2020 Conference Site Selection

Recommendation of the Administrative Committee to the Policy Council

Date: April 23, 2018

Background

During the winter Policy Council meeting preliminary proposals for hosting the 2020 conference were presented by Dan Arthur (London) and Pål Davidsen with Birgit Kopainsky (Bergen). The reaction to both proposals was positive, and the presenters were asked to complete more details while the Administrative Committee was tasked with reviewing the completed proposals and making a recommendation to the Policy Council so a vote could be taken in early May. Working with Donna Johnson at Capitol Hill both teams completed their proposals.

Conference site selection 2020

The Administrative Committee carefully reviewed the two proposals for the location of the 2020 International Conference of the System Dynamics Society. Each of the proposals provided quantitative and qualitative data related to holding the conference in the two locations: Bergen, Norway and London, England. The London proposal has two suggested formats: a 'traditional' conference (plenaries, parallels, and workshops) and an 'outreach' conference (plenaries and workshops). The Bergen Proposal had two suggested sets of dates, July 18-23 and August 1-6.

Both of the proposals were felt to be very attractive and both sites could provide excellent opportunities to promote systems thinking and system dynamics. There was active discussion of the outreach ideas in the London proposal as noted below. Ultimately, the consensus was that the Bergen proposal for the July 18-23 dates was the best choice for 2020 as is reflected in the suggested motion at the end of this report. The Bergen proposal was lower cost for the same number of participants and most on the committee felt there was more certainty around the manageability of those costs.

The committee strongly encourages the London, England proposal team to work with the Society's Vice President of meetings and program oversight committee to develop a wining proposal for the next opportunity in 2022.

Outreach Conference Format

The notion of an "outreach" conference outlined in the London proposal is quite different from what we have traditionally done, and very exciting. We can also imagine no better place for such a conference to take place than London, nor a better support group than the UK Chapter of the Society, a Chapter that has a demonstrated track record of putting on events and supporting the international conference.

The Administrative Committee encourages the London proposers to engage in conversations with the VP Meetings, the Program Oversight Committee and other interested Society members to configure an outreach conference. This could be done as part of the regular international conference, in conjunction with it, or as a separate event. All options provide interesting opportunities worth exploring. It is our hope to see this exciting new format come to fruition by the end of 2022.

<u>Suggested Motion</u>

Moved, that the 2020 International Conference of the System Dynamics Society be held in Bergen Norway from July 18-23 as outlined in the proposal submitted by Birgit Kopainsky.

We encourage discussion of this motion followed by an electronic vote following our standard procedure for electronic voting.

Respectfully,
Bob Eberlein, Chair Administrative Committee

Members:
David Andersen
Leonard Malczynski
Ignacio Martinez-Moyano
John Morecroft
Brad Morrison
Eliot Rich
Martin Schaffernicht