We would like to know more about your impressions of the 2013 International Conference of the System Dynamics Society in Cambridge, Massachusetts . 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.

#	Answer	Bar	Response	%
	Total		0	100.00%

When it comes to conference <u>content</u> my evaluation is:

#	Answer	Bar	Response	%
1	1: very negative		0	0.00%
2	2		0	0.00%
3	3		5	3.65%
4	4		14	10.22%
5	5		31	22.63%
6	6		47	34.31%
7	7: very positive		39	28.47%
8	no opinion		1	0.73%
	Total		137	100.00%

Additional comments

Text Entry
Just not enough in my area of interest, which is health care and social services.
Some very good work. Some work that felt sub-par and could have been cut.
Very much liked the increased emphasis on practical applications, at least in the plenary sessions.
Plenary talks should be selected more carefully. Of course, the fireside chat with Jay is an exempt. That was amazing.
Somehow I did find the plenary sessions in St. Gallen more inspiring.
It was much better than 2011, 2009, and 2008 when I participated.
Content focusing business and publishing such as game and e-book is few..
Really good content, lots to think about.
A lot of models on display, however it would be nice to have more focus on methodology (-> how do I model a certain behavioural modes which are reoccuring in different industries/disciplines/projects....   The model expo was a fantastic idea: please continue in Delft!!!!   Presentations sometimes did not fit the topic of the thread.
Wide range of content. Always something I wanted to see both in plenary and parallel sessions.

When it comes to conference <u>services</u> my evaluation is:

#	Answer	Bar	Response	%
1	1: very negative		0	0.00%
2	2		5	3.70%
3	3		7	5.19%
4	4		13	9.63%
5	5		25	18.52%
6	6		40	29.63%
7	7: very positive		43	31.85%
8	no opinion		2	1.48%
	Total		135	100.00%

Additional comments

Text Entry
Not entirely sure what this is referring to.
It would be nice to keep the coffee / tea available all day
Thanks to Roberta and her crew.
would have been nice to have tea and coffee (and other beverages) not only at the breaks but during the whole conference.
Internet did not work properly. All other services were excellent.
Overall services are good, although it would have been nice if there were wifi The dinner at the poster session on Monday was GREAT
a little space to seat and use laptop computer for free time..
Very well organised. Liked the personal planner. No Wifi in the meeting rooms so on-line calendar was a bit of a bust.
Internet was too slow
This is a well-organized and well-executed conference!

When it comes to conference geographical location my evaluation is:

#	Answer	Bar	Response	%
1	1: very negative		1	0.73%
2	2		4	2.92%
3	3		6	4.38%
4	4		14	10.22%
5	5		28	20.44%
6	6		31	22.63%
7	7: very positive		51	37.23%
8	no opinion		2	1.46%
	Total		137	100.00%

Additional comments

Text Entry
Difficult/inconvenient to get to other places in Cambridge & Boston from there.
Boston is a good location for the conference, and it helps to draw out the MIT folks.   My feelings are mixed on having two permanent locations. I understand the value of consistency, but I also do enjoy having the opportunity to travel via the conference. I'd be interested in learning more about this decision.
Boston is the best city in the U.S.
Being in Boston is excellent. The hotel is too far away from restaurants and public transit though
Cambridge as a location is great, but the MIT campus is kind of boring. There is no food close by to grab a bite for lunch
To me it was far away and spent so much money to attend there.
place close to railway station is better..
Hard to get to the Hyatt Regency by mass transit.
Nice to be next to MIT but no ameneties nearby. Food at the hotel was not good and no nearby cafes. I lived on bread and cheese in my room!
Like it. Very good choice, geographically well connected, lot to visit in the spare time, good connection for a broad audience.

When it comes to the <u>conference venue</u> my evaluation is:

#	Answer	Bar	Response	%
1	1: very negative		5	3.68%
2	2		10	7.35%
3	3		15	11.03%
4	4		23	16.91%
5	5		24	17.65%
6	6		30	22.06%
7	7: very positive		29	21.32%
8	no opinion		0	0.00%
	Total		136	100.00%

Additional comments

Text Entry
I prefer Starwood / Marriott because of work -- but these facilities were undeniably useful, and the bar/restaraunt area was valuable for networking. It would be nice to be a bit closer to decent non-facility bars/restaurants too.
Next time, please select a hotel in Boston and not in Cambridge. However, if you are going to select a hotel in Cambridge, please make sure that there are stores around it. It was not convinient to walk for 40 minutes to the nearest convinience store. Also, a better hotel would be nice. They were not cleaning rooms without I calling
No alternatives for lunch.
Isolated. Too far from cheap food. Conference rooms were good.
- Some rooms were too cold.   - Lunch and snacks at the little shop were overpriced   - There was not much choice regarding lunch - Conference rooms were close to each other which was convenient
I wish instead of Hyatt you had reserved a hotel that was walking distance to the downtown.
1. The conference didn't have a lobby! The main purpose of a conference is to sit and socialize. Other venues were much much better. 2. In one of the session, the AV was not working (showing stuff, but all grey)
It was way too cold in the meeting rooms for me. Had to buy an extra warm layer. Location was ok but not particularly nice.
Very pVery poorly located hotel. No public transport near. No restaurants or shops near. No refrigerator in room (I had medication that needed to be kept in room).oorly located hotel. No public transport near. No resteraunts or near.
Hotel Venue not easily reachable by Public Transport -> staying at the venue a must.   Hotel facilities not ideal for scientific conference. Small number of tables and working space No restaurants around the hotel -> little possibility for lunch breaks Ballrooms oversized in comparison to attendees; conference rooms too small for

When it comes to conference <u>social activities</u> my evaluation is:

#	Answer	Bar	Response	%
1	1: very negative		0	0.00%
2	2		0	0.00%
3	3		5	3.65%
4	4		17	12.41%
5	5		29	21.17%
6	6		36	26.28%
7	7: very positive		25	18.25%
8	no opinion		25	18.25%
	Total		137	100.00%

Additional comments

Text Entry
Sometimes, international conferences offer cultural entertainments, though perhaps not in the Netherlands. People listen politely, but what they really want to do is talk.
I didn't participate in all of them, but they were a nice break.
Didn't see any.
could not attend.
There were many opportunities to socialize and network with people! Great job!
A lot depends on individual initiative and interaction. The framework provided by the conference was excellent.
People were friendly and there were several social events. This was my first time so I appreciated the friendliness and good conversations.
I enjoyed the SIG meeting, and the three informal meetings I had over meals with new friends at the conference. I don't know if these things counted as social activities.
Just fine.
Very nice program. Enjoyed the Fireside chat and the Video-screening very much

When it comes to <u>overall value</u> my evaluation is:

#	Answer	Bar	Response	%
1	1: very negative		0	0.00%
2	2		2	1.47%
3	3		7	5.15%
4	4		9	6.62%
5	5		33	24.26%
6	6		40	29.41%
7	7: very positive		45	33.09%
8	no opinion		0	0.00%
	Total		136	100.00%

Additional comments

Text Entry
Need more business contacts / opportunities.
This conference (all in) is an expensive proposition. I didn't find it worth the expense.
I am not sure that I will attend another conference
All in (travel, attendance fee, and opportunity cost) this is an expensive proposition. I don't believe it was worth the expense for me.
Very valuable for doing SD in the world.
Best conference I've attended so far, partly because the keynotes were so well designed and impactful. % of time spent on important world problems as opposed to just business problems was more appropriately proportioned this time I thought. Poster session was terrific.
An upbeat and collegial group

When it comes to the <u>conference fee</u> my evaluation is:

#	Answer	Bar	Response	%
1	1: too expensive		4	2.96%
2	2		6	4.44%
3	3		9	6.67%
4	4		26	19.26%
5	5		25	18.52%
6	6		30	22.22%
7	7: very reasonable		27	20.00%
8	no opinion		8	5.93%
	Total		135	100.00%

Additional comments

Text Entry
As a student with some funding for travel, $250 is around the upper limits of what is affordable. It would be even more difficult for students without funding.
Had to pay out of my own pocket. Nevertheless, relatively inexpensive compared to many other conferences.
High for graduate students but manageable because my university covered some of the costs
this relates to overall value. The conference cost comes out of my pocket. For an individual, the conference represents a lot of money. I also factor the the opportunity cost of not doing something else, which is not insubstantial
quite expensive fee considering no lunch snacks are provided and the conference hotel was very expensive
On par with other conferences
(Sponsor)
The conference fee is high, especially since the conference diner is compulsory.
It's hard to say. It was the best conference I've ever been to (of about 10 so far). I felt invigorated and am still learning from what I found. But, I am also stressed about what I paid in dollars to attend.
Adequate, but out of reach for some, I expect.

When it comes to the <u>hotel sleeping accommodation</u> my evaluation is:

#	Answer	Bar	Response	%
1	1: very negative		1	0.73%
2	2		4	2.92%
3	3		14	10.22%
4	4		12	8.76%
5	5		30	21.90%
6	6		24	17.52%
7	7: very positive		23	16.79%
8	no opinion		29	21.17%
	Total		137	100.00%

Additional comments

| Text Entry |
| --- |
| Decent value. Prefer starwood / marriot for points |
| didn't stay at hotel since I'm an MIT student |
| Stayed with family |
| stayed with personal friends |
| booked a room myself with airbnb |
| But too expensive. |
| Ok, but few ameneties. |
| No fresh air in the room. |
| Ants in the room! |
| Hyatt's are excellent hotels. I try to choose them when I travel for business and pleasure. |

When it comes to the <u>printed abstract proceedings for use at the conference</u> my evaluation is:

#	Answer	Bar	Response	%
1	1: not needed		11	8.21%
2	2		4	2.99%
3	3		1	0.75%
4	4		9	6.72%
5	5		21	15.67%
6	6		27	20.15%
7	7: very useful		34	25.37%
8	no opinion		27	20.15%
	Total		134	100.00%

Additional comments

Text Entry
I looked online for all information.
This might be an area where savings could be effected if the online proceedings were very user friendly and there was good internet connectivity in the conference venue.
Didn't use it very much during the conference. But am very glad I have it as a reference document.
- it would be nice if at the abstracts not only the name and emailadres are presented, but also day and time of presentation - it would be nice to have a list of participants ordered by first name (since that is also the name on the badge that is largest)
We tried going electronic last year or the yeat before. I think that was a good idea; while it was good to have to book with me for the few times I needed it, I barely used it. Going to the registration desk when downstairs or accessing it online would have been fine.
I plan to use it to revisit content of sessions I attended and to get more of a sense of ones I didn't.
Good.
I only used the online version.
I didn't use them in the conference, but I might in the future.
I didn't receive these.

The following questions concern the <u>plenary</u> sessions.

#	Answer	Bar	Response	%
	Total		0	100.00%

Are the <u>plenary</u> sessions too short or too long?

#	Answer	Bar	Response	%
1	1: much too short		3	2.22%
2	2		2	1.48%
3	3		6	4.44%
4	4		102	75.56%
5	5		11	8.15%
6	6		3	2.22%
7	7: much too long		1	0.74%
8	no opinion		7	5.19%
	Total		135	100.00%

Should we have more or fewer <u>plenary</u> sessions?

#	Answer	Bar	Response	%
1	1: fewer		2	1.47%
2	2		4	2.94%
3	3		5	3.68%
4	4		69	50.74%
5	5		23	16.91%
6	6		12	8.82%
7	7: more		12	8.82%
8	no opinion		9	6.62%
	Total		136	100.00%

The following questions concern the <u>parallel</u> and <u>poster</u> sessions.

#	Answer	Bar	Response	%
	Total		0	100.00%

Are the <u>parallel</u> sessions too short or too long?

#	Answer	Bar	Response	%
1	1: much too short		5	3.73%
2	2		21	15.67%
3	3		22	16.42%
4	4		65	48.51%
5	5		8	5.97%
6	6		4	2.99%
7	7: much too long		0	0.00%
8	no opinion		9	6.72%
	Total		134	100.00%

Should we have more or fewer <u>parallel</u> sessions?

#	Answer	Bar	Response	%
1	1: fewer		12	8.82%
2	3		8	5.88%
3	3		13	9.56%
4	4		64	47.06%
5	5		13	9.56%
6	6		10	7.35%
7	7: more		9	6.62%
8	no opinion		7	5.15%
	Total		136	100.00%

How satisfied are you with the <u>poster</u> sessions?

#	Answer	Bar	Response	%
1	1: very unsatisfied		3	2.33%
2	2		7	5.43%
3	3		9	6.98%
4	4		20	15.50%
5	5		33	25.58%
6	6		19	14.73%
7	7: very satisfied		16	12.40%
8	no opinion		22	17.05%
	Total		129	100.00%

If you could make any changes to the format of the <u>poster</u> sessions, what would those changes be?

Text Entry
Parallel presentations should have the option of a poster as well. In some presentations there are only a handful of people. A poster could provide additional exposure.
It is very crowded during the poster sessions, difficult to get around people talking with poster presenters to see other posters
The first one, for students, was very crowded and loud, which made it difficult to concentrate. The other one coincided with a social activity, which might have detracted a bit from the poster presenters. I did not have a poster.
A couple of separate ones the way they used to be. All at once is too chaotic.
Group the posters by theme or category in order to make searching easier.
Having a single sheet summary of all posters would be very helpful.
hard to take all of the posters in in the short time alotted with tight space and food at the same time
some presenters were more frequently visited due to their position in the room. At the very back, visitors stoped coming after a while.
- a little bit more room between the posters. The space was to small and it was too crowded to walk around conveniently with you plate of food. When people would stand still at a poster, there was no space anymore to pass.
Need to provide 5-10 minutes to talk about their papers in front of audience rather standing infront of posters

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

#	Answer	Bar	Response	%
	Total		0	100.00%

What is your opinion about the duration of the breaks during the conference?

#	Answer	Bar	Response	%
1	1: too short		2	1.48%
2	2		2	1.48%
3	3		8	5.93%
4	4		86	63.70%
5	5		16	11.85%
6	6		6	4.44%
7	7: too long		12	8.89%
8	no opinion		3	2.22%
	Total		135	100.00%

Would you like to see more or less academic work?

#	Answer	Bar	Response	%
1	1: less academic work		4	2.96%
2	2		8	5.93%
3	3		13	9.63%
4	4		44	32.59%
5	5		26	19.26%
6	6		15	11.11%
7	7: more academic work		22	16.30%
8	no opinion		3	2.22%
	Total		135	100.00%

How satisfied are you with the workshops?

#	Answer	Bar	Response	%
1	1: very unsatisfied		2	1.48%
2	2		5	3.70%
3	3		4	2.96%
4	4		10	7.41%
5	5		11	8.15%
6	6		18	13.33%
7	7: very satisfied		27	20.00%
8	no opinion		58	42.96%
	Total		135	100.00%

If you could make changes to the format of the <u>workshops</u>, what would those changes be?

Text Entry
They should not all be at the end. Many people were leaving on Thursday.
I'd like to see a higher-caliber of work. It seems like some of the best in the field are not presenting / publishing. It was hard to filter between good and bad presentations, some were very difficult to stay awake for. Some were excellent. In general, "academic" work is fine, so long as it is high-quality. "business" work is also interesting, so
this was my first year, so hard to make concrete suggestions now
Participated in the ReThink Health session. It was excellent!
Professionalize them. Add 2.day masterclasses.integrate some in conference program.
the healthcare sim. with Brad M. was OUTSTANDING!
There was not enough time to cover the facilitator's agenda. And people were not prepared in terms of software, which slowed everyone else down. Also, I don't know why I rushed to sign up: Everyone who wanted to seemingly just showed up and crowded the space.
On Modeling Assistant Workshop, spending about 30 minute and opaque suggestion are given..
The spaces were too big for a couple of them, but other that that, I thought they were fine as is. In a couple of cases a full-day experience was crammed into a half-day. There was both an upside and a downside to that.
Only do what's possible in the time available. The climate interactive was frustrating because there wasn't enough time to get into the task. Probably should have only attempted half of it. Fishstocks was very well run.

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

Text Entry
engaging with people that have been in the field for a very long time
My family's participation in the conference, two sons Pedro and Ramiro and my wife Betty, , a great experience for future training.
This was my first time, and as I'm very new to the field of system dynamics, I was just trying to get a sense of how SD is being used, and whether it is something I should pursue further. I got a sense that what other valued was that they didn't always have support for SD work at their home institutions, and coming together annually is a way
Keeping up on the latest research in other fields / areas / interest groups.
Catching up with people
Gathering new informatiom, networking
learned a lot, great vriety of presentations, nice to have substantial time for breaks
Networking
exchange with others, networking
Contacts with and see work of others.

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

Text Entry
meeting jay forrester and taking a pic with him
Having met and greeted with Khalid Saeed and Professor Jay W. Forrester and Ignacio Martínez-Moyano
Meeting people from all different fields who are passionate about their work and want to continue to build knowledge in SD.
Meeting new people with interesting ideas, and learning about how they hoped to use dynamic models
Meeting a few new people
networking
Conections with preofessionals in other fields
Meeting other researchers who have similar academic interest.
catching up with collaborators
nothing much happened this time. but valued meeting my colleagues from other insitututes

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

Text Entry
no time to sight see
I came away thinking, as mentioned above, that in some senses the conference provides moral support or fortification for people who do not get that elsewhere. That made me a little discouraged about pursuing SD as a method, since I wondered how much opposition I would have to constantly face. If this is a common theme, this is
Listening to people whine about how "people don't understand the value of SD." It would be great if people stopped complaining, and we were able to recruit people who have been successful to share their stories, instead of hearing how "hard" it is to do SD.
Nothing
I saw very little of the models. Should be more and maybe longer model expo sessions. And during the oral presentations, maybe a better way to show the models, their challenges and their insights...
nothing really
I can hardly find the opportunity to find the researcher who is interested in digital games distribution business..
Hotel location
expensive hotel food and limited opportunies to eat nearby
Sometimes the air conditioning was too cold.

Background information

#	Answer	Bar	Response	%
	Total		0	100.00%

Profession

#	Answer	Bar	Response	%
1	Consulting		21	16.03%
2	Higher education		47	35.88%
3	In-house SD practitioner (private sector)		2	1.53%
4	In-house SD practitioner (public sector)		4	3.05%
5	K-12 education		1	0.76%
6	Research using SD		35	26.72%
7	SD client/ customer		2	1.53%
8	Student		19	14.50%
	Total		131	100.00%

Other (please specify)

Text Entry
I think this category should allow multiple responses.
I am Board member and senior advisor of the Millennium Institute, which actively uses SD models for sustainable development.
I am working as a sytsems engineering the environmental research industry, but am also a SD graduate student at WPI.
Consultant/Higher Education
Think tank work: policy analysis on the interface of international relations and security
Nonprofit think tank
Researcher
Simulation tool developer
I need more formal training, and am looking to do a PhD starting next year.

Fields of interest (please check all that apply)

#	Answer	Bar	Response	%
1	Business policy		51	40.16%
2	Teaching		41	32.28%
3	Strategy		54	42.52%
4	Health		40	31.50%
5	Economic dynamics		47	37.01%
7	Energy and resources		57	44.88%
8	Environment and ecology		54	42.52%
9	Information science		24	18.90%
10	Methodology		59	46.46%
11	Operations management and supply chains		27	21.26%
12	Participatory problem solving		30	23.62%
13	Public policy		53	41.73%
14	Security		11	8.66%
15	Social and organizational dynamics		45	35.43%
	Total		593	100.00%

How often have you attended the SD conference before?

#	Answer	Bar	Response	%
1	Never, this was the first time I visited the SD conference		48	36.64%
2	1 time before		20	15.27%
3	2-5 times before		27	20.61%
4	6 times or more		36	27.48%
	Total		131	100.00%

Other (please specify)

Text Entry
Too much concerning the suntainability in the future, too little simulating unstable or chaotic real situation.. It is ridiculous..
i attend before UK Chapter for SD
5 times before this one, so 6 total
I appreciated the words from the System Dynamics Review editor about improving the quality of the journal.

Residence

#	Answer	Bar	Response	%
1	Africa		3	2.36%
2	Asia		13	10.24%
3	Europe		35	27.56%
4	South America		13	10.24%
5	Central America		1	0.79%
6	North America		61	48.03%
7	Ocenia		1	0.79%
	Total		127	100.00%

Other (please specify)

Text Entry
I divide my time between Asia (mostly Singapore) and Washington DC
Middle East
Netherlands
South Korea
caribbean
Caribbean
Bangladesh

Years as a system dynamicist (student)

Text Entry
10
4
Less than 1
2
4
2
9
7
4 years majour in the Computational Physics (Nolinear Dynamics)
2

Years as a system dynamicist (practitioner)

Text Entry
3
15
2
44
1
4
3 years
1
Just a half of year
20

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	Bar	Response	%
1	Yes, I own a smartphone		110	83.33%
2	No, I do not own a smartphone		22	16.67%
	Total		132	100.00%

Have you used the Conference Online Scheduler?

#	Answer	Bar	Response	%
1	Yes		45	34.35%
2	No		86	65.65%
	Total		131	100.00%

If you have used the Conference Online Scheduler, which device have you used? Please check all that apply.

#	Answer	Bar	Response	%
1	Computer		34	65.38%
2	Smartphone Wifi		18	34.62%
3	Smartphone 3/4G		17	32.69%
4	Tablet Wifi		9	17.31%
5	Tablet 3/4G		3	5.77%
	Total		81	100.00%

Any other comments you may have

Text Entry
This was a great conference in many respects, but see my opening comments about improving the quality of presentations. This is especially important for parallel session but also some plenaries. As I have noted, my earlier plenary presentation, too, fell short of the mark. I was please with my Lifetime Achievement Award
- I did not know there was an online scheduler.   - The sessions at lunch are really interesting, but it is kind of hard to get your lunch too - The coffee and tea and snacks were great!
Need wifi availability in the conference arena.
Don't overlook what might seem like trivial details--e.g., comfortable chairs make all the difference during a 90 minute session ;-)
A smartphone app, though, is a great idea.
I know folks work hard to put on this conference, and I applaud those efforts. I realize there is a tradeoff between maximizing attendance and giving presenters more time to cover their work, so perhaps the "20 minutes per speaker" is the right solution. To me, though, it's unsatisfying.
Would enjoy being able to use my iPad for this, but didn't take the time to figure it out.
Some things I'm interest in: There were some differences of opinion expressed on the use of CLDs before or after or instead of full SD models. It would be a good topic to discuss (or is this an ongoing topic?) in terms of what to do based on how much time and funds people have in the real world. What do non-academics do?
Looking forward to Delft!
why does this survey have the headline: Radboud University Nijmegen? :)

Additional comments that came in later

We have endeavored to leave poster up for longer than the Poster Symposium and I don't think the ability to view posters the next day was utilized very much by attendees at the DC, Swiss or Cambridge conference. If it is convenient, we can leave them up. But, I don't think it added value to the conference experience. Perhaps others have a different opinion?

Could be a better idea to have two poster sessions to decrease the number of presentations? Worth noting: dinner time food at the poster symposium costs about $15,000. Best, Roberta

Ms. Spencer,

After taking a week to think and reflect, I wanted to give you feedback about the conference. What started out rocky for our group ended up being an incredible experience. I have taken the Systems Dynamics course for two years now, and the only usage I have seen of the problem solving style was through Neal Mitchell (who has done amazing work with it, by the way). At the conference, I saw a variety of applications, ranging from

use for kindergartners to CEOs. Everyone was so friendly and welcoming, despite the age and schooling differences. We met people from all around the world and made connections with all sorts of people. For me, personally, I spoke to the WPI table multiple times about their Systems courses and their college, which is important to me as I will be going to college next year.

The presentations were, for the most part, eye-opening and insightful, to say the least. My favorites focused on education, biofuels, and global forecasting. Many of the presentations applied directly to what we have already done in our class, such as the presentation about the community garden and all of the education presentations. On top of it all, we spent Thursday working with STELLA and iThink. Although I had used them before, the workshop group gave me some new tricks, tools, and shortcuts. They were very helpful and I think our group truly benefited from the workshop. It has given us a head start on STELLA before the school year even begins, and has made Ms. Travers' and my job easier by helping show the students how and why STELLA works (which can be difficult to explain in a classroom sitting). The presentations have certainly given us a lot to think about and shape our course with as we proceed into its third year.

My only regret was with Camtasia; I was looking forward to helping presenters record their work, and I only wish some had signed up. It was a fantastic idea, and would have been a great opportunity for them,

As a recommendation for the conference in the coming years: the workshop day was incredibly helpful, and so helpful, in fact, that it would be better placed at the *beginning* on the conference. I know a few members of my group had the perspective of never learning about Systems before, and they would have found it especially beneficial.

As an added bonus, we got to hear from Jay Forester, who has a lot of great ideas to share with the world. It was an honor to meet him/ have a "fireside chat".

Thank you, from the bottom of our hearts, for this opportunity.I think I can speak for everyone when I say that I really enjoyed this conference, and learned from it too. You should be receiving emails from the other individuals that went, or from Ms. Travers, where everyone will tell you their own thoughts about the conference. Overall, it went very well, and we were very pleased with the outcome. Again, we cannot than you enough. This was possibly a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for some of us, and we are so grateful for your efforts and for the Society.