receipt of your submission.

Cover Page	1
Supplemental Letter	1
Title Page	1
Summary Document	3-7
Full Document	≤ 25
TOTAL SUBMISSION	≤ 35

The total length of your package, including appendices, *must not exceed 35 pages*. The text must be double spaced, using 11-12 point characters, and a minimum of one-inch margins. Staple pages. Do not send notebooks, disks or videotapes as part of the package. *No materials will be returned.*

Evaluation

The materials will be evaluated by the Institute's Innovative Education Committee. All submissions will be blind reviewed. Therefore, it is important that reference to the author(s) and institutional affiliation only appear on the cover page.

The submissions will be evaluated in two phases. All written submissions will be evaluated for (1) content, (2) organization, (3) presentation to students, (4) transferability to other institutions, professors, courses, etc., and (5) innovation. Consideration will be given to the clarity of the presentation of the innovative features of the submission and the demonstrated effect it has had. Phase two will be the finalists' presentation at the annual meeting. Both the written submission and presentation will be considered in the final voting for the award.

All applicants, including the finalists, will be notified by June 9, 1999. If you are

one of the four finalists, you will be required to attend the Instructional Innovation Award Session at the annual meeting in New Orleans. At that session, each finalist will: (1) present a review or summary of the submission, (2) conduct an in-depth presentation or a discussion of a specific component of the submission (selected by the finalist), and (3) respond to questions from the audience.

This session has two purposes: to provide an avenue for the Institute's members to see and discuss innovative approaches to education which could be used in their

classes, and to enable the authors of the innovative packages to "bring their approaches to life" and add another dimension to the evaluation process.

The Committee invites your participation in this competition to recognize excellence in innovative instruction.

Please remember that all submissions must be received by *March 1, 1999*.

For a list of previous winners, see the DSI website at:

<http://dsi.gsu.edu/iipast.htm> ■

Direct all inquiries and applications to:
Cliff T. Ragsdale
Department of Management Science &
Information Technology
Virginia Tech
Blacksburg, VA 24061
Phone: (540) 231-5051
e-mail: crags@vt.edu

1999 TRACK CHAIRS

Accounting: Theory, Applications and Practice *(CPE credit is available)*

Lynn K. Griffin, North Carolina A&T State University
e-mail: griffinl@ncat.edu

DSS/AI/Expert Systems/Multimedia Systems

Kenneth E. Kendall, Rutgers University
e-mail: kendallk@crab.rutgers.edu
Ron G. Thorn, University of Texas - Pan American
e-mail: rthorn@panam.edu

Finance / Financial Management

Shaw K. Chen, University of Rhode Island
e-mail: chenshaw@uriacc.uri.edu

Innovative Education

Hope M. Baker, Kennesaw State University
e-mail: hbaker@ksumail.kennesaw.edu

International Business

Robert E. Markland, University of South Carolina
e-mail: bobbym@darla.badm.sc.edu

Management Information Systems

Uma G. Gupta, Creighton University
e-mail: ugupta@creighton.edu
Roy Martin, Southwest Texas State University
e-mail: rm05@swt.edu
Vivek Shah, Southwest Texas State University
e-mail: vs01@swt.edu

Marketing: Theory, Models and Applications

Chandrashekar D. Challa, Virginia State University
e-mail: cchalla@vsu.edu

MS/OR: Techniques, Models and Applications

Ina S. Markham, James Madison University
e-mail: markhais@jmu.edu

Organizational Behavior / Organizational Theory

Toby J. Kash, Pittsburg State University
e-mail: tkash@pittstate.edu

Production and Operations Management: Manufacturing

Vijay R. Kannan, James Madison University
e-mail: kannanvr@jmu.edu

Edward M. Knod, Jr., Western Illinois University
e-mail: emknod@aol.com

Production and Operations Management: Services

Marc J. Schniederjans, University of Nebraska - Lincoln
e-mail: mschnied@unlinfo.unl.edu

Quality and Productivity

Robert J. Pavur, University of North Texas
e-mail: pavur@unt.edu

Statistics, Decision Analysis and Forecasting

Robert L. Andrews, Virginia Commonwealth University
e-mail: randrews@busnet.bus.vcu.edu

Strategy and Policy

Farzad Moussavi, University of Northern Iowa
e-mail: moussavi@uni.edu

1999 THEME CHAIRS

Case Studies

Jonathan P. Pinder, Wake Forest University
e-mail: jon_pinder@mail.mba.wfu.edu

Curricular Issues

Rose Sebastianelli, University of Scranton
e-mail: sebastianer1@uofs.edu

Educational Issues

James J. Divoky, The University of Akron
e-mail: jdivoky@uakron.edu
Mary Anne Rothermel, The University of Akron
e-mail: mrothermel@uakron.edu

Environmental Issues

Robert B. Handfield, Michigan State University
e-mail: handfiel@pilot.msu.edu

Ethical Issues

Garth Allen, University of Northern Colorado
e-mail: gallen@unco.edu

Global Issues

Manoj K. Malhotra, University of South Carolina
e-mail: malhotra@darla.badm.sc.edu

Health Care Issues

Samia M. Siha, Kennesaw State University
e-mail: ssiha@ksumail.kennesaw.edu

Interdisciplinary Studies

Amir M. Hormozi, Texas A&M University - Corpus Christi
e-mail: hormozi@tamucc.edu

Public Sector Issues

Mary L. Fischer, University of Texas at Tyler
e-mail: mfischer@mail.uttyl.edu

Small Business, Entrepreneurship, and Industry Applications

Don B. Bradley, III, University of Central Arkansas
e-mail: donb@mail.uca.edu

Call for Papers

Submission Deadline: March 1, 1999

The Decision Sciences Institute provides a forum for the sharing of technological advances across traditional academic disciplines and across countries. The interdisciplinary appeal of the Decision Sciences Institute's annual meetings has been widely recognized by researchers, managers, educators, and students from all areas of the business community. At the 1998 annual meeting in Las Vegas, over 900 papers, case studies, workshops, and other special sessions will be presented in the study of decision processes in all disciplines of business administration.

As the Institute celebrates its 30th anniversary, the 1999 Annual Meeting provides new opportunities for the dissemination of innovation in teaching, curriculum, and scholarship through special sessions (i.e., workshop, panel, tutorial, symposium, and colloquium). Many opportunities are available for participants—participation in the annual meeting is not solely for speakers who present the results of recent research, consulting, and other

academic activities. For example, there are a variety of professional development activities; special sessions on interdisciplinary issues, on globalization of business education, and on teaching international business concepts; and sessions for special interest groups (e.g., Electronic Commerce, Transportation and Logistics, Telecommunications, Services Marketing) to provide better focus for all participants.

In recent years, the program structure of the annual meetings has been designed within what is called the track-theme matrix that highlights themes that cut across the Institute's core tracks. These tracks, which offer in-depth focus on research related to functional areas of business, include:

Accounting, DSS/AI/Expert Systems/Multimedia Systems, Finance/Financial Management, Innovative Education, International Business, Marketing, MIS, MS/OR, Organizational Behavior/Organizational Theory, POM: Manufacturing, POM: Services, Quality and Productivity, Statistics/Decision Analysis/Forecasting, Strategy and Policy.

The interdisciplinary focus of the paper presentations and special sessions on research, teaching, and administration is promoted by the various themes, which include:

Case Studies, Curricular Issues, Educational Issues, Environmental Issues, Ethical Issues, Global Issues, Health Care Issues, Interdisciplinary Studies, Public Sector Issues, and Small Business, Entrepreneurship, and Industry Applications.

Consistent with the Institute's commitment to the advancement of the science and practice of education and research about business decisions, the annual meeting includes the following competitions and professional activities:

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 1999 Annual Meeting at the Sheraton New Orleans Hotel located near the French Quarter. ■

Case Studies Award Competition

Submission Deadline: March 1, 1999

At the 1999 Annual Meeting of the Decision Sciences Institute in New Orleans this coming November, the Case Studies Workshop will celebrate its' 25th year of participation. The Case Studies Workshop serves as a vehicle to disseminate new ideas with respect to the use of case studies to enhance learning effectiveness. In conjunction with this year's 25th annual Case Studies Workshop, "Case Techniques in the Decision Sciences," a Best Case Studies Award will be presented which carries with it a \$200 prize.

The Best Case Studies Award is designed to recognize pedagogical, as opposed to research, case studies. Cases may be methodological in nature—i.e., crafted to support the learning of a specific technical skill—or integrative—designed to foster the integration of scientific approaches and analyses with real world decision making.

Of particular interest in this latter category are cases that link the decision sciences explicitly and seamlessly with the functional areas of business, such as finance, operations and marketing.

The award itself will be based primarily on the following criteria:

- **Worthy Focus:** Does the case address an important, prominent, and timely business or managerial issue?
- **Learning Challenge:** Does the case engage the student in an appropriate, intellectually challenging way?
- **Engaging Setting:** Does the case grab the students' attention and generate enthusiasm in the class discussion?
- **Thorough Analysis:** Does the teaching note contain a complete treatment of the issues raised in the case?

- **Information Teaching Vision:** Does the teaching note provide adequate guidance regarding how to attack the case?
- **Professional Appearance:** Is the material complete and professional looking?
- **Potential for Use:** Is the case apt to receive widespread use and acceptability?

Submissions must be received by the Program Chair no later than March 1, 1999. For information concerning the Case Studies Award Competition please contact the coordinator. ■

Brooke Saladin
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1999 Elwood S. Buffa Doctoral Dissertation Competition

Submission deadline: March 1, 1999

Richard D. Irwin, Inc. and the Decision Sciences Institute are co-sponsoring the 1999 Elwood S. Buffa Doctoral Dissertation Competition. The purpose of the competition is to identify and recognize outstanding doctoral research in the development of theory or applications of the decision sciences completed during 1996. A monetary award of \$1,500 will be presented at the 1999 Annual Meeting. All materials must be submitted no later than March 1, 1999, to Professor Dorothy Dologite (see address below).

Instructions

1. The dissertation must deal with the development of methodology for, or application of, the decision sciences.
 2. The dissertation must have been accepted by the degree-granting institution within the calendar year. It is not necessary for the degree to have been awarded by the end of 1998. Also, the dissertation may not have been submitted previously to a Decision Sciences Institute dissertation competition.
 3. The submission materials consist of the following:
 - (a) A nominating letter on university letterhead stationery submitted by the student's major professor. This letter introduces the student, the supervisor of the dissertation, and the degree-granting institution. It also certifies the acceptance of the dissertation by the institution within the required time frame. All contact information for both the author and the major professor should also be stated in the letter.
 - (b) Three copies of a separate statement by the major professor about why the dissertation deserves special recognition.
 - (c) Three copies of a student-prepared summary of the dissertation. This five-to-ten page double-spaced
- overview should include a description of the problem, the methodology, and the major findings/conclusions. At the top of the first page, the dissertation's major and minor fields should be identified. Major fields typically are accounting, economics, finance, information systems, organizational behavior/design/theory, operations management, and strategy/policy. Minor fields are often simulation, optimization, service sector, quality, quantitative analysis, artificial intelligence/expert systems, experimental design, and so on.
- (d) Three copies of the dissertation, punched and bound using standard Arco flat metal prong fasteners (8-1/2 center to center) and appropriate report covers (do not use a ring binder or any kind of book binding).
4. Because of the blind-review process, it is essential that the author, degree-granting institution, and supervising professor not be identified in items 3b, 3c, and 3d. All acknowledgments or other references that would identify the author, institution, or professors must be removed from the dissertation and all accompanying documents except the nominating letter.
 5. Supervising professor and student materials may be submitted together or separately. If the latter is done, the student will also need to include an identifying cover letter. ■

Direct all inquiries and applications to:
Dorothy G. Dologite
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Check This Out!

1999 DSI Annual Meeting Participation Request Form Web Page

Volunteers are now being accepted for participation in the 1999 DSI Annual Meeting using the on-line Internet web page form at:

<http://comp.uark.edu/~finnell/dsi99/vpform.html>

You may volunteer as a reviewer of the competitive paper submissions and/or as a discussant or session chair for any of the tracks and themes. Also, you may volunteer to help with the Elwood S. Buffa Doctoral Dissertation Competition and you may indicate an interest in participating in the Doctoral Student Consortium or the New Faculty Development Consortium.

We look forward to your participation in the 30th anniversary meeting, November 20 - 23, 1999, in New Orleans.

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 17th annual Doctoral Student Consortium on Saturday, November 20, at the 1999 DSI Annual Meeting to be held at the Sheraton New Orleans Hotel in New Orleans, Louisiana. 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 1999, be involved in placement activities starting in the 1999-2000 academic year, be participating in the consortium for the first time, and not have received the doctoral degree before December 1999. 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, 1999. 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, 1999.

Attendees must pay the regular student registration fee for the annual meet-

ing. 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 1999 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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Professional Development Program

The Professional Development Program is aimed at helping the Institute's membership to keep 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 methods
- New research methodologies
- Professional service and consulting
- Globalization of business education

- Research funding availability
- Career path strategies
- Challenge and opportunities of new technologies

Please submit proposals for professional development workshops, sessions to the Professional Development Program Coordinator by May 1, 1999.

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