

**2012 St. Gallen, Switzerland Conference
Report for Winter Policy Council Meeting
February 12, 2013**

Submitted on behalf of the Conference Team by Roberta L. Spencer

Conference Statistics: The conference had 455 registrants and 47 guests from 50 countries. This conference had 40% new (self-reported) attendees. 68% of our participants were members, 24% were students, and 58% of the registrants were authors. Historically, between three and seven percent of the conference attendees are supported.

Year	Members	Students	Authors	New	City
2012	68%	24%	58%	40%	St. Gallen
2011	61%	21%	50%	42%	Washington
2010	52%	35%	57%	40%	Seoul
2009	58%	22%	62%	36%	Albuquerque
2008	66%	31%	53%	26%	Athens
2007	75%	28%	58%	25%	Boston

Conference Hosts and Partners: The host was University of St. Gallen. The Conference Dynamics Partner was Stiftung zur Förderung der Systemorientierten Managementlehre. For a full list of Conference sponsors, please see the St. Gallen permanent conference website and click on Related Links / Sponsors.

<http://www.systemdynamics.org/conferences/2012/index.html>

Conference Organizers: Along with many other volunteers, we had an active conference team. The Program Chairs were Elke Husemann and David Lane, London School of Economics; the Conference Chair was Markus Schwaninger, University of St. Gallen, Institute of Management; the Organizing Chair was Stefan Grösser, University of St. Gallen, Institute of Management and Bern University of Applied Science, Department of Economics; the Workshop Chair was Jack B. Homer, Homer Consulting; and the Conference Manager was Roberta L. Spencer, System Dynamics Society.

Program: Two threads tied for the highest percentage of papers reviewed in St. Gallen, each at 12%; with the Knowledge, Learning and Teaching thread as a very close second. The individual threads percentages were as follows on reviewed and accepted papers:

Energy and Resources	12%	Environment and Ecology	6%
Public Policy	12%	Operations Management/Supply Chains	5%
Knowledge, Learning and Teaching	11%	Strategy	5%
Business Applications	10%	Participatory Approaches to Modeling and Simulation	3%
Economic Dynamics	8%	Conflict, Defense and Security	3%
Methodology in System Dynamics	8%	Methodology: Alternative Approaches	2%
Social and Organizational Dynamics	8%	Information Science	2%
Health and Health Policy	7%		

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The rejection rate was approximately 25%.

The online submission and review system worked well. A total of 544 submissions were handled through the online system. Submission types included plenary, parallel, poster, workshop, and other submissions for roundtables, meetings PhD submissions and other miscellaneous items.

For historical information on thread submissions and placement, please contact the Society office.

New program events in 2012 included *Shaping the Future of System Dynamics: Challenges & Opportunities* with a Socratic dialogue and the Spouses' Lounge.

Successful continuing events included the Poster Symposium and Buffet (with favorite posters contest), Award Ceremonies, PhD Colloquium, Roundtables, Modeling Assistance Workshop, Thursday Workshop Day including "Getting Started With ... Software" Workshops, PC Meet and Greet, Sunday HPSIG Session, Exhibitor Demonstrations, Red Ribbon Event, Users' Group Meetings and the Newcomer Orientation Session.

Finances: The St. Gallen Conference surplus was about \$60,000 (this number will change somewhat after the annual review by our CPA). The conference revenue goal was estimated between \$25,000 and \$40,000, with the budget-estimated registration count between 350 and 400. Actual registrations were 455. Revenues from registration were higher and sponsorship lines were strong. On the expense side, costs were held down and were less than budgeted.

Please let us know if you have any questions or comments.
Roberta, on behalf of the 2012 St. Gallen Conference Team