

6th Annual Modeling Assistance Workshop, Nijmegen Conference

General

The popular Modeling Assistance Workshop will be offered again this year. Modeling assistance opportunities in Nijmegen include two workshops, as well as the opportunity to obtain modeling assistance at any time during the conference. Jack Homer and Rod MacDonald will be organizing and directing these activities.

This offering enables modelers to obtain feedback on their specific modeling questions from modeling coaches. Modelers' questions may relate to a specific model that modelers are thinking about, studying, or developing. Questions may also relate to something that modelers don't understand in one of the system dynamics textbooks or software packages. You might even get the author of the textbook or software as your coach!

This workshop is for modelers with all levels of modeling ability, from beginners to advanced. Questions may range from problem articulation, formulation of a dynamic hypothesis, formulation of a simulation model, model testing, or policy design and evaluation. Modelers may bring whatever materials they need to describe their modeling question, ranging from pencil and paper, to books, to posters, to laptop computers. If you bring a computer, be sure your battery is fully charged, as we cannot guarantee electrical power or adapters.

Schedule

Most of the modeler-coach pairings will be scheduled during one of the workshops to be held Monday and Tuesday 11:30-12:30. Although each workshop is formally only one hour long, the workshop has been scheduled before lunch so that modelers and coaches may continue their discussions into the 12:30-14:30 lunch period if they so desire. Others who would like to observe the process are cordially invited to join as spectators during these public workshops.

In addition, we plan to have a room with flipcharts, worktables and chairs, and electrical power to be continuously available throughout the conference for one-on-one modeling assistance sessions outside of the two public workshop times.

Signing up

Modelers: If you think you may be interested in receiving assistance on a modeling question at the conference, please notify us in advance of the conference by writing to Rod MacDonald at rod@isdps.org. Your writing in advance will help us arrange for sufficient coaching resources, and will also act as an early registration (first come, first served) in case we can arrange only a limited number of coaches. Finally, if you would like some help framing your modeling question, Rod will be pleased to work with you via email to help you clarify them.

Coaches: If you think you may be interested in coaching, please write to Jack Homer at jhomer@comcast.net. Jack will work with you via email to ensure that the modeling question assigned to you is commensurate with your system dynamics abilities and interests.

Spectators: We have had numerous spectators at past Modeling Assistance Workshops. All are welcome to join the two public workshops as spectators.