

Brazilian Chapter Report (2012)

Constitution

The members of the Brazilian Chapter, under the informal leadership of Niraldo Nascimento, decided to re-establish under a *new* Constitution, which received the approval from the Society Policy Council on January 11, 2011: <http://www.systemdynamicsbrazil.org/constitution.htm>

Chapter Policy Council

The first elections since re-constitution were held in July 2011 at the ICSDS in Washington, DC:

Elected as President - Ricardo Chaim
 Elected as Liaison - Isaias Custodio
 Elected as Secretary – Aline Fernandes

The elected Secretary resigned on February 27, 2012 and Aldo Zagonel has been serving in substitution since.

The next elections will be held at the ICSDS in St. Gallen, Switzerland, on July 25, at 6:30PM (09-110 Seminar room). The current officers are nominating the following full members to lead the chapter in 2012-2013:

Promoted to President - Isaias Custodio
 Liaison (subject to election) - Lellis Vieira
 Secretary (subject to election) - Marciano Morozowski

The Chapter's Webmaster (chosen ex-officio by the Chapter PC) is Elias Carvalho.

Membership

As of June 24, 2012, the Chapter has 27 *full* members (also members of the Society) and 8 *associate* members (members of the chapter only); 35 members in total (per list attached). We increased by 60 percent (from 22 members), since we petitioned the Society PC for re-constitution (on December 6, 2010). We are in the process of reaching out to past members and also seeking to recruit new members and we definitely expect to grow much more!

Activities

In addition to its re-constitution and re-organization, which includes a *new* webpage, under construction (<https://sites.google.com/site/systemdynamicsbrazilorg/macaes>), the Brazilian Chapter promoted two events, both held in Brasilia, the nation's capital:

1. A two-day workshop in advanced techniques based upon the Market Growth Model (November 14&15, 2011)
<https://sites.google.com/site/systemdynamicsbrazilorg/atividades/model-analysis-workshop-november-14-15-2011>

2. A three-day regional conference organized and carried out in conjunction with the Latin-American Chapter (November 16-18, 2011)

<https://sites.google.com/site/sysstemdynamicsbrazilorg/atividades/ix-congreso-latinoamericano-de-dinamica-de-sistemas-y-ii-congreso-brasileño-de-dinamica-de-sistemas>

Advanced Technical Workshop

The workshop was partially funded (US\$4,000) by Society's Capacity Development Fund. This effort will be reported separately, including a panel presentation followed by discussion at the ICSDS in St. Gallen (on Monday July 23, at 12:30PM):

“The use of the Society’s capacity development funding: the Brazilian Chapter experience”

Chaired by SDS President David Ford (09-112 Seminar room)

Abstract: The members of this panel will overview the Society's policy that provides financial support for “capacity development” for its Chapters and discuss the first experience tapping on this resource. On November 14-15, 2011, the Brazilian Chapter promoted a two-day workshop on advanced techniques in System Dynamics, using Jay Forrester’s (1968) Market Growth Model as a platform for applied learning. Paulo Gonçalves, Associate Professor at the University of Lugano, Switzerland, served as the instructor. The participants had previous SD expertise and all in attendance regarded the workshop as valuable. Entry and exit questionnaires were collected and a workshop evaluation will be reported. The members of the panel will include Society Officers, the workshop instructor and organizers, and one or more of the workshop participants. We welcome a broad discussion on how this resource can be put to use most effectively to support regional chapters, particularly those outside of the main hubs of SD education and practice."

Regional Conference

The regional conference followed in the tradition of the annual Latin-American conferences (9th CLADS) and was the 2nd event of this nature in Brazil. (The first also took place in Brasilia, in 2006).

There were close to 100 participants in attendance with roughly the following nationality distribution:¹

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|---------------------|---|
| • Colombian – 50% | • American (including Puerto Rico) – 2% |
| • Brazilian – 30% | • Other (Canadian Chilean, Italian, |
| • Argentinian – 10% | Peruvian) – 3% |
| • Spanish – 5% | |

There were over 100 presentations, most of them based upon submitted papers (see full conference program, attached):

¹ We are in the process of confirming this information and will provide an accurate listing to the Society, hopefully in time for the Policy Council meeting at the St. Gallen Conference.

- Parallel presentations - 94 works/papers
- Plenary presentations - 12 presentations made by keynote speakers

The conference included one workshop (***Fishbanks, Ltd.***), facilitated by George Richardson. (One game board & software were donated by Dennis Meadows and awarded by the facilitator to the participants from the winning fishery team. **Thank you, Dennis & George!**)

These were some of the people who from outside of the region who participated in this Brazilian & Latin-American event:

1. Aldo Zagonel (Brazilian, living in the United States) – keynote speaker
2. Carlos Legna Verna (Spain)
3. Carmine Bianchi (Italy) – keynote speaker
4. George Richardson (United States) – keynote speaker & workshop facilitator
5. Maria Dolores Soto Torres (Spain)
6. Paulo Gonçalves (Brazilian, living in Switzerland) – keynote speaker
7. Ricardo Pietrobon (Brazilian, living in the United States) – keynote speaker (*participated via the Web*)
8. Silvio Martinez (Spain)

A hard-copy publication & DVD disk were distributed to the conference attendees containing the papers made available by the authors. (I am attaching a 18.2 MB file with this material –687 pages.)

Path Forward (2012-2013 & Beyond)

The immediate focus of the Chapter is to:

1. Identify and consolidate the group of Brazilians interested in System Dynamics; and
2. Seek to broaden it, including professionals and academics working in closely related fields;
3. Put in place and maintain a useful & dynamic webpage;
4. Support and participate in the next regional conference in Buenos Aires (November 21-23, 2012); and
5. Promote and organize an event in Sao Paulo in the spring of 2013.

The elected members of the Chapter PC will designate up to three vice-presidents (ex-officio) to support the following specific tasks:

1. Supporting the Chapter's electronic presence;
2. Promoting and organizing events;
3. Surveying and reporting on the research and practice in Brazil, and in Portuguese language in general; and
4. Promoting scientific and professional networking in the region.

During our Annual Meeting, at the ICSDS in St. Gallen, on July 25, our President Elect, Isaias Custodio, will present our medium to long-term goals and guiding vision, as well as immediate action items, as we advance into the Chapter's next steps of development. This meeting will take place at 6:30PM, following the Conference Closing Ceremony (in 09-110 Seminar room).