System Dynamics Society

2017 Winter Policy Council Meeting

VP Membership Report by Özge Pala

There are two issues to report on.

1) Questions from the society's Iranian Members
   This issue is supported by VP Chapters Stefano Armenia

   Due to the Travel Ban to the United States, Iranian members most probably will not be able to attend the conference this year. They are disappointed and frustrated with the developments. And they would appreciate any support from the society. They have questions regarding the conference and their papers. Their specific questions are as follows:

   - If members' VISA applications are rejected:
     o would their paper still be in the proceedings?
     o would their conference registration fee be refunded?
     o is it possible that one of the reviewers can present their research? (in order to collect feedback from the attendees.)
     o If not, would it be possible to allocate a special time and area for these papers to be presented as posters, so that people can write their comments for the authors?

   - If the new regulations continue for four more years, will the next conference in 2-yrs time still be in the US?

2) SIG reports.
   - In 2016, two new SIGs were recognized by the society: Asset Dynamics and Transportation.

   - The name of the Psychology SIG was changed to Psychology and Human Behavior SIG.

   - Most SIGs (11/13) submitted a full report (please see the supporting file). You can see a summary of their past activities, planned activities, and support requested in the table below. In general, most SIGs have plans for activities in the coming year.

   - Some specific requests for help are as follows:

     o PR for SIG activities, efforts, and products (Asset Dynamics SIG, Business SIG, Agriculture and Food SIG)
     o Assist with networking (to external potential project sponsors) (Biomedical SIG and Agriculture and Food SIG)

o Fund to organize events (Transportation SIG) – They are now informed of the 'Field Development' Fund and might send an application to VP Chapters.

o Support for putting in place a content management system for the webpage – for a WordPress based publication compilation portal to be used (Energy SIG)
o Time and financial support for SD eXchange - Would the Society consider adopting Google Apps for Non Profits? (Business SIG)
o Tools for webinars and i-frames for resource library on the society website (Asset Dynamics SIG) – Purpose is to make the society website a place for knowledge sharing
o Go-To-Meeting license or a similar platform (Agriculture and Food SIG)
o Webinar license or platform (Agriculture and Food SIG)

o Critique of SIG original vision and strategy statement by a small selected group of experienced SDS thought leaders (Biomedical SIG)

o Access to databases of previous conferences

SIG	Activities last year	Planned activities	Support needed
Agriculture and Food	4 online presentations (Babak Bahaddin, Georgina Limón, Lucia Avila) - Presentation of SIG and SDS to ILHAM – EC Erasmus+ project partners - Facebook group and Website launching - Standardized volunteer procedures - One problem: Low participation	- Online meetings with keynote speakers - Provide model and paper evaluation prior to the conference - Online tools for collaboration on model building and sharing - Involve volunteers in SIG activities - Online repository - Challenge: Promotion of activities	- For promoting group and activities and making connections – advise on how other SIGs are doing this. - A Go-To-Meeting license or a similar platform - A Webinar license or platform - Access to databases of previous conferences
Asset Dynamics	- A New SIG - Pre-founding workshop	- Asset Dynamics Library/ Database - Two webinars - SIG meeting at ISDC 2017 - Build relations to some other SIGs and external institutions	- PR for SIG activities - Make the website more a place for knowledge sharing, for example by providing tools for webinars and i-frames to Asset Dynamics Library
Biomedical	Annual business meeting at past conference, but no participants	- A successful Annual Business Meeting - Establish a communication link with the SIG Membership to - Query the SIG membership for examples of success stories and planned projects - Convert more than 50% of the LinkedIn SIG with the same name to SDS Associate SIG Membership - Engage the converted group with the benefits of SDS Full Membership - Launch a sponsored Biomedical Dynamics modeling project aimed at real world application under the guidance of a qualified Clinical Investigator, a project which engages a small group of SDS SIG Members with modeling.	- Have a small selected group of experienced SDS thought leaders critique our original vision and strategy we put forth in 2011 with a view to making our plans more operational within the context of the SDS. - Assist with networking to external potential project sponsors for inside the skin dynamic modeling applications.

Business	4 Webinars (Kim Warren X2, Jim Rogers, Tim Clancy)	- Webinar Series – BSIG YouTube channel *Success Stories* – stories.systemdynamics.org *Case repository* – cases.systemdynamics.org *SDX* – The System Dynamics eXchange *New:* *Strategic planning model* *Book of SD Applications* *Case competition*	- Help promoting the products and efforts of the Business SIG - Professional development time and financial support for SD eXchange - Society to consider deploying Google Apps for Non Profits
Conflict, Defense, and Security			
Education			
Energy	- Achieved shifting the website to be uniform with the other SIGs - Linked in Group - Creation of Mailing list for very active members - Creation of google groups	- Compile a listing of suitable energy and system dynamics publications to be included on the SIG website - More adequate use of our googlegroups and mailing list for information sharing - Collect a list of energy journals where SD articles were published before - Annual meeting at the International SD conference	Support for putting in place a content management system for the webpage – for a WordPress based publication compilation portal to be used
Environmental	- Two new co-representatives: Jennifer Johnson (Washington State University, WA, USA) and Eline de Jong (Wageningen University & Research, Wageningen, NL). - Facebook page: https://web.facebook.com/SDSEnvironmental SIG/		

	• Google spreadsheet with all member information that is accessible to all members • A shared folder used as a repository to share papers/publications etc.		
Health Policy	• A half-day meeting at the annual conference • Joint work was undertaken in the field of drugs policy	SIG provides opportunities for members / interested parties, to seek mentoring, and members of the SIG are involved in the Lupina award process	The field is believed to be healthy and growing, but most SD practice in this domain happens without the need for support from the SIG.
Information Science and Information Systems	Developing relationships with the Technical Debt conference, HICSS, and other meeting sites.	Data-driven decision sciences and organizational-theory/model-based decision sciences workshop (2018)	
Model Analysis	The SIG has been rather dormant this year.		Seeking to transition leadership to an individual with capacity for organizing more activities.
Psychology and Human Behavior	• Name Change • SIG meeting at the conference with guest speaker (Dana Ilmari Polojärvi) • Modeling Support to Members • Created a System Dynamics and History Working group • Maintains relationship with Society for Community Research and Action, Society for Public Health Education, African Organization for Research and Training in Cancer, Michigan State University, Office of University Outreach and Engagement, Innovations in Collaborative Modeling Conference	Pascal is co-chair of the Human Behavior thread for the 2016 SDS Conference	
Transportation	• A New SIG • Have set up a website and google group for communication purposes • Submitted an application for a special parallel session in Boston this year	Meet as a SIG at the conference and plan the real first year activities	• Funds to help organize activities. • Fund for example some travel or catering if we were to organize a workshop in say Rome – to pay for speakers travel or a meal for those who attend etc.?