

# 1998 Elwood S. Buffa Doctoral Dissertation Award Competition

Christine T. Kydd, Elwood S. Buffa Doctoral Dissertation Competition Coordinator,  
University of Delaware

Professor Joy M. Field from the Wallace E. Carroll School of Management at Boston College was recognized as the winner of the Decision Sciences Institute's 1998 Elwood S. Buffa Doctoral Dissertation Award Competition at the 1998 Annual Meeting of the Decision Sciences Institute. Dr. Field received a certificate and a \$1,500 cash award at the President's Luncheon in Las Vegas. Professor James J. Cochran of the University of Cincinnati, Professor Narendar Sumukadas of the University of Western Ontario, and Professor Dongjun Wu of Drexel University also received certificates for Honorable Mention in the 1998 competition. This annual competition was jointly sponsored by Irwin/McGraw-Hill and the Decision Sciences Institute.

The 1998 Elwood S. Buffa Doctoral Dissertation Competition attracted 21 outstanding dissertations from the following schools and organizations:

- Bucknell University
- Boston College
- Drexel University
- ESRC Research Center
- Georgia State University
- Ideation
- London Business School
- Michigan State University
- Southwest Missouri State University
- University of Arkansas
- University of Calgary
- University of Central Arkansas
- University of Cincinnati
- University of Colorado-Colorado Springs
- University of Ghent
- University of Notre Dame
- University of Western Ontario
- University of Richmond
- University of Waterloo
- University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
- Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University

These dissertations could be broadly categorized into the key areas of Operations Management (11), Decision Science (3), Management (2), Information Systems (3) and Statistics (2). The entries examined many diverse subjects within these areas and employed a wide variety of methodological approaches.

An outstanding group of 20 reviewers carefully evaluated the dissertations in a two-stage process. The reviewers examined each dissertation in terms of its originality, creativity, quality of analysis, thoroughness of study, appropriate use of methodology and contribution to the field. These referees selected four dissertations to enter the second and final round, and identified the winner and three honorable mentions for the 1998 competition awards. These individuals deserve special recognition and thanks for their hard work and outstanding contribution to the award program:

Rhonda Aull-Hyde, University of Delaware  
Pam Brown, Brown Consulting  
Jon Burton, Drexel University  
Mark Davis, Bentley College  
Dorothy Dologite, City University of New York  
Maling Ebrahimpour, University of Rhode Island  
Bill Gehrlein, University of Delaware  
Janelle Heineke, Boston University  
Julie Kendall, Rutgers University-Camden  
Ken Kendall, Rutgers University-Camden  
Fred Kohun, Robert Morris University  
Fariborz Partovi, Drexel University  
David Pentico, Duquesne University  
Michael Pohlen, University of Delaware  
Dan Reid, University of New Hampshire  
Erwin Saniga, University of Delaware  
John Sawyer, University of Delaware  
Bret Wagner, University of Delaware  
Jane Webster, University of Waterloo  
Nancy Weida, Bucknell University

## Winning Dissertation

The reviewers selected **JOY FIELD** of Boston College as the winner of the 1998 Buffa Doctoral Dissertation Competition for her manuscript entitled "*Drivers of Quality in the Production System: A Longitudinal Field Study of the Effect of Work Teams on Manufacturing Quality*". The reviewers' comments suggested that this was an excellent research study, a very solid piece of work, and also easily accessible and usable for practitioners. It was viewed as being both very interesting to read, and making a significant contribution to the literature through use of a longitudinal study. Dr. Field received her degree from the University of Minnesota. Her advisors were Drs. Kingshuk K. Sinha of the University of Minnesota and Rajiv Banker of the University of Texas at Dallas.

## Honorable Mentions

The reviewers also named three individuals to be awarded Honorable Mention in the Competition. They are:

### *Statistical Characteristics of Coverage Optimization Based on Sample Data*

**JAMES J. COCHRAN**, University of Cincinnati

Degree Granting Institution:  
University of Cincinnati

Advisors: Martin Levy and Jeffrey Camm

### *Continuous Improvement of Operations: The Impact of Operator Maintenance*

**NARENDAR SUMUKADIS**, University of Western Ontario

Degree Granting Institution:  
University of Western Ontario

Advisor: Chris J. Piper

### *Using Genetic Algorithms to Determine Near-Optimal Pricing Investment and Operating Strategies in the Electric Power Industry*

**DONGJUN WU**, Drexel University

Degree Granting Institution: The Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania

Advisor: Paul Kleindorfer ■

## Placement Services

Gary Klein, The University of Colorado at Colorado Springs

**T**hank you for a successful recruiting week at the conference in Las Vegas this past November. I hope that each applicant and each school find the perfect match. There was a great deal of activity with the center being busy from before official opening until after the official closing. The final count of known positions as conference end was 286 and 116 applicants. Specific breakdown by disciplines are available on the listings page of the DSI website.

There is still time to list your position or interest to be successful in finding your best faculty or job. The postings will stay on the website through the academic year. Also, if you wish to be removed or have your listing updated, please inform the DSI Placement Coordinator at the address below.

Listing fees have not changed. Each position listed is \$100. Student members list free. All others must pay a fee of \$25. Confidential listings are \$100 and must be arranged directly with the placement coordinator. Membership must be current for all applicants. New members and renewals may not be processed until membership fees are processed. (See membership information on the DSI homepage.) Instructions for use of the system follow and are available on the DSI homepage at <http://dsi.gsu.edu>. Questions and suggestions should be directed to me at the address below.

### Submitting Placement Data

There are two methods for submitting placement data.

**Hardcopy Method.** Placement forms will be mailed to all members. In addition, placement forms can be found on the Placement area of the DSI home page. Please use the area of interest codes provided on the directions. Hardcopy submissions may be mailed or faxed. No vitae or position descriptions will be accepted in hardcopy

form. Please mail or fax the completed form to Placement Service Coordinator Gary Klein at the address or fax number below.

**Electronic Method.** Download an ASCII copy of the placement form from the Website. This can be done with most web browsers by saving the file as an ASCII file or mailing the form to yourself (in each case, specify "text" version, not the "source" version). Complete the form using any word processor and save the result as a "text" or "rich text format" file. If you wish, you may attach a text version of your vita or position announcement. These will be posted on the DSI Placement server if the submitting agent does not have access to a server of their own. Send your file via e-mail as an ASCII attachment to Gary Klein at [gklein@mail.uccs.edu](mailto:gklein@mail.uccs.edu). You may alternately send the file on a 3 1/2" disk (PC-compatible) to Placement Coordinator Gary Klein at the address below. Send appropriate payment to the home office as indicated below.

### Viewing the Database

All members and institutions have access to the database via the DSI Website. Select the viewing of "applicants" or "positions" from the Placement Center Home Page. Positions and applicants are listed by primary interest area. Searches may be conducted by using the find function on your browser. You may also acquire a copy of the information within an interest area by mailing yourself any html document or saving it as a file. In addition, tabular versions readable by most word processing systems can be downloaded to your system. Visit the website to conduct any of these activities.

### Payments

Payments are by check, Visa, Mastercard or Purchase Order. Institutions posting a position should provide a copy of the pur-

chase order with mailed submissions. Submissions sent electronically should include the purchase order number on the position form. Include the required payment or payment information with the submission of the form to the placement coordinator at the address below. ■

Please send all correspondence and submissions to:  
Gary Klein  
College of Business and Administration  
The University of Colorado at Colorado Springs  
1420 Austin Bluffs Parkway  
P.O. Box 7150  
Colorado Springs, CO 80933-7150  
phone: 719 262-3157  
fax: 719 262-3494  
[gklein@mail.uccs.edu](mailto:gklein@mail.uccs.edu)

## Congratulations to 1998 DSI Fellows

### EVERETT E. ADAM, JR.,

Professor of Management, University of Missouri-Columbia. For distinction in scholarly research, especially in the areas of individual item forecasting and quality management decision making. In the quality management area, he has received a National Science Foundation grant and two major research awards: The Work in America Institute's Most Significant Productivity Studies in the 1970s and the 1995 Shingo Prize for Excellence in Manufacturing Research. He also participated in establishing the Baldrige National Quality Award and the Missouri Quality Award. For excellence in teaching through instruction and mentoring of students at all levels, and through his excellent textbooks. He served as advisor for several student organizations and has served on numerous doctoral dissertation committees. He is co-author of two textbooks, including the popular *Production and Operations Management: Concepts, Models, and Behavior* (5th edition, 1992). For dedicated service to the Decision Sciences Institute since its inception by being a frequent author in our journal, participating in regional, national, and international meetings in many capacities, serving on the Institute's Council, and serving as an Associate Editor of *Decision Sciences*.

### RAM NARASIMHAN,

University Distinguished Professor and Professor of Operations Management, Michigan State University. For his extensive productivity and his contributions to scholarly research: His research has been published in *Management Science*, *Decision Sciences*, *Journal of Operations Management*, *OMEGA*, *Fuzzy Sets and Systems*, *Interfaces*, *European Journal of Operations Research*, and other scholarly journals. In addition, he has co-authored three books and ten research monographs. He serves as an Associate Editor of the *Journal of Operations Management* and is on the editorial board of other scholarly journals. For his service to the Decision Sciences Institute as Vice President and member of the Board of Directors, Annual Meeting Program Chair, Annual Meeting Track Chair, Chair of the Doctoral Student Affairs Committee, Chair of the Publications Committee, Program Chair for the Midwest Decision Sciences Institute Annual Meeting, and member of numerous other Institute committees. He was director of executive training in operations management for Poland, the Czech Republic, and Hungary under a grant from the U.S. Agency for International Development.

### DAVID L. OLSON,

Professor of Management Science, Texas A&M University. For his many contributions to scholarly research: He has published over 100 papers in major scholarly journals and conference proceedings, with his work focusing on the areas of multiple objective decision making, constrained programming, decision support systems, and simulation. He is the author or co-author of five books and monographs, and he has served on the editorial board or as a reviewer for numerous publications. For his many contributions to graduate education as chair or co-chair of five dissertations, as a member of over 40 doctoral dissertation committees, as departmental advisor to doctoral students, and through his extensive participation on Institute committees dealing with graduate education. For his service to the Decision Sciences Institute as Annual Meeting Program Chair, Vice President and member of the Board of Directors for two terms, Coordinator of the Doctoral Dissertation Competition, Chair of the Doctoral Student Affairs Committee, Chair of the Innovative Education Committee, Coordinator of the Ph.D. Curricular Issues Program, and member of numerous other Institute committees.

## Distinguished Service Award

The citation for NORMAN L. CHERVANY reads:

Professor of Information and Decision Sciences, Carlson School of Management, University of Minnesota, and Fellow of the Decision Sciences Institute; for his outstanding service to the Institute as its eleventh President, Vice President and Member of the Executive Committee, Annual Meeting Program Co-Chairperson, Annual Meeting Track Chairperson and Professional Development Session Coordinator, Council Member, Chairperson of the Fellows Committee, Nominating Committee, Foundation Committee and Regional Activities Committee, member of the Development Committee for Excellence in the Decision Sciences, Ad Hoc Committee on the Role and Relationship of Alpha Iota Delta to the Institute and Constitution and Bylaws Committee, and Co-Coordinator of the MBA Curricular Issues Program. Norm's leadership during the Institute's early years was instrumental in shaping the structure and character of the organization. His wisdom and guidance have been an invaluable asset for the Institute. He has continued to be an active and contributing member during his long association with the Institute, never refusing to serve in any capacity when asked to do so. Norm's diligence, friendly demeanor and collegial spirit exemplify the highest order of leadership and service. ■

**1998 Dennis E. Grawoig  
Distinguished Service Award**

**Norman L. Chervany**, University of Minnesota  
(see citation on page 49)

**Best Application Paper**

*A Decision Support Tool for Allocating Hospital  
Bed Resources*

**Steven Walczak**, University of Colorado at  
Denver

**Best Case Studies Competition  
Award**

*Cironi's Sewing Center: Adding New Merchandise  
Lines*

**J. B. Wilkinson**, Youngstown State University  
**Gary B. Frank**, The University of Akron

*Unicon Concrete Products (H.K.) Ltd.*

**Robert D. Klassen**, University of Western  
Ontario

**P. Fraser Johnson**, University of British  
Columbia

*Wilson Electronics: A Teaching Case*

**Peter Brewer**, Miami University (Ohio)  
**Robert J. Campbell**, Miami University (Ohio)  
**Richard H. McClure**, Miami University (Ohio)

**Best Environmental Issues Paper**

*The Impact of Goals on the "Values-Attitudes-  
Behaviors" Framework*

**Ingrid M. Martin**, University of Colorado  
**Holly Wise Bender**, Colorado School of Mines  
**Wade E. Martin**, Colorado School of Mines  
**Deborah Shields**, USDA Forest Service

**Best Interdisciplinary Paper**

*An Alternative Approach for Solving Clustering  
Problems in Manufacturing and Marketing*

**Asoo J. Vakharia**, University of Florida  
**Jayashree Mahajan**, University of Florida

**Best Theoretical/Empirical  
Research Paper**

*Ordinal Judgments in Multiattribute Decision  
Analysis*

**Helen M. Moshkovich**, University of  
West Alabama  
**Alexander I. Mechitov**, University of  
West Alabama  
**David L. Olson**, Texas A&M University



Associate Program Chair Dick Jenson and Nevada Governor Michael Leavitt.



President Terry Rakes, Larry Moore, Renate Weston, and Ted Weston.



David Olson, Helen M. Moshkovich, and Alexander I. Mechitov (Best Theoretical/Empirical Research Paper Award Winners) with President Terry Rakes.



*Dongjun Wu (Dissertation Award Honorable Mention) and Dick Hercher, Irwin/McGraw-Hill.*



*Gale Rakes, Terry Rakes, and Nadia Sanders.*



*Ken Kendall, J.P. Shim, Keong Leong, Steve and Ina Markham, and Pong Wang.*

### **Elwood S. Buffa Doctoral Dissertation Competition**

#### **WINNER**

**Drivers of Quality in the Production System:  
A Longitudinal Field Study of the Effect of  
Work Teams on Manufacturing Quality**  
*Joy Field, Boston College*

Degree Institution: *University of Minnesota*  
Advisors: *Drs. Kingshuk K. Sinha, University of Minnesota, and Rajiv Banker, University of Texas at Dallas.*

#### **HONORABLE MENTIONS**

**Statistical Characteristics of Coverage  
Optimization Based on Sample Data**  
*James J. Cochran, University of Cincinnati*

Degree Institution: *University of Cincinnati*  
Advisors: *Martin Levy and Jeffrey Camm*

**Continuous Improvement of Operations:  
The Impact of Operator Maintenance**  
*Narendar Sumukadis, University of Western  
Ontario*

Degree Institution: *University of Western  
Ontario*

Advisor: *Chris J. Piper*

**Using Genetic Algorithms to Determine  
Near-Optimal Pricing Investment and  
Operating Strategies in the Electric Power  
Industry**  
*Dongjun Wu, Drexel University*

Degree Institution: *The Wharton School,  
University of Pennsylvania*

Advisor: *Paul Kleindorfer*

### **Instructional Innovation Award**

#### **WINNER**

**Making A Difference: The Community  
Service Project Management Class**  
*Karen A. Brown, Seattle University*

#### **FINALISTS**

**Logistics Goes Live: Supply Chain  
Management in Industrial Distribution**  
*F. Barry Lawrence, Texas A&M University*

**Innovative Design and Delivery of an  
Introductory Programming Course Via the  
World Wide Web**  
*Shashidhar Kaparthi, Rex Karsten, and  
Roberta M. Roth, University of Northern Iowa*

**The Asynchronous Learning Platform: A  
'Course on a CD'**  
*Peter Stonebraker, Northeastern Illinois  
University*