

Nijmegen Conference Report

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FINAL REPORT ON 2006 NIJMEGEN CONFERENCE

NIJMEGEN WAS A SUCCESSFUL CONFERENCE. The Nijmegen conference was our biggest conference outside North America ever with 424 registrants and 51 day passes for the “Business Day.” We had an active conference team with Conference Partner: Minase BV; Conference Host: Methodology Department, Nijmegen School of Management, Radboud University Nijmegen; Organizing Chair: Etiënne Rouwette; Conference Chair: Jac Vennix; Program Chair: Andreas Größler; Workshop Chair: Jack Homer, and hundreds of other volunteers. Sixty-four percent of our participants were members and twenty percent were students. Fifty-seven percent of the registrants were authors.

THE PROGRAM WAS NICELY BALANCED. The Business thread had the highest percentage of papers in Nijmegen at 13%. It was followed closely by Methodology at 12%. The threads of Health and Public Policy each had 8.5%. In descending order, the threads of Organizational Dynamics, Environment and Ecology, Economics, and Energy and Education each accounted for 7.5% to 6% of the program. Alternative Methodology accounted for almost 5% while, in descending order, Operations Management/Supply Chain, Psychology, Strategy, Complexity/Agent-Based Modeling/Nonlinear Dynamics, Military, and Security ranged between 3.7% and 3.4%. Rounding out the program were papers in the threads of Information Science, and Qualitative System Dynamics. The paper rejection rate was over 10%. There were a total of 358 submissions.

NEW PROGRAM ITEMS AT THE NIJMEGEN CONFERENCE included the Chapter and Special Interest Group Poster Session, "Introduction to Building System Dynamics Models" Software Workshops, Society History Talk, Informal PC "Social," Prospective Conference Host Meeting, B2B Gathering, PC/PhD Colloquium Students Luncheon, and the Navigator Program.

THE NIJMEGEN CONFERENCE MADE ABOUT \$10,000 MORE THAN THE “REALISTIC” BUDGET. The overall profit for the 2006 conference was just over \$33,000. Budgeted realistic profit at 408 registrations was estimated at \$23,500. Actual registrations were 424 plus 51 day registrations. Our realistic budget income for registrations was estimated at \$139,847 and in actuality it was \$137,188. Day passes and the guesthouse income were not originally budgeted. Our conference sponsorship income exceeded the budget. We had fifteen new sponsors and an impressive eight repeat sponsors that have been loyal conference sponsors for five or more years. Additionally, four sponsors have sponsored for three to four years, and the remaining three have been sponsors for two years. Our realistic expense was budgeted at \$149,835 and in actuality it was \$166,880. We went over budget on the meeting rooms and banquet. Additionally we show expense for the guesthouse rooms, but the guesthouse income covered these expenses. We saved some money in some line items, and spent more in others. We had a very generous local host, Methodology Department, Nijmegen School of Management, Radboud University Nijmegen, who contributed in numerous ways before and during the conference.