

## 2015 Cambridge, MA, USA Conference Report for Winter Policy Council Meeting on Feb 23, 2015

Submitted on behalf of the Conference Team by Roberta L. Spencer

**Conference Attendance:** The conference had 490 registrants and 38 guests from 44 countries.

Conference Year	Members	Students	Authors	New	Registrants
2015 Cambridge	66%	27%	60%	34%	490
2014 Delft	64%	28%	62%	33%	485
2013 Cambridge	66%	23%	51%	33%	543
2012 St Gallen	68%	24%	58%	40%	455
2011 DC	61%	21%	50%	42%	550

**Conference Sponsors:** Conference Partners were Ventana Systems/Greenwood Strategic Advisors, and PA Consulting Group. Our Champion Sponsor was SACU. For a full list of conference sponsors, please see the permanent Cambridge Conference website: <http://www.systemdynamics.org/conferences/2015/index.html>, and click on “Partners and Sponsors.”

**Conference Organizers:** Program Chairs, Karim Chichakly and Khalid Saeed; Workshop Chairs, Jack Homer and Hazhir Rahmandad; and Conference Manager, Roberta Spencer worked alongside home office staff members Robin Langer, Erin Sheehan, Weijia Ran, LouAnne Lundgren, and Joan Yanni, as well as many volunteers to make the conference a success.

**Program:** The Resources thread had the highest percentage of papers reviewed. Individual thread percentages were as follows on reviewed and accepted papers. The paper rejection rate was just over 14%.

Resources	14%	Learning and Teaching	6%
Business	11%	Operations	5%
Methodology	11%	Strategy	5%
Public Policy	10%	Information and Knowledge	4%
Health	9%	Human Behavior	3%
Environment	9%	Security	3%
Economics	6%	Stakeholder Engagement	3%

473 submissions were handled through the online system. Submission types included plenary, parallel, poster, workshop, roundtables, meetings, PhD submissions, and other miscellaneous items. We sincerely appreciate the efforts of the hundreds of dedicated conference paper reviewers. Over the past few years, this table below shows how many reviews have been assigned and completed.

Conference Year	Reviews Assigned	Reviews Completed	% Completed
2015 Cambridge	988	878	88.86%
2014 Delft	1127	996	88.38%
2013 Cambridge	1086	1002	92.27%
2012 St Gallen	1227	1067	86.96%
2011 DC	999	927	92.79%

New events in 2015 included CPA Continuing Professional Education credits in association with NASBA, the Publishing Assistance Workshop, the Global Economy Panel, a Dance, Morning and Afternoon Breaks with Poster Sessions (total of 6 sessions), K-12 Poster Display through Creative Learning Exchange, and the Places and Spaces Mapping Science Exhibit.

Successful continuing events included the Welcome Reception, Award Ceremonies, PhD Colloquium, Roundtables, Modeling Assistance Workshop, Thursday Workshop Day including “Getting Started With ... Software” Workshops, PC Meet and Greet, Sunday HPSIG Session, Business Day, the Model Expo, Exhibitor Demonstrations, Summer School, Red Ribbon Event, Users’ Group Meetings, Spouses’ Lounge and the Newcomer Orientation Session.

**Finances:** The Cambridge Conference surplus was about \$30,000 (this number will change somewhat after the annual review by our CPA). The conference revenue goal was estimated between \$9,000 and \$46,000, with the budget-estimated registration count between 500 and 615. Actual registrations were 490, which is on the low side for a Boston-based conference. Revenues from registration were lower than the “pessimistic” budget expectation, but sponsorship lines were strong. On the expense side, costs were as estimated.

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