

1. We would like to know more about your impressions of the 2012 International Conference of the System Dynamics Society in St. Gallen. For each of the following statements, please indicate your answer by selecting one of the options available. Most questions can be answered on a scale from 1 = very negative to 7 = very positive; no opinion.

2. When it comes to conference content my evaluation is:

#	Answer		Response	%
1	1: very negative		1	1%
2	2		2	2%
3	3		11	10%
4	4		13	12%
5	5		25	24%
6	6		26	25%
7	7: very positive		27	26%
8	no opinion		0	0%
	Total		105	100%

Statistic	Value
Min Value	1
Max Value	7
Mean	5.33
Variance	2.05
Standard Deviation	1.43
Total Responses	105

3. Additional comments

Text Response

It may be interesting to some if normal people can recognize and work with stocks and flows but to make it a central part (endless plenaries) of the conference is a waste of time

I was not satisfied with the contents of some plenary presentations.

Somewhat disappointed by a couple of the plenary sessions. I will read the papers and see if it was an issue of presentation or content.

the conference tends to remain a bit too academic for my tastes.

I would like to see a much stricter selection of papers/presentations, the program is very elaborate (many parallel sessions) but I have been disappointed a couple of times by work of low quality by both academic and professional standards.

too much presentations about work that is going to be done in future too many discussions on how important & interesting SD/ST is - we know that! What is needed are actions in and outside of the society

I liked many parallel sessions but the overall quality of plenaries was definitely poor...

too many poor quality presentations

There should be more studies on teaching, evaluation, and learning.

It was quite mixed, sometimes the presentations did not follow simple rules, sometimes the title and abstracts were misleading, What was really not so good was the combination of talks in one session. Sometimes there were parallel sessions dealing with the same issue at the same time but not in the same session so. this provoked a coming and going of people

I only wish there were more content. Everything was relevant in one way or another - especially the health policy papers.

Content this year was very good. I thought a number of papers/posters were below the borderline, however.

too few parallel sessions

Poorly developed models

lots of models but nearly nothing about their use or expected use.

Some talks in the parallel sessions are not relevant to the topic of the session. Some works are poorly done and it's a waste of time of the attendees.

many good talks and a few really good talks, but not much about how SD is having impact

I heard that Sabay will prepare the pagorm MUSIC Award this year right? It's so good to see that event in our Cambodia cause we never have it before! But I wish that only singer that have own song (I mean the song that not copy from the other country) who could get that Award because if a singer who sing the copy song and get that award all Cambodian will look so bad from the other country that we have star get a COPY award! Sic

I heard that Sabay will prepare the porrgam MUSIC Award this year right? It's so good to see that event in our Cambodia cause we never have it before! But I wish that only singer that have own song (I mean the song that not copy from the other country) who could get that Award because if a singer who sing the copy song and get that award all Cambodian will look so bad from the other country that we have star

get a COPY award!Sic

Statistic	Value
Total Responses	19

4. When it comes to conference services my evaluation is:

#	Answer	Response	%
1	1: very negative	1	1%
2	2	0	0%
3	3	2	2%
4	4	6	6%
5	5	23	22%
6	6	37	35%
7	7: very positive	36	34%
8	no opinion	0	0%
	Total	105	100%

Statistic	Value
Min Value	1
Max Value	7
Mean	5.90
Variance	1.20
Standard Deviation	1.10
Total Responses	105

5. Additional comments

Text Response

Although I was volunteering and thus providing some of the services, I think the university did a really good job with providing the services as well.

I am not a new comer; many new comers told me they missed a mentoring system

The organisers and guides are very friendly and helpful. They made me feel very welcome.

Friendly and helpfull staff.

it looks like any students fair of the 90th - some tables, some flyers, some water - no social media - no press - no inventions all participants list printed

Everything was great!

As always, superb! St. Gallen -- the school and town -- were excellent hosts and I look forward to returning for a visit.

Well organised.

quite good in many respects. food at key breaks could have included more healthy choices (a nit pick I suppose)

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We discovered that many of the restauants in St. Gallen were closed for the week of the conference. The hosts should have done some research to see which ones remained open and provided a list to participants. My wife and grandson missed the tour group by a minute and there were no arrangements for how to meet the group at its next stop--led to a very frustrating afternoon. There was no recourse (e.g., a refund).

Statistic	Value
Total Responses	12

6. When it comes to conference location my evaluation is:

#	Answer	Response	%
1	1: very negative	1	1%
2	2	3	3%
3	3	3	3%
4	4	5	5%
5	5	20	19%
6	6	29	28%
7	7: very positive	43	41%
8	no opinion	0	0%
	Total	104	100%

Statistic	Value
Min Value	1
Max Value	7
Mean	5.88
Variance	1.76
Standard Deviation	1.33
Total Responses	104

7. Additional comments

Text Response

St. Gallen is very hard to reach, and thus I don't really like the location. The location within St. Gallen, university, was very good.

St Gallen is great, a steel cement bunker with awful chairs is certainly not
would have been rated higher but for the giant hill I had to climb each morning to get there
combining the conference venue and accomodation is the best solution

Positive: beautiful, easy to get around by walking. Negative: expensive.

different locations each year IS an advantage for the conference and the society members - it supports the connectivity of the participants. It invites people out of the region to join, who would have not come to other places

More central and easily reachable by plane would be better (London, Boston, NYC, Berlin, Rome, Athens, etc...)

This question is unclear: do you mean the venue (quality of building infrastructure) or the geographical location (St Gallen)?

Very beautiful, but a bit expensive city.

Saint Gallen was a wonderful location. I am somewhat disappointed that the next four meetings will be held at repeat sites.

Pricey! But once I got over the costs, it was a treat for the senses.

too expensive

Fantastic spot

Very beautiful location, but difficult to reach and very expensive.

Not a convenient place to travel, poor services in the surrounding area

wonderful, but very expensive

I heard that Sabay will prepare the porrgam MUSIC Award this year right?It's so good to see that event in our Cambodia cause we never have it before! But i wish that only singer that have own song (I mean the song that not copy from the other contry) who could get that Award because if a singer who sing the copy song and get that award all Cambodian will look so bad from the other country that we have star get a COPY award!Sic

Beautiful city, not too hard to get to. Bus was a lifesaver for getting up the hill to the university.

St Gallen is a beautiful city. The university's facilities were excellent and well-suited to the size conference.

Gorgeous! and the University hosts were gracious, effective, efficient, and charming.

Statistic	Value
Total Responses	21

8. When it comes to conference social activities my evaluation is:

#	Answer	Response	%
1	1: very negative	2	2%
2	2	5	5%
3	3	8	8%
4	4	5	5%
5	5	12	11%
6	6	37	35%
7	7: very positive	24	23%
8	no opinion	12	11%
	Total	105	100%

Statistic	Value
Min Value	1
Max Value	8
Mean	5.73
Variance	2.87
Standard Deviation	1.69
Total Responses	105

9. Additional comments

Text Response

It is not enough that the old members are having a good time and share inside jokes

The tour and banquet were great. At one of the reception events food ran out very quickly. I wouldn't mind seeing more (optional) dinner events in the program.

I did not attend any because I arrived late.

poor support, is there a real social activity aside from the dinner? - everything is organized (since years) by individuals

This year's social program was very poor and usually there is not any involvement of newcomers...

which social activities?

I did not go to too many social activities.

for me workshops were the main most easiest point to get new contacts. Conference dinner worked very poor for new comers or people with smal amount of contacts as the setting supposes you to sit the whole evening at the same place...

The networking at ISDC is always superb.

Time is always a scarce commodity so I really only participated in the Main Events. The banquet was delightful

not enough

As a first timer I found it hard to meet people


Not much social activities going on

the dinner was very enjoyable

That was the best conference banquet I've ever experienced! And I loved the music.

Statistic	Value
Total Responses	17

10. When it comes to value for money my evaluation is:

#	Answer		Response	%
1	1: very negative		1	1%
2	2		3	3%
3	3		11	11%
4	4		14	14%
5	5		25	25%
6	6		24	24%
7	7: very positive		19	19%
8	no opinion		4	4%
	Total		101	100%

Statistic	Value
Min Value	1
Max Value	8
Mean	5.25
Variance	2.31
Standard Deviation	1.52
Total Responses	101

11. Additional comments

Text Response

I didn't have to pay for the conference

Swiss Franc not helpful!

St. Gallen was a bit pricey. However, I was able to enjoy a pretzel every evening for dinner that was delicious and within my budget.

There should be more social activities all together.

i don't understand the question

Worth every penny (or CHF)!

Pricey to get to and stay in St Gallen, but the conference fee was very reasonable.

too expensive, too few parallel and limited social activities

Poor organization, especially signs and instructions

Switzerland is just very, very expensive!

Very expensive, specially for countries with the exchanges rates makes these costs seems to be twice or three times the price in the student local currency.

Statistic	Value
Total Responses	11

12. When it comes to the conference fee my evaluation is:

#	Answer	Response	%
1	1: too expensive	1	1%
2	2	6	6%
3	3	12	12%
4	4	15	15%
5	5	24	24%
6	6	22	22%
7	7: very reasonable	19	19%
8	no opinion	2	2%
	Total	101	100%

Statistic	Value
Min Value	1
Max Value	8
Mean	5.05
Variance	2.49
Standard Deviation	1.58
Total Responses	101

13. Additional comments

Text Response

I don't understand the difference between this question and the previous one.

too expensive for students, esp. those from our EMSD study-program from developing countries could not attend. I'm from Germany so for me it was only painful but not impossible.

See prior comment.

Very expensive, specially for countries witch the exchanges rates makes theses costs seems to be twice or three times the price in the student local currency.

Statistic	Value
Total Responses	4

14. When it comes to the hotel sleeping accommodation my evaluation is:

#	Answer		Response	%
1	1: very negative		4	4%
2	2		6	6%
3	3		8	8%
4	4		17	17%
5	5		11	11%
6	6		21	21%
7	7: very positive		19	19%
8	no opinion		15	15%
	Total		101	100%

Statistic	Value
Min Value	1
Max Value	8
Mean	5.37
Variance	3.85
Standard Deviation	1.96
Total Responses	101

15. Additional comments

Text Response
Should have been arranged better.
Einstine hotel
I booked by my own, I do not have opinion about this.
Too few rooms available, in general. Too few low cost rooms available for unfunded students.
I always make my own arrangements
did not use it
a bit pricy but it is switzerland
I only wonder if it would be possible to know in advance which hotels are the most vegan/vegetarian-friendly...?
too expensive for an old hotel
booked something myself by www.booking.com
A lot of money for relatively low quality
all hotels in good walking distance to the conference venue
I didn't stay in St Gallen, I stayed in Appenzel
great location, a bit funky, especially given the cost
I stayed privately.
Hotel rates offered by the conference bureau were not the best that could be obtained. I found a rate online through Expedia that allowed me to save 33% compared to what I would have paid if I went through the conference bureau. Participants should be encouraged to explore other possibilities for making reservations. Otherwise, they might think the rates offered by a conference bureau are the best available.
The hostel was great, I could meet and have a good time with others PhD students from different parts of the world

Statistic	Value
Total Responses	17

16. When it comes to the printed abstract proceedings for use at the conference my evaluation is:

#	Answer		Response	%
1	1: not needed		5	5%
2	2		4	4%
3	3		2	2%
4	4		6	6%
5	5		14	14%
6	6		32	32%
7	7: very useful		17	17%
8	no opinion		21	21%
	Total		101	100%

Statistic	Value
Min Value	1
Max Value	8
Mean	5.86
Variance	3.44
Standard Deviation	1.85
Total Responses	101

17. Additional comments

Text Response

I didn't use them

but i did not find them

getting easier to navigate the printed (emailed, posted) materials

did not use it

it would be great if the date and time of a presentation will be put at the abstract. When reading through the book, and seeing an interesting abstract it is hard to find out when the presentation is scheduled. Please print this information at the abstract or in a seperate appendix, so one can search for author and then see the abstract titel and information of the presentation time, date, and location

Most papers have no models joined and lots of models are of poor quality (no units, mass balance for example)

Should save paper, time and money, just send emails to participants

like the "my schedule" addition

A compact document with useful synposes of all the presentations.







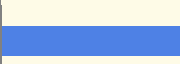

Statistic	Value
Total Responses	9

18. The following questions concern the plenary sessions.

#	Answer	Response	%
	Total	0	0%








Statistic	Value
Min Value	-
Max Value	-
Mean	0.00
Variance	0.00
Standard Deviation	0.00
Total Responses	0

19. Should the plenary sessions have a strong focus on a topic or be more of a mixture?

#	Answer		Response	%
1	1: mixture of papers		17	17%
2	2		10	10%
3	3		6	6%
4	4		10	10%
5	5		9	9%
6	6		6	6%
7	7: topic focused		38	38%
8	no opinion		4	4%
	Total		100	100%









Statistic	Value
Min Value	1
Max Value	8
Mean	4.74
Variance	5.89
Standard Deviation	2.43
Total Responses	100

20. Are the plenary sessions too short or too long?

#	Answer		Response	%
1	1: much too short		0	0%
2	2		4	4%
3	3		11	11%
4	4		63	63%
5	5		13	13%
6	6		2	2%
7	7: much too long		2	2%
8	no opinion		5	5%
	Total		100	100%

Statistic	Value
Min Value	2
Max Value	8
Mean	4.24
Variance	1.42
Standard Deviation	1.19
Total Responses	100

21. Should we have more or fewer plenary sessions?

#	Answer		Response	%
1	1: fewer		3	3%
2	2		3	3%
3	3		5	5%
4	4		55	55%
5	5		7	7%
6	6		6	6%
7	7: more		12	12%
8	no opinion		9	9%
	Total		100	100%

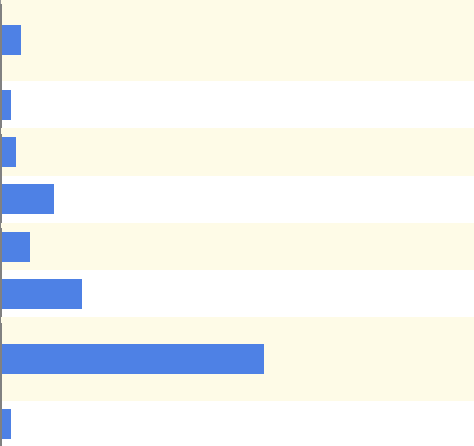
Statistic	Value
Min Value	1
Max Value	8
Mean	4.71
Variance	2.79
Standard Deviation	1.67
Total Responses	100

22. The following questions concern the parallel and poster sessions.

#	Answer	Response	%
	Total	0	0%








Statistic	Value
Min Value	-
Max Value	-
Mean	0.00
Variance	0.00
Standard Deviation	0.00
Total Responses	0

23. Should the parallel sessions have a strong focus on a topic or be more of a mixture?

#	Answer		Response	%
1	1: mixture of papers		4	4%
2	2		2	2%
3	3		3	3%
4	4		11	11%
5	5		6	6%
6	6		17	17%
7	7: topic focused		55	55%
8	no opinion		2	2%
	Total		100	100%









Statistic	Value
Min Value	1
Max Value	8
Mean	5.94
Variance	2.74
Standard Deviation	1.66
Total Responses	100

24. Are the parallel sessions too short or too long?

#	Answer		Response	%
1	1: much too short		7	7%
2	2		9	9%
3	3		15	15%
4	4		56	56%
5	5		4	4%
6	6		2	2%
7	7: much too long		0	0%
8	no opinion		7	7%
	Total		100	100%

Statistic	Value
Min Value	1
Max Value	8
Mean	3.82
Variance	2.37
Standard Deviation	1.54
Total Responses	100

25. Should we have more or fewer parallel sessions?

#	Answer		Response	%
1	1: fewer		9	9%
2	3		5	5%
3	3		11	11%
4	4		41	41%
5	5		10	10%
6	6		8	8%
7	7: more		7	7%
8	no opinion		9	9%
	Total		100	100%

Statistic	Value
Min Value	1
Max Value	8
Mean	4.35
Variance	3.52
Standard Deviation	1.88
Total Responses	100

26. How satisfied are you with the poster sessions?

#	Answer	Response	%
1	1: very unsatisfied	3	3%
2	2	11	11%
3	3	10	10%
4	4	16	17%
5	5	18	19%
6	6	18	19%
7	7: very satisfied	15	16%
8	no opinion	5	5%
	Total	96	100%

Statistic	Value
Min Value	1
Max Value	8
Mean	4.81
Variance	3.40
Standard Deviation	1.84
Total Responses	96

27. If you could make any changes to the format of the poster sessions, what would those changes be?

Text Response

Fewer posters.

Put all the posters in one room, not spread over a floor with makes some posters harder to reach than others.

abolish them

give some guidance put some requirements to posters (e.g. min font size), put in place a review process. Also, if you make a competition, make the placement fair (some posters were positioned in places where it was more difficult to find them than others (I did not put any poster myself).

cluster poster topic-wise

There were too many posters that one can visit.

Somewhat difficult to navigate. They need to be up longer and in the traffic pattern of participant flow.

This year the layout was a bit difficult with some of the posters off to the side. Whenever possible they should be kept to one main room. It also seems we are approaching if not over the optimum number of posters -- with too many, it is difficult to get to see them all and they are very cramped. Maybe think about having fewer.

Would be nice to have a copy / picture of the posters available online as part of the conference results.

I thought there were too many. and considering the poster session started in the afternoon, i had the impression that all the participants were a little tired to go through them all.

Some posters were placed in a secondary location and it affected their visibility (Low visits to those posters)

The one-poster session is still too chaotic to me...

A: There should be a review process in place, some posters were not very nice. B. The placement of the posters made some harder to find than others so the competition was unfair (I did not take part).

Perhaps encourage presenters to leave the posters up for a day or so, so that those with a poster can have a look around too.

the posters have been too short exhibited i think a general presentation (as it has been done) is good, so they are valued and not just a side act But there were too many for this short timeframe maybe a better guidance through the exhibition maybe on topics or so when there are so many

More equitable display. I was stuck behind a staircase and out of view :o(And, I was surprised by the quality of many posters. Some appeared to be more appropriate in a parallel session.

it is impossible to run a decent poster session with +100 posters, food and people wanting to have social activities

If there are that number of posters, divide them in 1/2 or a 1/3 and have more than one session.

Posters should not be removed before the conference ends (they were not available anymore at the last official conference day)

posters are too academic and give not information about the practical use or intended use of the model. The poster I was most interested with had no presenter.

A higher surface for the display, it felt really crowded.

Very poor organization

I would have two poster sessions on different days, as is done at the Gordon Research Conferences. During the first session the first half of the posters would be presented, and during the second one the remaining. This gives the opportunity for poster presenters to interact among themselves and give feedback.

scattered all around, posters were too hard to read

I realize that no alternative is entirely satisfactory, but I find having all of the poster sessions at once is something of a zoo. If others feel this way, we might go back to splitting the posters into three groups and have them in the gap in the middle of the day, somewhere convenient to where people can get lunch and then stroll among the (smaller number of) posters each day.

I am happy with the format of the posters and was impressed with the quality of the materials on display. However, a few posters were located in obscure places with little footfall - which must have been frustrating for the presenters.

Unfortunately, the posters of the poster sessions are not provided (as pdf file) via the conference proceedings. This would be especially helpful as of the plenty parallel poster sessions.


Statistic	Value
Total Responses	27

28. The following questions address the conference in a more general sense.

#	Answer	Response	%
	Total	0	0%

Statistic	Value
Min Value	-
Max Value	-
Mean	0.00
Variance	0.00
Standard Deviation	0.00
Total Responses	0

29. Would you like to see more or less academic work?

#	Answer		Response	%
1	1: less academic work		7	7%
2	2		4	4%
3	3		12	12%
4	4		27	27%
5	5		15	15%
6	6		11	11%
7	7: more academic work		17	17%
8	no opinion		7	7%
	Total		100	100%

Statistic	Value
Min Value	1
Max Value	8
Mean	4.75
Variance	3.62
Standard Deviation	1.90
Total Responses	100

30. How satisfied are you with the workshops?

#	Answer	Response	%
1	1: very unsatisfied	1	1%
2	2	6	6%
3	3	2	2%
4	4	10	10%
5	5	11	11%
6	6	16	16%
7	7: very satisfied	13	13%
8	no opinion	41	41%
	Total	100	100%

Statistic	Value
Min Value	1
Max Value	8
Mean	6.29
Variance	3.62
Standard Deviation	1.90
Total Responses	100

31. What, specifically, do you value about coming to the conference?

Text Response

Friendliness of the community and the different research topics/fields of application.

Networking possibilities

newcomers

Sharing and getting ideas

Interaction with people.

Very value

the spirit of creating new models, the possibility to meet the "big names" and the new generation, to know that there is a strong community using the SD

venue

Networking, being inspired

friendly environmnet

Following the most recent studies being carried out in the field and develop networking.

Contacts with other SD researchers, news of topics being investigated, forming partnerships, educating new SD practitioners.

Networking.

Networking with colleagues.

chance to meet others with the same interest and discuss what we're doing in the field

Some how it was great for me as a first time comer but I had not respect some paper was very low level how ever was wasting the time. I could not believe how the society approve those jobs.

meet people of system dynamics

Meeting and discussion with other SD interested persons from all over the world

variety of subjects, workshops

face to face meeting with the community

The relationships that I developed with others. The social atmosphere was very friendly from the beginning.

Meeting and speaking with colleagues.

Getting new ideas and inspiration about future research.

Openness of people, variety of topics

networking

To meet people doing research using system dynamics and learn about their research

Seeing Friends. Being inspired. Meeting new people.

The talking with pairs.

Interacting with other researchers.

social networking

meeting and greeting peers

meeting people - renew contacts - getting new ideas - listening to discussions if there are ones

Learning about other projects and having the opportunity to talk to professionals in the field

Learn about state of the art in SD research

Networking

learning, network, presenting/publishing

Meeting great colleagues + hearing about great, practical work.

This was my first conference, so I valued just about everything. Engaging conversations with those using SD applications in business and academia, presentations of current work including group model building methods, PhD colloquium, and opportunities to connect with others in your region and/or interest area that you might not have known, or knew about but didn't know personally.

Net working and research ideas. The chance to discuss and present your own research within the SD community.

Meeting academicians

contacts; ideas; knowledge

new contacts

To get acquainted with colleagues in the field

experience; networking; update

the wide range of scientific areas using SD, which are presented

contacts being inspired for new work

networking, supportive community, exchange

Networking is probably top of the list, followed closely by parallel sessions and workshops - which tend to lead to more networking.

networking and getting inspired

People

seeing friends and new people

Reconnecting with people

learning about other people's projects and research, meeting like-wise minded people

Networking, meeting people in the field of system dynamics.

exchanging experiences with other practitioners, which in fact was not satisfied at all.

The update on the current state of research in my domain Networking

networking support in my work exchange views "seeing friends"

Networking, exchanging ideas, to see where SD is going on

Knowing some big names in the field and listen to some great talks in the plenary sessions

Getting feedback about my work, networking, meeting fellow classmates and lecturers from WPI.

connecting with colleagues, special interest groups

sharing information

networking
Network; practitioners cases; the huge potential of this SD community, however not exploited / not rolled out in practice.
Networking
Catching up on what my SD colleagues are working on as well as maintaining personal relationships.
I have three main reasons to attend to the SD conferences: 1. To present my own scientific work 2. To listen to others' scientific presentations 3. Networking Personally, I am not interested in workshops.
good academic presentations
Seeing old friends, catching-up with developments in the field, meeting PhD students.
Meeting with different people sharing the same interest but coming from different professions and having different backgrounds.
Inspiration from the talks, speakers and participants. Exchange ideas, make and meet friends
See new research going on.
Seeing colleagues
Meeting fellow researchers and practitioners

Statistic	Value
Total Responses	74

32. What was the best thing that happened to you at the conference?

Text Response

The talk of Hazir Rahmandad and John Sterman on Reporting Guidelines for Simulation-based Research in Social Sciences.

I got the possibility to work on my network

The paper on multiple sclerosis

First time to present (parallel)

Got in contact to somebody with similar interest.

PhD Colloquium

I met some people who will change the way of doing business and will create a new monetary system and a new society.

positive constructive feedback

meeting people who work on similar issues

collaborations

Spending time with the programming staff that makes the SD software I use.

Valuable feedback and possibility of future collaborations

Conversations with colleagues.

got to meet a lot of new people - see above

meeting John Sterman, I read most of his articles before and thanks SDS to helps that happened.

presenting my paper successfully

interacting with people from industry - sponsors, software vendors

my work being recognized

Meeting with colleagues

Participating in the workshops

Finding a place to eat on Sunday night ;-)

venue, the city

Get to know people working in related area and meet old friends.

Having fun talks with both old and new friends on SD related issues and non-SD topics.

My performance at my parallel session.

Being able to attend John Morecroft's workshop session and getting a grip on what was required to make fishing sustainable on first attempt.

first time presenter, great experience

the discussions after the dinner - everyday

networking

Plenary presentation on Monday morning

Someone telling me about the history of the Threshold 21-models. They evolved out of a different

purpose.

Friends gathering

Nothing specific - lots of good stuff

Listening to the generous feedback that those more experienced took time to formulate and give to those participating in the PhD colloquium, which made me enthusiastic to present next year. Close second: Bradley Morrison's talk.

I met a lot of people interested in my research, receiving valuable comments and suggestions

I met one professor who might offer me a post-doc position.

to meet sd practitioners

I met some interesting colleagues

Orientation for the first-time attendees

presented the papers and had discussion with the audience

all the three workshops I attended were fantastic (Forio-team, D. Fischer, K. Warren). The persons at the front were extremely open to share their experiences and to step in discussions. It was a great inspiration to me, to realise their enthusiasm in combination with professional manner and high knowledge.

-

Getting connected to the members of the Health Policy Interest Group.

lots of positive feedback

Laughing with friends, old and new

trekking

meeting people

Met a few good people

A discussion with an academic about the interest of mixing agent based and SD together in a specific study. The second and last good thing that happened is to know that Vensim intended to add agent based modelling and expand the discrete features to the next versions.

Got to know future research partners

contacts

I contacted many people that I would like to and I presented and got feedback for our work

Nothing

Organizing the PhD Colloquium.

made several new friends! and got several good workouts climbing the stairs

get to know new people and meet best names in the area

Meeting people; the insurance-case in the plenary session.

Networking, going out after and chatting to lots of people about their work

meeting scholars in the field

Lively conversations at the PhD and main poster sessions.

Meeting with Ron Levin at the Psychology SIG. The reason is that now I know that my assumptions holds

that SD is a matter of interest in this field also.

Meeting a researcher doing research similar and complementary to mine.

I liked learning about some work (environmental, many stakeholders) with which I was unfamiliar. The best is probably Brad Morrison's presentation --that made me proud of the award, proud of the work (that isn't always my experience of Forrester Award winners and their presentations)

Comments from the audience

Statistic	Value
Total Responses	64

33. What was the worst thing that happened to you at the conference?

Text Response

Discussion about the future of system dynamics. Parallel sessions are too short, breaks too long. Many of the presentations in the parallel sessions were not satisfying due to a missing academic standard.

Because of the volunteering I had to skip parts that I would have loved to attend

old (anglo) american men reminiscing about the good old days and their whining that still no one loves them

Interaction with a society member who complained that most presentations were a waste of his time as they did not further the SD field or exemplify extraordinary work. This implied to me that practitioners have a small place at the conference - only when the work is substantial and thrilling.

I mixed up rooms and sat in the wrong session.

no

I missed some program because of a misperception of the schedule. The time data were a little bit confusing.

discussant was not there (PhD colloquium)

I missed one part because the charger of my laptop broke and I had to go downtown to get a new one
Didn't get enough sleep!

One plenary session that was a complete waste of time

nothing.

climbing the mountain from my hotel to the university each morning.

Nothing.

nothing particular

Plenaries! I don't think they represented the best SD work. Program chairs seem to have given too much weight to the topic and not enough weight to the quality of the work being presented.

not enough time to do all the things I wanted to do

One of the plenary sessions in particular was simply appalling. Surprisingly, the quality of the parallel sessions often exceeded that of the plenary sessions...

Having to sit upstairs at the banquet

Exhaustion of long days in presentations and long night in the city centre ;). On a more serious note: some presentations were really below standards.

Hotel, city too costly.

I arrived late due to visa problem.

lack of methods & good models

small audience at my parallel presentation. also a conversation with Jim Thompson where he asserted that the majority of the presentations were old work (perhaps from outside SD) redone. he wants more unique work and work that is specifically focused on improving SD as a discipline. this was interesting, but defeatist if the society wants to grow.

searching people

NA

Unfortunately, I did not learn anything new, or had surprising insights. Some of the papers were of low quality/low relevance.

the charger of my laptop broke down and I had to go to town to get a new one and that made me miss part of the conference.

Nothing

Seeing that no woman won an award, except for Roberta.

I found the plenary sessions not really engaging. I would like to see more academic works and methodological issues presented during the plenary

Nothing

some doubt about the future of sd

2 presentation from the same person at the same session

nothing's bad

very few poor works presented and some abstracts which didn't match very well to the things presented (esp. not so nice, when there are so many interesting things presented and you got the idea, you missed another thing)

-

the presidential address

Not being able to attend all the sessions I wanted to...

Walking up the hills! I'm too damn old for that nonsense.

hotel

not worst, but most disappointing experience: unprofessionally prepared presentations (also in plenaries, incl comments like "uh, time has run up", or presenting in depth co-authors who unfortunately cannot be there, participating organizations, or money supporting organizations that take away time from the presentation topic)

Nothing

Time consuming, long banquet that I couldn't attend the whole time, delay between sessions

The constant complaining about the lack of growth of the field.

nothing, really

had to listen poor quality parallel session presentation when expectations did not match with the reality
Realized how few of this enormous potential is not rolled out in practice.

Accommodation issues. The location was expensive; particularly the accommodation, which was hard to find and expensive.

the conference banquet dinner

That I didn't have my clones with me to attend all the other (parallel) sessions.

See a very weak presentation selected for a plenary section.

President's address--sounded like the society presidents are a secret, self-congratulatory club. No clear

direction for society was presented, unless the direction is only academic and only for a select few. Walking tour. The tour left before everyone assembled. No one knew who were already in and proceeding to the site.








Statistic	Value
Total Responses	54

34. Background information

#	Answer	Response	%
	Total	0	0%

Statistic	Value
Min Value	-
Max Value	-
Mean	0.00
Variance	0.00
Standard Deviation	0.00
Total Responses	0

35. Profession

#	Answer		Response	%
1	Consulting		9	9%
2	Higher education		32	32%
3	In-house SD practitioner (private sector)		6	6%
4	In-house SD practitioner (public sector)		2	2%
5	K-12 education		2	2%
6	Research using SD		31	31%
7	SD client/customer		0	0%
8	Student		18	18%
	Total		100	100%

Statistic	Value
Min Value	1
Max Value	8
Mean	4.39
Variance	6.20
Standard Deviation	2.49
Total Responses	100

36. Other (please specify)

Text Response

research, k12, consulting

actually: several of the above (it's strange that I can choose only one) I am a student, consultant and researcher

As a person with mechanical engineering background system dynamics is my best achievement in my PhD of management education

Also Consulting (you should allow for multiple selections above, but you didn't)

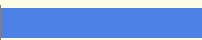



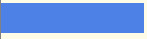

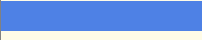

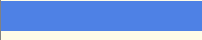

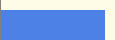



higher education

I am at the same time an in-house SD practitioner (private sector) and an SD client

PhD student doing research in K-12 education

Statistic	Value
Total Responses	7

37. Fields of interest (please check all that apply)

#	Answer		Response	%
1	Business policy		41	43%
2	Teaching		31	32%
3	Strategy		41	43%
4	Health		25	26%
5	Economic dynamics		29	30%
7	Energy and resources		39	41%
8	Environment and ecology		42	44%
9	Information science		10	10%
10	Methodology		41	43%
11	Operations management and supply chains		35	36%
12	Participatory problem solving		21	22%
13	Public policy		40	42%
14	Security		6	6%
15	Social and organizational dynamics		30	31%

Statistic	Value
Min Value	1
Max Value	15
Total Responses	96

38. Other (please specify)

Text Response
psychology
Administration
Training and education
Transportation policy
Resilience, sustainability
Assessment of model quality (Validation/ testing etc.); usability of SD-models for practitioners (expectations, trust, using models on their own)
Learning...how and what people learn from system dynamics methodology
Learning
application to other field mentioned above
Psychology (including neurosciences)

Statistic	Value
Total Responses	10

39. Residence

#	Answer	Response	%
1	Africa	2	2%
2	Asia	16	16%
3	Europe	54	55%
4	Latin America	3	3%
5	North America	19	19%
6	Oceania	4	4%
	Total	98	100%

Statistic	Value
Min Value	1
Max Value	6
Mean	3.34
Variance	1.32
Standard Deviation	1.15
Total Responses	98

40. Other (please specify)

Text Response
Georgia
Greece

Statistic	Value
Total Responses	2

41. Years as a system dynamicist (student)

Text Response

4

1

2

11

6

2

4 years

3

1

2

7

3

5

3

2

4

6

3

10

9

3

5

1

3

5

21

4

WPI Masters of Science in SD degree

3

2

8

4

2

2
6
1
10
2 years
1
5
2
5 years
5
2
0
21
4
4
2
6
10
1.5
5
3.5
6
1
3
2
1
7
7
0
20
5

Statistic	Value
Total Responses	64

42. Years as a system dynamicist (practitioner)

Text Response

0

35

3

0

4 years

3

1

0.5

10+

15

15

5

5

0

5

21

0

0

25

28

17

0

3

20

10

4

12 years

18

10

12

0

2

20

n/a-- still a student!

0

one year

5 Years

1

6

10

Just getting started.

0

20+

12

4

4

1.5

32

10 years

10

35

2

15

1

2

4

40+

10

1

9

7

More than 30

2 years but 10 years in cybernetics

18

20

13

5

Statistic	Value
Total Responses	67

43. An idea that is considered for future conferences, is to make the conference schedule available using a smartphone app. For that reason, we would like to ask you if you own a smartphone.

#	Answer		Response	%
1	Yes, I own a smartphone		69	70%
2	No, I do not own a smartphone		30	30%
	Total		99	100%

Statistic	Value
Min Value	1
Max Value	2
Mean	1.30
Variance	0.21
Standard Deviation	0.46
Total Responses	99

44. Any other comments you may have

Text Response

introduce quality control for your submissions; introduce a one on one mentoring system; don't give rewards just because it seems to be their turn

Not all USA smartphones have access to European cellular networks, or access is expensive. App capability would require excellent WiFi coverage and long timeouts. It would also be nice to markup the schedule (preselect sessions to attend, make session comments) in the app, thereby simplifying the search for "where do I go next"

This conference very useful for me

I found the sessions to be more mixed this year than in other years, i.e., that the presentations within a session were less coherent than I've found them in other years. I prefer that each session (plenary or parallel) have a strong theme that is supported by all the papers in that session.

overall, very well done, very enjoyable. i'm looking forward to the next conference, as always

I have participated conferences of the open source content management system drupal. There it is usual practice to record the voice as well as presentations (video) and to provide these shortly after the sessions in internet. I would really wellcome to have this approached being applied also at the system dynamics conferences (the UK chapter has been doing that, refer to Kim Warren). I also think it would be interesting to provide the the details of each presentation (e.g. slides, model, further material/links) within an special conference area and provide possibility for conference participants only or any person to add comments discuss further. I would also like to have kind of voting for most interesting presentations of each participant. (Due to the numerous parallel sessions, there is high chance of missing intersting presentations. High voting for certain presentation would enable chance to visit the presentation and material still later on after the conference. I would propose more marketing in the media about the conference. (Actually I only saw one very short newspaper article in the local newspaper). I do think it would make an differnce to invite journalists to participate and report from the conference and special presentations. I would propose to evaluate to add invite non-SD experts for certain areas to participate at future conferences. This might help to boost the recognition and value add of SD.

Thank you! I would be interested to see the results of this survey

Thank you for helping me out at the conference - especially Roberta and Bob Eberlein

If indeed growth in membership is a priority of the SD society, then I would ask the following questions: 1) What role does the annual conference play in membership growth? 2) Is the SD society to be comprised of system dynamicists? If yes, then how can the society create a greater potential member population? 3) If the SD society is to grow through membership of "tangent" SDer's (non-practicing system dynamicists), then who are the potential members and why would they join?

get people to the conferences that are NO system dynamicists more press work let the conference move around the world in future - we always fetch some good people up

It would be nice if you recorded some the workshops. It is a pity if two interesting workshops collide. Recording them could allow to participate in both to some degree.

I think it's a good idea to keep the parallel sessions very topic focused to reduce the number of listeners who get up to leave or enter in the middle of the sessions. Although I understand wanting to see individual presentations in sessions at the same time, I feel it can be a bit distracting. Mixing the topics

more might cause more coming and going in the same sessions. I did really enjoy the mix of presentations for the plenary sessions. Very nice!

I used the .pdf of the proceedings on a e-reader, which worked quite well, only the formatation was not so suitable. And it would be a good thing to have all the full-papers that are allready available on the conference as one .pdf in addition....

the conference schedule was not easy to understand maybe another form would be better

Is the final conference schedule made available as a PDF that could be loaded onto laptops, Kindles, etc., for those without smart phones?

Recently, I've wondered about attending and participating (writing, reviewing, managing threads), and I always come away with a great experience--new friends, learning about the conference location, and I even learn a little SD!

- the name tags have the first name printed larger than the last name, it would be convenient if the list of attendees is also structured on first name (instead of last name). Now what happens, is that you meet someone, talk to him/her, knows his/her first name and when you dont immediately exchange info, it is hard to find that person back on the attendee list, - I attended the vensim workshop. I really liked the topic of the workshop, but they spend an awefol lot of time discussing the case, before going into details about the collaboration and opimization. They could have spend more time on the latter when they had chosen a simpeler case. -

maybe useful during the conference.

There should be better orientation for newcomers. Also, please make info more available onsite rather than using hand-outs

It would be great if some presentations, especially plenary sessions, would be live streamed. This makes it possible for people who are interested in certain topics to participate but cannot travel. This would increase the difussion of the conference. Additionally, this may open the door to the reduction of the conference's carbon footprint by reducing airflight associated with the conference. This being said, I think a more concerted effort should be made to reduce the conference's environmental impact.

Really find and showcase how SD practitioners are influencing decision-making in businesses, non-profits, and government.

It would be great to set up a task-force from the SD community to bring SD to the next level and reach the world.

There are many papers in poster session which were much better than parallel paper presentations so more ppapers should be presented in parallel sessions. Planerry sessions should be of very high quality. Some of the plannery papers in this conference were dissapointing.

The PhD conference is excellent as well. In particular the session where we met in groups with PhD students and answered questions/exchanged ideas with regard to their projects. I appreciate there is a session in the main conference where help is given to people's projects, but perhaps there could be a more informal and organic session in the main conference like we had in PhD. By organic I mean it was organised on the spot and devloped naturally. Is there a need for a workshop to teach SD from scratch - particularly model building. many of the participants had no formal training in SD

Program chairs were rather stiff and scowling, not nearly as gracious-appearing as Unviersity hosts

Statistic	Value
Total Responses	25