

DECISION LINE

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2001 Annual Meeting Award Winners

2001 Dennis E. Grawoig
Distinguished Service Award Winner:
Lawrence L. Schkade, University of Texas at Arlington

2001 Instructional Innovation Award Winners:
Cynthia L. Corritore and **Juli-Ann Gasper**, Creighton University

Elwood S. Buffa Doctoral Dissertation Competition Winner:
Catherine Ridings, Lehigh University

Best Application Paper Award Winner: **Daesik Hur**, Bowling Green State University, **Vincent A. Mabert**, Indiana University, and **Kurt M. Bretthauer**, Indiana University

Best Environmental Issues Paper Award Winners:
Robert Sroufe, Boston College, **Frank L. Montabon**, Iowa State University, **Ram Narasimhan**, Michigan State University, and **Xinyan Wang**, Michigan State University

Best Interdisciplinary Paper Award Winners: **Kakoli Bandyopadhyay**, Lamar University, and **Lawrence L. Schkade**, University of Texas at Arlington

Best Theoretical/Empirical Research Paper Award Winner:
Joy M. Field, Boston College, and **Kingshuk K. Sinha**, University of Minnesota

Best Case Studies Competition Award Winner: **William A. Fischer**, International Institute for Management Development

2001 DSI Fellows: **Benito E. Flores**, Texas A&M University, **Kenneth E. Kendall**, Rutgers University, and **Marvin D. Troutt**, Kent State University

For more details, please see related articles in the 2001 Annual Meeting section, pages 36-47.



PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Looking Back at a Great Conference in San Francisco

F. Robert Jacobs
Indiana University

Many thanks to Vicki Smith-Daniels and her program committee for a great conference in San Francisco. From my view this conference went very well, especially considering all the

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things that could have gone wrong. Sure there were a few presenters who were not comfortable with making the trip, but we still had good participation and it is tough to beat San Francisco for location (except maybe San Diego, the site of the 2002 conference).

I made it to three sessions (and about a dozen meetings!) and found them to be excellent. The session run by Hewlett-Packard on the design of the Supply Chain for their CD Read/Write product was fascinating. The integration of the sourcing, production postponement, and distribution decisions give me some great ideas for how to approach this for a current research project. Next, the video conference with the Benetton board of directors was a quick hour and a half. In this age of outsourcing in the apparel industry, it was interesting to see how Benetton has rejected that strategy in favor of the use of a highly automated in-house production system. Finally, the session developed by Paul Nutt, featuring management guru's of our era discussing their thoughts on the history and future of how companies are structured, was thought provoking. I have never seen such a collection of chaired, distinguished, titled professors, all on the same panel.

I have had a few people complain that no one seems to show up for their session. Usually, they indicate that the only people attending are the session chair, presenters, and discussants. Let me give you a little hint. If you want to have many people show up for your session, present something that is going to be interesting to a lot of people! People are not required to attend sessions, so they go to sessions that sound interesting. They go to sessions where they expect

to learn something useful from a research or teaching viewpoint. When developing your presentation, focus on what is new or innovative about your research. Have you included an interesting example that others might find useful? Develop a title for your talk and an abstract that will generate interest by highlighting the innovative aspects of your talk.

In scheduling the sessions at the San Francisco conference, Scott Sampson and Vicki Smith-Daniels were very successful in accommodating the preferences that were captured with the on-line system. This is a system where conference participants had the opportunity to list up to 10 papers that they wanted to be able to attend. Over 90 percent of the preferences were honored in the schedule. The plan is to do this again next year and Scott may even be able to suggest logical groupings of papers using the system. You can be assured that every attempt is being made to schedule your paper in a way that maximizes the opportunity for those interested to attend your session.

Tim Smunt, the program chair of the 2002 Annual Meeting, describes the next conference in another article featured in this issue of *Decision Line*. For the first time, DSI is going completely electronic for conference submissions. One detail that is very different from previous conferences is the ability to submit just an abstract to the conference—a full paper is not required to present at the conference. Keep in mind that only full papers will be refereed, eligible for "best paper" awards, and included in the proceedings. This is a major change, so be sure and read Tim's directions for

submitting papers to the conference carefully.

Plans for the 2002 conference are already well developed. Tim has put together an elite program committee that is sure to put together an excellent program. Your innovative participation is important to the conference's success. If you have ideas for special sessions, or if a group of you would like to have your own session, be sure to discuss these ideas with the appropriate conference track chair. The program committee certainly wants the conference to reflect your interests in every way possible.

There's not much more that I can say about the 2002 conference except to mention that San Diego is simply a wonderful place to go for a conference. The weather is sure to be amazing, the sights are beautiful, and the great food is reasonably priced. Speaking about food, my favorite restaurant in the world is the Red Sails Inn located near the fishing docks on Shelter Island in San Diego. I'll be there every night.

I am looking forward to a great year in 2002. ■

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DSI President Bob Jacobs and Executive Director Carol Latta, with past president Lee Krajewski in the background.



Scott Sampson (Annual Meeting Scheduling Consultant) and Bob Jacobs.