

Albuquerque Conference Status Report

Summer PC Meeting – Athens, Greece

Prepared by the Organizing Committee on July 15, 2008

Conference Date & Location

July 26-30, 2009 - Albuquerque, NM - USA

Conference Host

Sandia National Laboratories (Albuquerque, New Mexico – USA)

Co-hosted by:¹

Argonne National Laboratory (USA)

Idaho National Laboratory (USA)

Paul Scherrer Institut (Switzerland)

Conference Planning Committee

Conference Chair:	Leonard A. Malczynski	Sandia National Laboratories
Program Chairs:	Andrew Ford	Washington State University
	David N. Ford	Texas A&M University
	Edward G. Anderson	University of Texas
Organizing Committee:	Aldo A. Zagonel, Chair	Sandia National Laboratories
	George A. Backus	Sandia National Laboratories
	Tracy Benson	Waters Foundation
	Dan S. Compton	The Boeing Company
	Stephen H. Conrad	Sandia National Laboratories
	Jacob J. Jacobson	Idaho National Laboratory
	Ignacio J. Martinez-Moyano	Argonne National Laboratory
	Dennis R. Powell	Los Alamos National Laboratory
	Silvia A. Ulli-Ber	Paul Scherrer Institut
Workshop Chair:	Jack B. Homer	Homer Consultant
Conference Manager:	Roberta L. Spencer	Executive Director of the SDS

See also [Conference Announcement](#), attached, containing abstract information on the conference site and venue. This announcement will be included in the electronic and printed proceedings of the Athens Conference.

¹ There is a standing invitation and we are waiting for a formal decision from Los Alamos National Laboratory.

Conference Program

The 2009 program will emphasize high-impact applications and research on the difficult issues at the leading edges of the field. It will consist of invited and contributed sessions and workshops demonstrating the state of the art in the theory and application of system dynamics. We will also schedule exhibits, model-assistance workshops, panel discussions, special sessions, a student colloquium and the business meetings of the society. There will be time for social and professional interaction in a relaxed, historic setting.

The bulk of the presentations will be based on full papers submitted through the regular process and placed in the existing program threads:

- Business applications
- Complexity/agent-based/nonlinear
- Economic dynamics
- Education
- Energy and resources
- Environment and ecology
- Health
- Information science
- Methodology: alternative approaches
- Methodology in system dynamics
- Military applications
- Operations management/supply chains
- Organizational dynamics
- Psychology/social dynamics
- Public policy
- Qualitative system dynamics
- Security
- Strategy

The conference will be hosted by national laboratories, and we anticipate many first-time participants to attend. We expect a strong interest in the application of system dynamics to major issues such as:

- Climate change
- Infrastructure resilience
- Emergency preparedness
- Challenges of terrorism

We look forward to adding one or more new threads to deal with such issues. *Proposals for new threads are encouraged and are due by Nov. 15, 2008.*

A new feature in 2009 will be the addition of an optional, “spillover” day, on Friday, July 31st. The extra day will be useful for groups that wish to organize informally. Chapters and interest groups will have a better opportunity to share information in much greater depth than before. The extra day coincides with a collaborative meeting of the K-12 community, so there will be opportunity for sharing of experiences in system dynamics education. *Proposals for activities on the Spillover Day are encouraged and due by Nov. 15, 2008.*

See also **Call for Papers**, in a supplementary file, containing information about **deadlines, key dates, and the submissions process**. This flyer will be included in the Athens Conference Satchel. A 2nd Edition (perhaps revised and expanded) will be mailed directly to those listed in the Society database, in September or October.

Conference Venue and Lodging

The Conference will be held at the **Hotel Albuquerque at Old Town**. Their conference facilities are excellent, and their location is ideal:

<http://www.virtualalbuquerque.com/VirtualABQ/HotelAlbuquerque/>

The guest-room price is affordable (~\$140/night). However, they have a limited capacity of 188 rooms. These will be taken on a first-come, first-serve basis. The overflow hotel is across the street (~\$120/night), at a short walking distance (<0.2 miles):

<http://www.riograndeinn.com/>

For the students interested, we will arrange with UNM to provide inexpensive dorm accommodations (~\$30/night). The Campus is not far from the conference venue (<4 miles), but those staying there will need to use public transportation.

See also [Conference Venue Fact Sheet](#), attached.

Minimum Food & Beverage Commitment

The conference space will be available to us free of charge. However, we do have a commitment to expend a minimum of **\$38,000** in food and beverage. The bulk of this expense will be used to cover the Conference Banquet. The rest will probably be used in complimentary coffee breaks. Depending upon the weather, our banquet will be outdoors in the pavilion and gardens. Otherwise, it will be in the ballroom.

The Society Office has the **Contract** signed with the conference hotel.

Conference Partners and “Local” Sponsorship

Sandia already committed **\$7,500** in support of the 2009 Conference. The Sandia contribution came from three groups: System Engineering & Analysis, Geosciences Research & Applications, and Computational Science Research & Development. We are currently seeking Conference Partners (sponsors at a level greater than \$5K) and will be working more intensively on this front from here on. Some of the potential sources of “local” funding are co-host organizations, our sponsoring agencies and clients, such as the Department of Homeland Security, The Boeing Company, GM, BP, Lockheed Martin Corporation, and members of the local business and government communities, including Intel, the State of New Mexico, and the City of Albuquerque. Although this is an impressive list of organizations, we offer no certainty of success. However, we aim to bring enough *new* sponsorship to fund the **Welcome Reception** and the **Poster Symposium & Buffet**.

If you have ideas and experience to share on the organizational and fundraising aspects of hosting the conference, please bring them to our **Albuquerque 2009 Conference Organizing Committee (Breakfast) Meeting** (Wednesday, 8AM).

Special K-12 activities

We are working with a number of people interested in K-12 ST/SD Education in preparing for 2009, and offering a service to this community during the conference.

We initiated a series of training workshops in partnership with the Waters Foundation, supported and sponsored by Sandia Community Involvement, including a 1-Day Overview of System Dynamics based upon Fish Banks, Inc. on February 16th, and the Waters Foundation's 4-Day Level 1 Workshop in Systems Thinking, July 8-11. Brief news about these activities can be found in the *SDS Newsletters*:

<http://www.systemdynamics.org/newsletters/2008-03mar/08-03newsltr.htm#news>

For the 2009 Conference, in coordination with the Chair of the Education Thread, the Creative Learning Exchange, the Waters Foundation, we are embracing a three-tiered approach to carry out special activities in parallel, during and after the conference:

Tier 1: A series of workshops especially tailored to K-12 teachers would be offered on Thursday, and Friday would entail a collaborative of K-12 practitioners to share experiences, ask questions of SD experts, discuss future possibilities, etc. Friday could be a full day or half day depending on the anticipated number of participants

Tier 2: In addition to Tier 1, encourage experienced SD experts interested in K-12 education to submit papers to be considered for up to two Wednesday Education Parallel Sessions. The first parallel session would focus on an SD curriculum adapted to K-12 and the second would remain open and/or TBD. The Thread Chair would help encourage skilled and proven SD folks to contribute to these sessions. The CLE and the Waters Foundation do not plan on encouraging K-12 practitioners to submit papers, however some may. If so, those papers will be held to the same standards as all others. Ideally, the Wednesday Education Sessions should be appealing to all SD levels of participants –including those at the novice level of SD and those who are quite experienced. K-12 teachers would be encouraged to attend these Education Sessions.

Tier 3: In addition to Tiers 1 and 2, we want to consider offering a 3-day beginning training for K-12 educators Monday through Wednesday, in parallel to the Conference. The training would be held at a site across the street from the main conference hotel. The space is quite nice, accessible and appropriate for a three-day training session. This training would be an adaptation of the Waters Foundation 4-day Level 1 training. The participants would also participate in the Thursday and Friday opportunities at the conference and maybe even step across the street and attend a Wednesday parallel session if time allows. This 5-day experience would provide beginners with skill-building, opportunities to collaborate with practicing K-12 educators and chances to network with and learn from SD experts.

We plan on attending the **K-12 Open Discussion** (Wednesday, 10:30AM) and [look forward to your input on how the 2009 Conference can best serve this important community of interest/agenda.](#)

Social Agenda

We hope to be able to offer all of the traditional social events:

- Welcome Reception
- Poster Symposium & Buffet
- Conference Banquet

In addition, we would like put together:

- A web-based “do it yourself” guide to Old Town and the City of Albuquerque
- Free guided-tours including a pub crawl on Route 66, and a shop and stroll in Nob Hill
- An attractive portfolio of paid guided-tours offered by a local tourism agency

We will work with the Society Office to enable the continuation of other networking and social activities, such as orientation sessions, talent show, etc.

For more information, please attend the [Albuquerque 2009 Conference Site Attractions Session](#) (Tuesday, 10:30AM).

Action Items

1) New Threads and Spillover Day

The program committee will make decisions regarding threads. The scheduling of activities for the spillover day will depend upon space and sponsorship availability. [We need help identifying interest groups within the Society \(primarily but not exclusively SIGs and Chapters\) who would like to take advantage of the spillover day. Also, please let us know if the PC and its committees, including the Strategy Development Committee, would like to hold meetings on July 31st.](#) Those interested in forming new threads or scheduling activities for the spillover day are asked to submit a specific proposal by November 15, 2008. It may be difficult to accommodate requests made after this date.

2) Survey of interest for paid tours of local and regional attractions

[Please help us determine the best way to assess interest on offering paid tours to regional attractions](#), such as:

<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Bandelier National Monument▪ Hike at Tent Rocks▪ Day visits to Santa Fe▪ Feast Day at Santa Ana Pueblo	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ A visit to the Acoma “Sky City” Pueblo▪ Chaco Canyon National Monument▪ A visit to Taos Pueblo▪ Whitewater rafting in the Rio Grande Gorge
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For any one of these tours, there needs to be at least 30 people signed up.



Announcing the 27th International Conference of
The System Dynamics Society
Albuquerque, New Mexico, USA
July 26 - 30, 2009

Conference Chair:

Leonard A. Malczynski
Sandia National Laboratories

Host Organization:

Sandia National Laboratories

Co-Host Organizations:

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Idaho National Laboratory
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Conference Manager:

Roberta L. Spencer
System Dynamics Society
conference@systemdynamics.org



Join us in “The Land of Enchantment” for a unique combination of architecture, scenery, culture and history. Located at the foot of the Sandia Mountains in the Rio Grande Valley, Albuquerque is a bustling melting pot that retains the spirit of the Southwest. It is an attractive and affordable leisure destination with numerous museums, cultural and artistic centers, a zoo, a botanical garden, and an aquarium. The city is crisscrossed with bike paths, sprinkled with golf courses, and surrounded by Native American Pueblos and landmarks of ancient civilization.



The conference venue will be the Hotel Albuquerque, a short distance from the airport, nestled in Old Town, at the heart of the city’s historic center. The hotel offers spacious, state-of-the-art conference facilities,



in a beautifully decorated and cozy environment. This is an ideal setting for all conference activities, including program sessions, networking and socializing.

For detailed information about the Hotel Albuquerque at Old Town, please visit: <http://hhandr.com/albuquerque.php>

Watch for further announcements and details as they develop.

Visit our website: <http://www.systemdynamics.org>

Conference Venue Fact Sheet

2009 International Conference of the SD Society

Dates: July 26 - 30, 2009 (Sunday - Thursday)

Location: Hotel Albuquerque at Old Town - Albuquerque, NM - USA



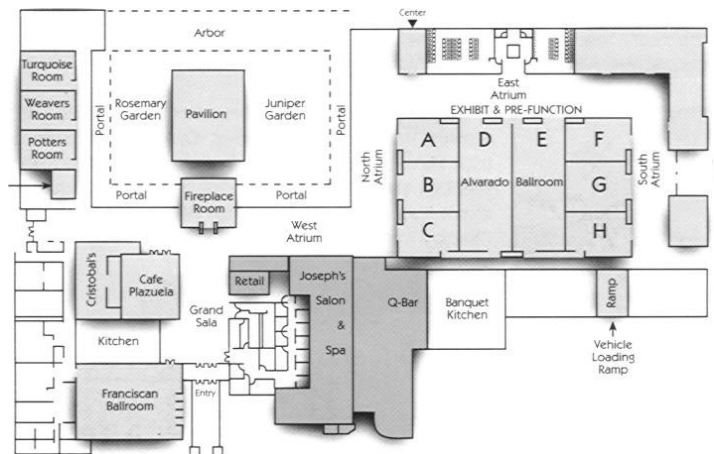
Hotel Albuquerque at Old Town	Best Western Rio Grande Inn	University dormitories
188 rooms	100 rooms	Unlimited capacity (minimum 10 students)
\$69.50 - \$139.00 (double or single)	\$29.50 - \$118.00 (up to quadruple)	\$19.00-\$29.00 (double or single, full apts. available)
On site	< 0.2 miles	< 4 miles (rapid ride: \$1/each way)



Core expense: A minimum of \$38,000 in food & non-alcoholic beverage to be used towards conference banquet & coffee breaks.

Observation - weather permitting, the banquet would be held outdoors in the Pavilion and gardens (otherwise, it may be held in rooms D&E, which holds 560 people in banquet style)

Meeting space: Rooms D&E for plenary meetings (672 people theatre style); eleven (11) other breakout rooms for parallel sessions and workshops, with capacities ranging from 50 to 350 people theatre style, or 40 to 225 people classroom style; ample room for posters in the North, East and South Atriums



Conference venue concessions:

- Five complimentary guest rooms to sponsor ten students (double occupancy)
- Complimentary jr. suite with adjoining sleeping room, and complimentary use of the Club Level Lounge, all on top floor, as meeting planner and flow hospitality space
- One complimentary sleeping room for every forty-five, for invited special guests
- One give-away complimentary two-night weekend stay
- Access to pool & SPA to all conference participants