

**2011 Washington, DC Conference
Report for Winter Policy Council Meeting
JANUARY 5, 2012**

Submitted by Roberta L. Spencer

Conference Statistics: The conference had 550 registrants and 36 guests from 47 countries. This conference had the highest percentage of new (self-reported) attendees (42%). 61% of our participants were members, 21% were students, and 50% of the registrants were authors.

Year	Members	Students	Authors	New	Supported	City
2011	61%	21%	50%	42%	3%	Washington
2010	52%	35%	57%	40%	7%	Seoul
2009	58%	22%	62%	36%	4%	Albuquerque
2008	66%	31%	53%	26%	3%	Athens
2007	75%	28%	58%	25%	4%	Boston

Conference Organizers: Along with many other volunteers, we had an active conference team. Program Chairs were James M. Lyneis, Worcester Polytechnic Institute and George P. Richardson, University at Albany. The Conference Chairs were Richard Phares, Booz Allen Hamilton and Imrana A. Umar, Powersim Solutions. The Workshop Chair was Jack B. Homer, Homer Consulting and the Conference Manager was Roberta L. Spencer, System Dynamics Society. The Organizing Committee included:

Patricia L. Mabry, Chair, NIH	Hazhir Rahmandad, Virginia Tech
Mariana Dahan, The World Bank	William Ryder, Independent Consultant
Vedat G. Diker, University of Maryland	Geoffery W. Seaver, National Defense University
Leonardo Garrido, The World Bank	Warren W. Tignor, SAIC
Shivraj Kanungo, George Washington University	Sharon S. Welch, NASA
Louis D. Mauro, TASC	

The hosts were Booz Allen Hamilton and Powersim Solutions. Our Conference Partners were the Boeing Company and PA Consulting. Full conference sponsorship information is available upon request.

Program: Three threads tied for the highest percentage of papers in Washington DC, each at 10%; they were Energy and Resources, Public Policy, and Health and Health Policy. The individual threads percentages were as follows on accepted papers:

Energy and Resources	10%	Participatory Approaches to Modeling and Simulation	4%
Public Policy	10%	Strategy	4%
Health and Health Policy	10%	Conflict, Defense and Security	4%
Methodology in System Dynamics	9%	Complexity/Agent-Based Methods	3%
Business Applications	9%	Information Science	2%
Environment and Ecology	8%	Methodology: Alternative Approaches	2%
Economic Dynamics	6%	Psychology and Social Sciences	2%
Operations Management/Supply Chains	5%	Qualitative System Dynamics	2%
Education	5%		
Organizational Dynamics	4%		

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The rejection rate was 15%.

The online submission and review system worked well. A total of 491 submissions were handled through the online system, including:

22 Workshops	<i>Other Submissions:</i>
95 Posters	36 Roundtables/Special Posters (no decision)
130 Parallel	24 Meetings (no decision)
13 Plenaries (includes papers and invited)	16 K-12 Special Events
51 Rejected	33 PhD Papers
41 Withdrawn (w/program decision)	30 All Announcements/Descriptions (no decision)
352 Subtotal	

For historical information on thread submissions and placement, please contact the Society office.

New program events in 2011 included a focus on applications and impact in governance. Also a “Red Ribbon” event was schedule during a coffee break in conjunction with the Career Link.

Successful continuing events included the Poster Symposium and Buffet (with favorite posters contest), Award Presentations, PhD Colloquium, Roundtables, Chapter and Special Interest Group Poster Session, Modeling Assistance Workshop, Thursday Workshop Day including “Getting Started With ... Software” Workshops, PC Meet and Greet, Bonus Day, Special K-12 Poster Event, a Carbon Neutral initiative, and the Newcomer Orientation Session.

Finances: The Washington, DC Conference surplus was about \$61,000 (this number will change somewhat after the annual review by our CPA). The conference revenue goal was estimated between \$25,000 and \$40,000, with the budget-estimated registration count of 500. Actual registrations were 550. Revenues from both registration and sponsorship lines were higher than budgeted, with some sponsorship funds arriving the week of the conference. On the expense side, we spent very close to what was budgeted.

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

Roberta, on behalf of the 2011 Washington, DC Conference Team