Proposal for Conference Proceedings
Drafted and revised by Len Malcyzinski, Bob Eberlein, and George Richardson
Considered and commented on by
- Pål Davidsen and Etiënne Rouwette, Conference Program co-chairs for the Delft Conference in 2014.
- Publications Committee
- Roberta Spencer

Goals
- Improve the quality of publically available conference papers
- Contribute to improving the reputation of the field.

The idea
- *Web Proceedings,* consisting of:
  - *Abstracts* of all presentations at the conference, with links to authors
  - *Selected papers*
    - Refereed and chosen by the Thread Chairs and Conference Program Chairs
    - Abridged to enable subsequent journal publication
- *Paper/CD proceedings*: None

Details
- Deadlines for abstracts and papers remain as traditionally listed.
- Papers submitted for review and acceptance for presentation at the conference appear online on the Conference web site as they do now, from the time of submission until the close of the Conference.
- All papers and abstracts are removed from the conference web site roughly within a month after the close of the conference.
- The *Web Proceedings,* consisting of *Abstracts* and *Selected Papers*, appears on the System Dynamics Society web site roughly a month after the Conference, when authors of selected papers have submitted their final versions and the Society Office can handle the processing.
- The target percentage for *Selected Papers* might be 20%, but can vary, depending on the quality and quantity of the pool of submitted papers.
- This proposal is intended to into effect for all System Dynamics Society Conferences beginning in 2015.

Process for implementation
- Len, Bob, and George refine and agree on this document.
- The Program Co-Chairs for the 2014 Conference, Etiënne and Pål, work with Len, Bob, and George until the proposal document is endorsed by them.
- The proposal is shared with the Publications Committee for their contributions and endorsement.
- The proposal then goes to the Policy Council for its endorsement, or for their thoughts on sharing the proposal with the Society before it is implemented.

- Len, Bob and George create the conference website paragraph about this and instructions that get included on the Web Portal submission pages. They also volunteer to write the canned email message (presumably signed by the Program Co-Chairs) that will get sent to unhappy authors.

Concerns	Responses
Some participants reportedly can't attend if their paper is not published in a proceedings	A necessary result of instituting a proceedings policy that helps grow the field
ISBN number on Web Proceedings?	Yes
Who makes the initial selection of papers to appear in full or abridged in the Web Proceedings	Thread chairs and Conference chairs
What criteria do Thread Chairs and Program co-chars use to decide the abridged papers to appear in the proceedings	Their own understandings of the quality of work that would enhance the reputation of the field, just like editors and reviewers of the *Review*
Guidelines for paper selection?	None, other than the above general mandate
How many papers are reviewed?	All of them, as we do now
Fraction of papers to appear (abridged) in the Web Proceedings?	Academy of Management uses 10%. Let's use 15%-20%, roughly 45 to 60 papers out of 300.
Final selection of (abridged) papers for the Web Proceedings?	Program co-chairs, from their own scan of conference papers and the recommendations of the Thread Chairs
How to handle the workload?	Just as we do now, e.g., 300 papers, 14 threads, averages to 20+ papers per thread. Traditionally, program co-chairs look at all of them.
How to abridge papers for inclusion in the Web Proceedings	Authors decide, with length subject to a length criterion set by Pub Com
When to implement the new policy	Starting in 2015
What to do if the Society decides to do a test year of some sort of hybrid design?	Reject this proposal – such a test would always bias toward the status quo
What to do if the Society insists on publishing all conference papers somehow?	Reject this proposal and continue with business as usual, as unattractive as that sounds.
Who decides that this proposal becomes the procedure for all Society conferences?	Not clear. The Policy Council sounds like the likely group, but experience probably lies with the Publications Committee and past conference program chairs