System Dynamics Society

2024
Policy Council Meeting

Mar 27, 2024

11:00 - 12:30 New York Time

CHECK-IN

Where would you most like to travel for ISDC?

QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS

Enter HU in chat OR enter your question or comment

http://bit.ly/SDSpcnotes

2024 Policy Council Meeting - February

0:05 Welcome and Agenda (Allyson)
0:10 Motions (Allyson)
0:30 Dashboard and Exec Director Report - Volunteers (Rebecca)
0:05 VP & Committee Reports
    0:05 Strategy Committee Update (Allyson)
    0:05 Suggestions for Topics for Next Meetings? (Allyson)
0:40 Building Towards Our Future (Allyson)
    0:20 Discussion
    0:20 Debrief
Adjournment

President's Welcome

Allyson Beall King
Washington State University

- Welcome everyone!
- Fill out Conflict of Interest Form

2024 PC Motions Summary (Allyson)

VOICE VOTE TODAY

- Organization and Bylaws Committee
- Publications Committee
- John Ansah VP Meetings to fill open position

PASSED (**bold** items passed in or since last meeting)

- (1112) Motion to approve the 2025 slate of candidates (Brad)
- (1111) Motion for Jeroen Struben at Large member of the Exec Committee (Allyson)
- (1109) Motion to Hold 2024 General Business Meeting on Jul 30 (Bob)
- (1106) 2027 Program Chair Appointment (Bob)

Motion to Approve Policy Council Minutes

February, 2024

Moved by Lees Stuntz

To approve the Policy Council Meeting Minutes February, 2024

Motion to Appoint…

Moved by Allyson Beall King

… John Ansah as VP Meetings (partial term 2024)

… Brad Morrisson as member (2023-2025) of the Organization and Bylaws Committee

… Lees Stuntz as member (2024-2026) of the Organization and Bylaws Committee

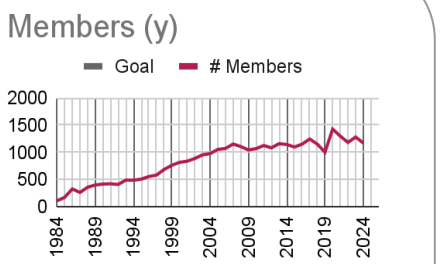
… Krys Stave as member (partial term 2024) of the Publications Committee

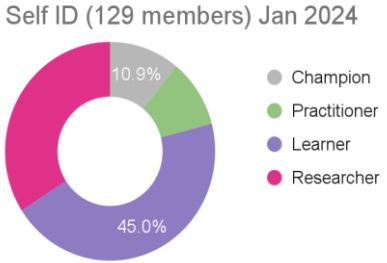
… Karan Khosla as member (2024-2026) of the Publications Committee

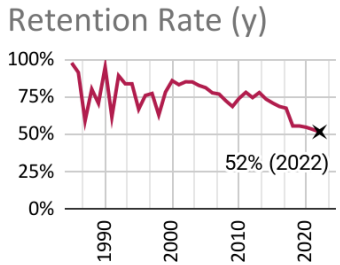
Dashboard of SDS Objectives and Key Results (WIP)

Last Update
2024-02-22

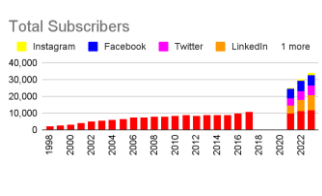
Membership

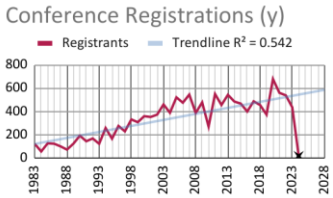


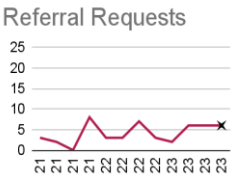




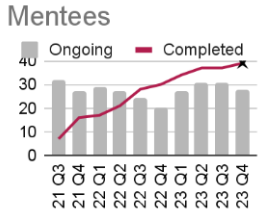
Awareness

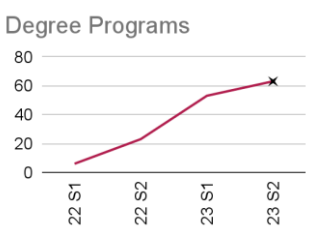


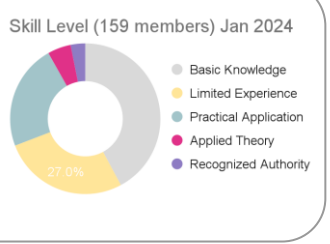




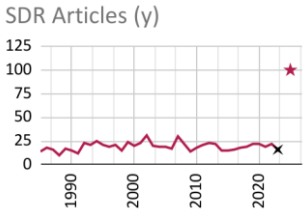
Knowledge & Skills

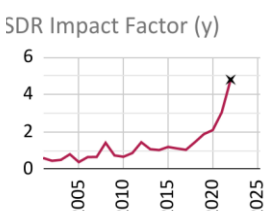


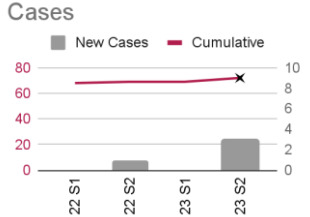




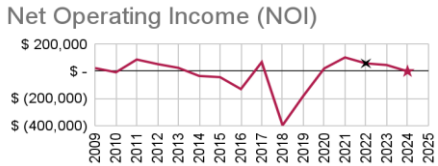
High-quality Outputs

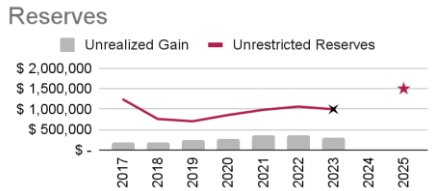


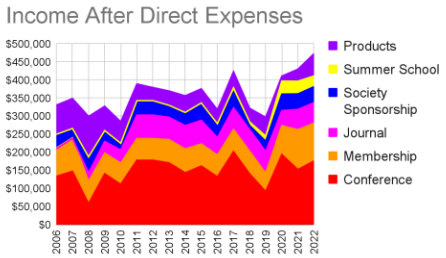




Financial Health





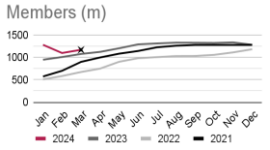


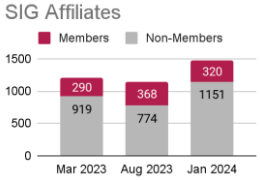
Operational Metrics

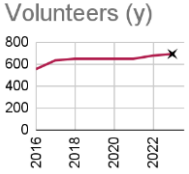
Published Articles and % Articles in Top Quartile Journals

Last Update 2024-02-22

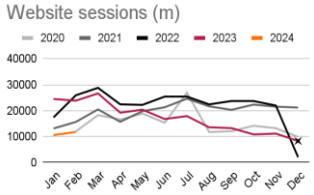
Membership

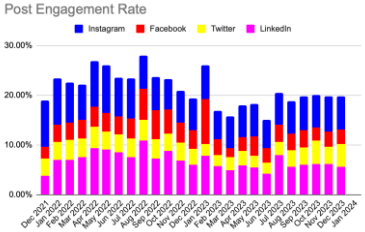


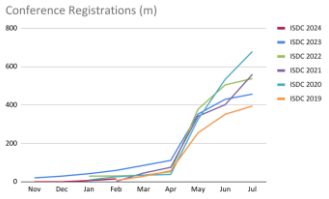


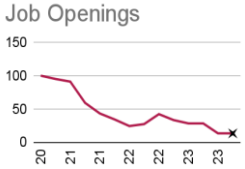


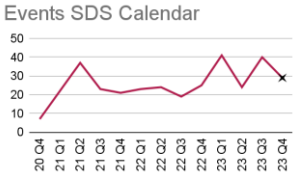
Awareness



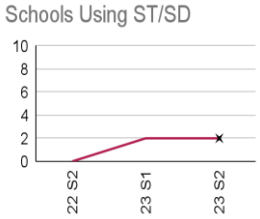


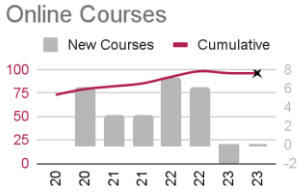


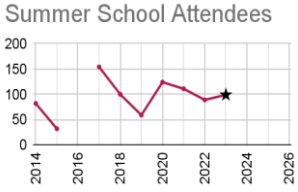




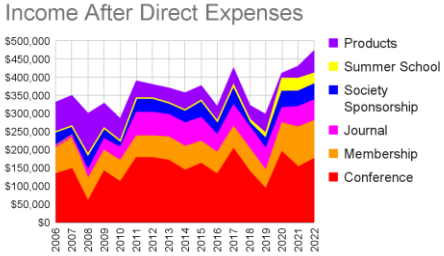
Learning

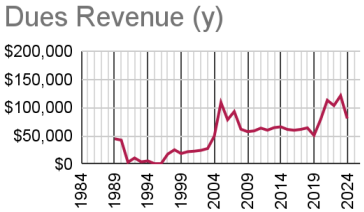


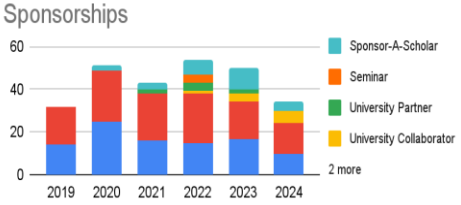




Financials







Gold Transparency 2023 Candid.

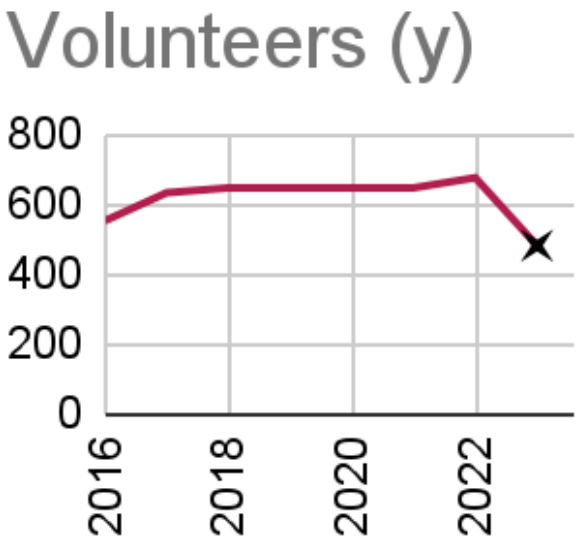
Paydex score
80
LOW RISK

Delinquency Predictor Percentile
94
LOW RISK

Financial Stress Percentile
78
LOW-MODERATE RISK

Supplier Evaluation Risk Rating
1
LOW RISK

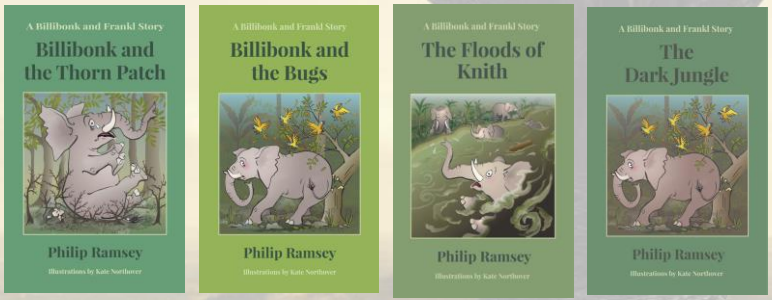
Dashboard Deep Dive - 2023 Volunteers



- 268 Reviewers
- 25 Policy Council Members
- 6 AVPs
- 47 Committee Members
- 7 Conference Organizers
- 40 Thread Chairs
- 37 Conference Volunteers
- 28 Chapter Reps
- 18 SIG Reps
- 31 SDR Publication Team
- 11 Summer School Instructors
- **70 Volunteer Applicants**

Some Successful Outcomes

University SD/ST	2024	2023
Programs	66	48
Courses	162	130



- **University Innovation Team**
  - Database of Courses and Programs
  - Working Toward Sharing Intro to SD Curriculum (Workshop at ISDC)
  - Roundtable Discussions at ISDC
- **Billibonk Copyediting**
  - 6 out of 9 volunteers sent feedback
  - Potential translation opportunities:
    - German (Hans)
    - Korean (Benjamin)
    - Turkish (In Progress)

Executive Director OKR Updates (Rebecca Niles)

Volunteer Engagement

		POINTS TO NOTE
Getting Sign Ups	☺	• 151 Sign ups in 2022 • 70 Signups in 2023 • 12 Sign Ups in 2024 to Date
Onboarding	☹	• Hard to match with projects and onboard • Many need oversight and hard to oversee.
Keeping Engaged	☹	• Takes a lot of time from staff to maintain connection. • No solid pipeline to leadership. • Hard to provide what they want in terms of engagement

Legend: ☹ = stuck 😐 = not progressing as intended ☺ = on track

How Might We Better Engage Volunteers?

Strategy Options Matrix for Volunteer Sign Up

Current

Proposed

DOMAINS	OPTIONS				
Source	Reactive	Mix	Proactive		
Application	Share Interests	Share Interests w/ Some Speciic Projects	Open Positions Only		
Oversight	Office	Mix	Committees	AVPs	VPs
Placement	Special Projects	Conference Volunteers	Committee Positions	AVP Positions	VP Positions
Purpose	Get More Projects Done	Engage More Cohorts in Leadership	Mix		

What are the issues, opportunities, and obstacles to effective volunteer mobilization?

Discussion

- How might we..
  - Better Engage Volunteers
  - Improve Volunteer Recognition
- Would anyone like to serve as advisors to the office on this?

Strategy Committee Update

Allyson Beall King
Washington State University

- Has Not Yet Met
- Making request to one member to take this on.

Where Do We Want to Be in 10 Years?

Allyson Beall King
Washington State University

1. People:

What can be improved within the Society?

- Diversity (gender, geography, career stage) and early career involvement
- More room for early career members and engaged younger folks for creating new leaders in the field.
- Knowledge about decision making gets lost with changes in leadership.
- Disconnect between SDS and Chapters

What are the leverage points?

- Mentoring for professional development throughout career (Certification?)
- Bringing in stronger younger scholars will enhance the sustainability of the community in terms of longer commitment.
- Enhancing onboarding of new members
- More fun stuff: Socializing, parties, games, etc. for the society, and also for the PC

2. Relevance

What can be improved within the Society?

- High turnover rate in the conference and understanding where that comes from
- Remain relevant in the world of AI, data science, etc.

What are the leverage points?

- More hype around SD (like we see with AI
- Good marketing - reframing to topics that sound more attractive and applicable to different areas
- Leveraging the public lecture platform for expanding audience and members
- Pop science books on SD

3. Growing:

What can be improved within the Society?

- Impression there is a reduction in high impact practical projects.
- Greater recognition and reconciliation of the schools of thought, not to diminish quality in any school or try to artificially elevate any one school, but to discuss the differences and perceptions between schools (not sure what “schools” means here is this quantitative -SD vs qualitative - ST?)

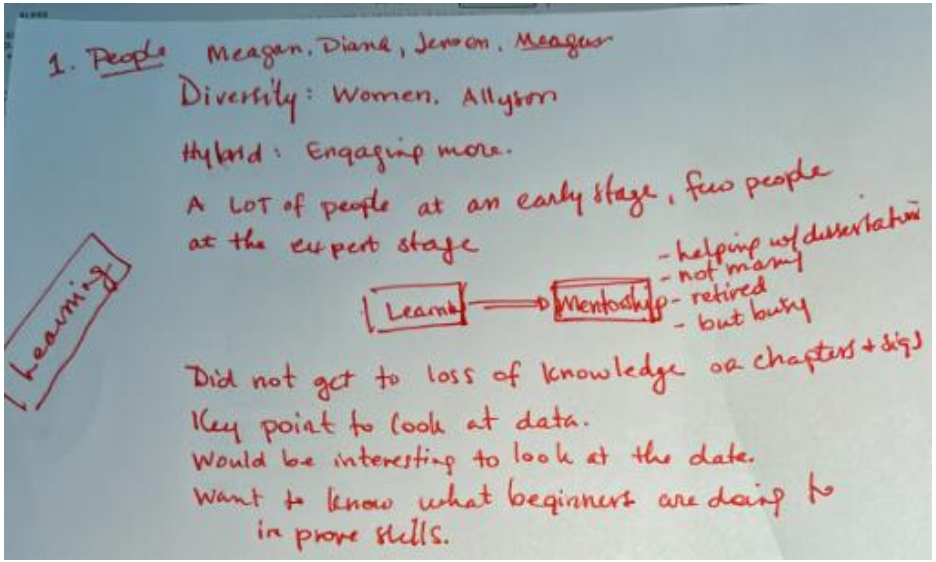
What are the leverage points?

- There are opportunities to leverage new tools from AI and other domains to revitalize our methodological toolbox.
- Bridging with neighboring modeling and systems communities who do high impact and high quality work through inviting them to our conference and having joint events
- Enhanced educational/training methods and courses to simplify SD learning and cut the learning curve.

Room 1

Learning theme

Increasing roles of women at the Society
Geography of ISDC - hybrid has been helpful
Career stage - lot of people at an early stage and few at expert level
Mentoring takes up a lot of time



Room 2 Report

Allyson, Brad, Juan, Eliot, Raquel

What can be improved within the Society?

- High turnover rate in the conference and understanding where that comes from
  - Students later on get jobs that don't support their continuing to go to the conference
  - SD/ST is not valuable for them later on
  - Mostly interested in a specific topic, not the broad themes at the conference - you might get only 5% of the conference time on the specifics
  - Choose the conference where you expect to publish in the future (competition because of budget)
- Remain relevant in the world of AI, data science, etc.

What are the leverage points?

  - Marketing systems in place (e.g., from universities) could push out information on SD
- More hype around SD (like we see with AI
- Good marketing - reframing to topics that sound more attractive and applicable to different areas
- Leveraging the public lecture platform for expanding audience and members
- Pop science books on SD

Room 3

1. Why do we want to grow?

2. Quantitative vs. branches such as group modeling.

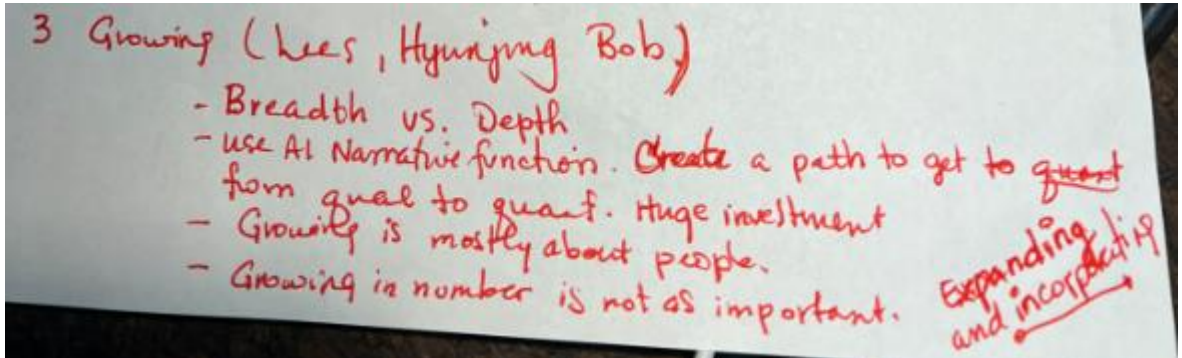
3. Is it breath or depth? We have an interesting approach for interesting problems. We need both. We should be perceiving it as something positive rather than negative.

4. We don't want to lose coherence as we grow. We want to develop the community.

5. Need a pathway for folks to get in so they can help create the community.

6. Can AI help us create a path from qualitative to quantitative? Would be a huge investment.

7. Is there a pathway to studying any particular problem? How do you get the resources to do that? If it is just time, it can work.



Announcements

Future Policy Council Meetings (DRAFT)

April 23, 2024 at 11am EST

- 0:05 Welcome and Agenda (Allyson)
- 0:05 Motions (Allyson)
  - Irish and France Chapter Constitutions (Peter)
  - 0:10 MIT Chapter Vote (Peter)
- 0:10 Dashboard and Exec Director Report
- 0:50 VP & Committee Reports
  - 0:10 Strategy Committee (Shayne)
  - 0:10 Awards Committee (Hazhir)
  - 0:10 Marketing (Thomas)
  - 0:10 APCC (Jenson)
- 0:10 Conflict of Interests (Lees)
- 0:30 Building Towards Our Future (Allyson)
  - TBD
- Adjournment

Anything to add?

Adjournment