# Initial Draft for Discussion
# Potential new submission categories

Submitted in conjunction with the Publications Strategy Report

The Publications Committee

September 21, 2022

To be introduced at the Policy Council meeting on September 28, 2022 and further discussed at an open Publications Committee meeting on October 5, 2022

The Publication Strategy identifies three key areas for action that can reinforce one another and make the SDR a strong and vibrant journal going forward. To increase practitioner and educator relevance we are considering broadening the types of submissions, and the submissions review process, by adding two new submission categories as described below. These are in draft form, and a number of practical issues need to be worked out to bring them to fruition, but hopefully are helpful in articulating steps to be taken.

We welcome comments and suggestions.

NOTE:

The Publications Committee is considering having a commentary accompany each Applications and Engagements or Educational Endeavors article.  The Commentary is intended to highlight what is interesting and unique, other ways the problem might have been approached, and what is generalizable. The commentary will be written by one of the reviewers or another person selected by the Editors who does not have any first-hand knowledge of the work. The review process is thus blind during evaluation, but not during revision and publication.

In all cases, the author of the commentary may include independently generated drawings, diagrams, or models to help illustrate important points. All such artifacts will be included either directly in the published article or as supplementary material.

# DRAFT
# Applications and Engagements

While we welcome full length research articles detailing consulting and other application work, we want to be sure additional work, whether limited in scope or not presented in an academic fashion, is also represented. To this end, we solicit case studies of applications and engagements that demonstrate the benefits, and pitfalls, in applying System Dynamics to solving real world problems. The goal in this category is to show what is being done, and to provide useful insights into both the problems under investigation and the process used to address those problems. Qualitative and quantitative work are both welcome, as are discussions of the details of executing the work, the process used to engage stakeholders, and the artifacts resulting from the work. These papers must include rigorous reflection on the insights gained from the case in addition to the descriptions of the engagements.  The goal of publishing this type of work is to advance the use of system dynamics in applied problem-solving by learning from examples.

Submissions in this category will evaluated by the editors and at least one reviewer.

There are no specific length or organizational requirements for Application and Engagement submissions. Authors are encouraged to focus on elements of the work that make it stand out, whether the response and understanding of the stakeholders, the nature of the recommendations, the artifacts resulting from the work, or the challenges of execution. To the extent possible details around who the stakeholders are and the exact nature of the analysis and recommendations are welcome, but it is acceptable to mask sensitive information from actual data values to the name of the client. Similarly, all artifacts including illustrations, diagrams, and models are welcome, but can be excluded or transformed as necessary to protect confidential information.

Technical elements of the work, such as process description, knowledge elicitation frameworks, and model formulations are welcome as part of the submission. Shorter submissions focusing on these technical elements should be directed to Notes and Insights.

Again, the goal is to publish what is being done, what has worked, and what has failed. If you have done something that you think others can learn from, we hope you will share it.

------------------------------------ Draft review rubric

1. Are the objectives of the work clearly articulated?
2. Does the writeup clearly explain what was done, how and by whom?
3. Does this work demonstrate the value or potential of system dynamics?
4. Is it clear what was learned and by whom during the engagement?
5. Are there lessons that are broadly applicable to practitioners?
6. For identified shortcomings are alternative approaches articulated?

# DRAFT
# Educational Endeavors

While we welcome full length research articles dealing with teaching, learning, and the classroom use of System Dynamics, we want to be sure the breadth of activities and techniques for teaching, and teaching with, System Dynamics gets full coverage. To this end we are soliciting descriptions and reflections on classroom, training, and mentorship work that show the usefulness of System Dynamics, as well as effective ways to teach it. This applies to the full spectrum of activity from the kindergarten classroom to PhD seminars, commercial workshops, and on-the-job training. The focus of these submissions should be on the approach to teaching, how and what the students learn, and how that learning fits in with other curriculum or job needs. From qualitative system exploration to quantitative modeling work to results presentation and communication we hope that you will share your experiences teaching.

Submissions in this category will evaluated by the editors and at least one reviewer who does not know the identities of the author at the time of evaluation. Collaborative submissions, comparing and contrasting different approaches, are encouraged.

There are no specific length or organizational requirements for Educational Endeavors submissions. Authors are encouraged to focus on elements of the activities that make it stand out, whether student engagement, community engagement, fit in curriculum, synergies with other subject areas, ease of others taking up the approach, or techniques for coordinating prerequisites. Authors are encouraged to share materials used in teaching, including lesson plans, examples explored, and sample solutions as well as work developed by the students or trainees whether simple drawings or complete models. Such material can be included either directly in the submitted article or as supplementary material.

Success is not a prerequisite. The goal is to publish what is being done, what has worked, and what has failed. If you have done something that you think others can learn from, we hope you will share it.


----------------------------------- Draft review rubric

1. Is the relevance to System Dynamics clear?
2. Does the submission clearly explain what was done, how and by whom?
3. Is it clear what was learned and by whom?
4. Are the lessons broadly applicable to teaching?
5. Does the context for teaching generalize to other settings?
6. For areas of difficulty (things that did not work well) are alternative approaches articulated?