

- Managing the sourcing of business services
- Delivery of knowledge-based and web-based services
- Use of communication and information technology for co-production
- Metrics and performance evaluation of service systems
- Managing logistics and distribution as a service
- New Service development models and practices
- Inter-organizational service systems decision making
- Innovation models for services
- Location decisions for service units
- Decision making in revenue management
- Professional service decision making

All submissions must adhere to the format and style guidelines of the *Decision Sciences Journal* (see <https://wp-carey.asu.edu/DSJOnline>). The evaluation process will be similar to regular paper submissions, except the Associate Editors assigned to the manuscript will be part of the STF Editorial Team.

In the cover letter, please indicate that your submission is for the Services Special Topic Forum. ■

Looking Ahead to the 2008 DSI Annual Meeting

Marc J. Schniederjans DSI 2008 Program Chair



The decision sciences are operationalized by the act of decision-making, and decision-making is not limited to a particular type of institution, industry, functional area, or discipline. The Decision Sciences Institute encourages the advancement of decision-making research in many ways, including the sponsoring of its Annual Meeting where scholars and practitioners from all over the world are invited to share the latest decision-making developments.

The Decision Sciences Institute's 2008 Annual Meeting theme is "Improving Competitiveness Through Information and Decision Sciences." The DSI 2008 Annual Meeting invites basic, applied, theory, and case study research in the field of decision-making, as well as proposals for panel discussion, symposia, workshops, and tutorials dealing with research or pedagogical issues. This meeting will include invited sessions featuring highly respected researchers, educators, and practitioners who will share their knowledge and experience on decision-making practices. The sessions will be organized into various tracks and mini-conferences. The meeting will also feature curricular issues, technology in the classroom, doctoral student consortium,

grantsmanship, and faculty development programs for both new and senior faculty.

The DSI 2008 Annual Meeting offers much more than just a paper presentation conference! The Annual Meeting offers faculty opportunities to renew teaching/technology skills, learn how to use current methodologies to enhance future research efforts, find employment, and establish networks that can last a career lifetime. As a member of DSI for over 25 years, I can attest to the value of these unique opportunities and fellowship available only at DSI Annual Meetings.

The 2008 DSI Annual Meeting will be held in Baltimore, Maryland, at the Baltimore Marriott Waterfront Hotel from November 22nd to 26th. For tourism information visit www.baltimore.org. Detailed information on the hotel and event activities in Baltimore will be made available in the future on the meeting website. In the meantime, if you have any questions, suggestions, or requests, feel free to email me at dsi2008@unl.edu.

You are invited to participate in the 2008 DSI Annual Meeting in Baltimore. Come to present your most recent research and teaching innovations, and attend a number of mini-conferences and consortia scheduled during the meeting. Consistent with the Institute's commitment to collaboration across academic disciplines, the meeting encourages research and teaching innovations in all areas of information and decision sciences. ■

NAMES IN THE NEWS

CAROL LATTA, Executive Director, Decision Sciences Institute



George Benson, a Fellow of the Decision Sciences Institute, was recently elected as the new College of Charleston president by the school's Board of Trustees. For

the past eight and a half years, he has been the dean of the Terry College of Business at the University of Georgia. Under his leadership, the Terry College of Business has consistently ranked among the top 20 public business schools by leading college guides and business publications. Previously, he has served from 1993 to 1998 as the dean of the Rutgers Business School at Rutgers University. From 1977 to 1993 he was a faculty member in the Carlson School of Management at the

University of Minnesota. Benson is the co-author of one of the leading textbooks on business statistics. It has been widely used in the U.S. and abroad for the last 29 years. Prentice Hall published the ninth edition in 2005. His research spans several fields including decision analysis, operations management, statistics, finance and economics.



Barry Render, the Charles Harwood Professor of Operations Management and Management Science at Rollins College's Graduate School of Business, in Winter Park, Florida, has

recently been named to the Board of Directors of Action Products International, Inc. (APII-NASDAQ). Action is the

premier manufacturer of educational toys in the US, with such products as I-Dig, Space Explorers, Curiosity Kits, and Jay-Jay the Jet Plane. Render has been appointed chair of the Compensation Committee and serves on Action's Audit Committee as well. His Prentice Hall text book with Jay Heizer, *Operations Management*, now in its 8th edition, is the leading OM book in the US and global college markets. His *Quantitative Analysis* text, with Ralph Stair and Mike Hanna, is entering its 10th edition.

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