

Wednesday, April 6, 2022

[Recording](#)
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Attendees

Voting: Asmeret Naugle, Kawika Pierson, Paul Newton, Scott Rockart, Jenson Goh, Diana Fisher, Sara Metcalf, Shayne Gary, Raafat Zaini, Lees Stuntz, Krys Stave, Paulo Gonçalves, THomas Wittig, Bob Eberlein, Munaf Aamir, Will Glass-Husain, Hyunjung Kim, David Keith

Non-voting: Billy Schoenberg, Raquel Buzogany, Rebecca Niles

President Shayne Gary started the meeting by revisiting the topic and sharing the procedure for the discussion and pathway to decisions.

Shayne opened the floor for discussion. The following people shared their opinion: Bob, Billy, Will, Lees, Asmeret, Jenson, Munaf, Paulo, Krys, Rebecca, Raafat. General consensus was that statement #5 was supported and some elements from statement #4 could also be considered.

Statement #5:

Our hearts go out to those who are suffering because of Russia's invasion of Ukraine. There are many Ukrainian practitioners of System Dynamics, and we hope they will be able to continue work in the field. To help with this, the System Dynamics Society is waiving conference fees for all those from Ukraine who are able to attend this year's conference either in person, or virtually. We are also waiving Society membership fees. We have asked the Program Chairs for this year's conference and the System Dynamics Review Editor to highlight the work of Ukrainians where possible. For those who seek financial support for research projects and other activities in System Dynamics we are prioritizing applications by Ukrainians to the Strengthening the Field Fund.

The Society will also cease associations with any organization, including Society Chapters, that is part of, or participates in activities supporting the Russian Government, the Russian military, or any entity or individual sanctioned by the US government.

1. Waive 2022 conference fees for anyone from Ukraine (virtual or in-person).
2. Waive Society membership fees for anyone from Ukraine until the end of 2023.
3. Encourage the STFF to give priority to applications from Ukraine.
4. Encourage journal editor and conference Program Chairs to highlight contributions by Ukrainians.
5. Stop association with any organization supporting Russia's invasion of Ukraine
 - a. Russian chapter if they do not withdraw from their upcoming conference
 - b. Any sponsors or exhibitors with ties to the Russian military or government or any sanctioned organization or individual (I don't think there are any)

Bob moved to approve, as a block, actions 1 through 3 from statement #5, Sara seconded. Discussion revolved around the operationalization and breadth of the actions. Friendly amendments were suggested by Paulo and Will regarding the timing for waiving the membership fees and accepted by Bob leading to an amendment in action 2. Discussion then revolved around how the STFF could be used to meet the needs of Ukrainian system dynamicists. Asmeret proposed a rewording of action 3 so that the STFC could assist with appropriate STFF proposals from Ukrainians, which was accepted by Bob. The PC then proceeded to vote to approve actions 1 through 3 as below. The motion passed unanimously.

1. Waive 2022 conference fees for anyone from Ukraine (virtual or in-person).
2. Waive Society membership fees for anyone from Ukraine through the end of 2023.
3. Encourage Ukrainian Society members to work with the STFF to create appropriate proposals.

Bob moved to approve action 4 from statement #5. Lees seconded. Discussion included high-quality work, interference with SDR editors and conference chairs, assumptions of opportunities Ukrainians would like to express themselves, conference perks that could be made available, and the difference between expressing a sentiment (to convene in the minutes what seemed to have some level of approval) or voting for the motion. The PC proceeded to vote to approve action 4 as below. The motion passed.

4. Encourage journal editor and conference Program Chairs to highlight contributions by Ukrainians.

Bob moved to approve action 5 from statement #5 without the original bullet points. Diana seconded. Discussion revolved around the Society's ties to the Russian Chapter. Bob amended the action and the PC proceeded to vote to approve action 5 as below. The motion passed.

5. Stop association with all organizations and activities supporting or facilitating Russia's invasion of Ukraine and ensure there are no connections on our website or other publications.

The PC then went over the statement and Bob made amendments to align the statement with the approved actions. Bob moved to approve the statement with possible editorial adjustments by the home office. Diana seconded. The motion passed.

Our hearts go out to those who are suffering because of Russia's invasion of Ukraine. There are many Ukrainian practitioners of System Dynamics, and we hope they will be able to continue work in the field. To help with this, the System Dynamics Society is waiving conference fees for all those from Ukraine who are able to attend this year's conference either in person, or virtually. We are also waiving Society membership fees. We have asked the Program Chairs for this year's conference and the System Dynamics Review Editor to highlight the work of Ukrainians. For those who seek financial support for research projects and other activities in System Dynamics we are prioritizing applications by Ukrainians to the Strengthening the Field Fund.

The Society will also cease association with all organizations and activities supporting or facilitating Russia's invasion of Ukraine and ensure there are no connections on our website or other publications.

The scale of loss in this conflict is enormous, and much of it is irreversible. While the System Dynamics Society can only play a very small part in helping, we want our colleagues from Ukraine to know that we stand with them.

Shayne asked where to publicize the statement and actions. Bob stated the home office could be tasked with this responsibility and it could go on the news section.

Bob moved to adjourn. Sara seconded. Meeting adjourned.