

PREPARATIONS FOR THE ISDC 2008 ATHENS, GREECE JANUARY 2008

This text is a short report on the preparations for the 2008 International System Dynamics Conference in Athens, Greece.

REGISTRATION AND ACCOMMODATION: The registration brochure has been mailed. The registration fee for the conference is set at \$450, which is \$25 higher than the last few years. (Our first registration was received on December 26, 2007!)

A contract has been signed with the InterContinental Hotel. Hotel room reservations will be arranged through the InterContinental Hotel directly. An accommodations booking form will be included with the registration brochure. All rooms include taxes and a full breakfast. Single rooms are €155, doubles are €165, and triples are €195. There are 40 reduced price rooms for students at €120, €130, and €160.

PRECONFERENCE PLANNING: A trip to the InterContinental Hotel may be scheduled for early April in conjunction with the annual Wiley meeting trip.

CONFERENCE BUDGET: The original budget price of €25,000 for meeting rooms and coffee could not be negotiated. Meeting rooms will cost €20,700 and coffee/snack will be served for €5 each. This brings the budget to a break-even. But, the budget allows for \$60,000 in sponsorship and we currently have only \$27,000.

Personal expenses will be higher than proposed as the hotel room price is €155 (~\$227 rather than the proposed was \$150). Additionally the exchange rate for US dollars is low.

CONFERENCE PROGRAM: Activities in the program this year:

- Special Plenary Session: Modeling work carried out to facilitate the logistics of staging the Athens Olympics in 2004.
- New session devoted to Developmental Papers
- Return of the very successful Poster Symposium and Buffet
- An informal gathering of the policy council Saturday evening (tentatively planned)
- Chapter/SIG Poster Session on Monday
- Newcomer Orientation Session (formerly known as the Navigator Program)
- Health Policy SIG: Discussion and Business Meeting

SOME POSSIBILITIES FOR TOURING AND/OR SPOUSE PROGRAM:

We are registered with a local travel agency (see <http://www.mibsconventions.gr/>)

- Currently listed on the website:
 - Guided Coach Tours
 - Around Athens
 - Cape Soundio
 - Mycenae - Epidaurus
 - Delphi
 - Delphi - Meteora, 2 days tour
 - One Day Cruise to Saronic Islands
 - Holiday Packages
 - Information on
 - Car Rentals
 - Transfers
 - Local Information
 - Metro Map

More and more additional, optional activities are coming up.

CONFERENCE TEAM:

Conference Partner: No one to date

Conference Co-host Institutions: University of Patras, Panteion University, The Hellenic Chapter of the System Dynamics Society

Conference Co-Chairs: Emmanuel Adamides and Nicholas C. Georgantzas

Program Chair: Brian C. Dangerfield

Workshop Chair: Jack B. Homer

Local Travel Agent: Maria Panteli MIBS Travel Organisation

Modeling Assistance Workshop Coordinators: Jack Homer and Rod MacDonald

Workshop Coordinator: Hazhir Rahmandad

PhD Colloquium Coordinators: Nicole Zimmermann and Cécile Emery

Conference Manager: Roberta L. Spencer
and many other volunteers.

SPONSORSHIP TO DATE: Nikos Pomonis wrote: We are waiting for some answers from sponsorship proposals already made. ... We have made proposals to the University of Patras, to the Ministry of Development and to some privately owned companies [where] we have contacts. From all of these institutions and companies we are waiting their positive hopefully feedback. I believe that by the end of February we will have some answers!

To date we have 23 sponsors.

- Amber Blocks Ltd.
- CRA International
- Decisio Consulting Inc.
- Evans & Peck
- Forio Business Simulations
- Global Strategy Dynamics Ltd.
- International Society for the Systems Sciences
- isee systems
- Jantz Morgan LLC
- John Wiley & Sons Ltd.
- Lane Press of Albany
- Mohaseboon Business and Financial Consultancies
- PA Consulting Group
- Pegasus Communications, Inc.
- Powersim Solutions, Inc.
- Project Performance International
- Raytheon Integrated Defense Systems
- SoL, The Society for Organizational Learning
- Swiss Reinsurance Company
- Centre for OR & Applied Statistics, Salford Business School, University of Salford
- Vanguard Strategy
- Ventana Systems, Inc.
- Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI) •XJ Technologies

Please let us know if you have any questions or comments.

Best regards, The Athens Conference Team