

# The Midwest Decision Sciences Institute ■ Fall Newsletter: 2010



## THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

**D**ear Members of Midwest DSI,  
As fall is upon us, I hope that your semester is progressing well and that the academic year continues to be one of promise – even in these challenging economic times.

It is traditional for the incoming President to thank the outgoing President for his/her service to Midwest DSI during the past year, and it is certainly the case that our President for 2009-2010 (Dr.



*Arvid C. Johnson, PhD  
Dean and Prof. of Management  
Brennan School of Business  
Dominican University  
River Forest, IL 60305*

Tobias Schoenherr of Michigan State University) merits our deep gratitude. He worked tirelessly on behalf of Midwest DSI throughout this past year, and the results of his efforts were clear to all of us who participated in the year's activities/events. Thank you, Tobias!

Congratulations – and heartfelt thanks! – are also due to Anand Kunnathur (Conference Chair) and Udayan Nankeolyar (Program Chair) for the extraordinarily successful **2010 Midwest DSI Conference** that the University of Toledo held last April. The papers, facilities, receptions, and networking opportunities showed our organization at its best!

Now is probably a good time to point out that, elsewhere in this newsletter, you will find information regarding the **2011 Midwest DSI Conference** – which is being hosted by Indiana University at the IUPUI Campus Center in Indianapolis, IN, on 12-14 May 2011. The conference hotel will be the Fairfield Inn and Suites. I encourage you to

mark the dates on your calendar and to submit a competitive research paper and/or research abstract. Please also “pass the word” to your colleagues about what promises to be another great event for Midwest DSI. (A big thanks-in-advance goes out to Barb Flynn and Rhonda Lummus for all their assistance!)

As I write this, the **2010 National DSI Conference** in San Diego, CA, is fast approaching, and I hope to see many of you there. Unfortunately, due in part to the difficult economic climate, we were unable to raise sufficient contributions to support the traditional Midwest DSI reception at the national meeting – despite the best efforts of our President Elect (Xiaodong Deng) and the support of several schools. As a result, the Board had to make the difficult decision to cancel this year's reception. That said, most of these schools have agreed to support financially a reception at the 2011 Midwest DSI Conference. Also, you are all always welcome to attend the Midwest DSI Board Meeting that will be held in San Diego on 20 November 2011, from 10:30am-noon.

As always, I welcome any questions, suggestions, or concerns that you might have about Midwest DSI. Please feel free to contact me ([ajohnson@dom.edu](mailto:ajohnson@dom.edu)) – or any other member of the Board (listed elsewhere in this newsletter). I look forward to working with the 2010-11 Midwest DSI Board, our 2011 Midwest DSI Conference team, and all of you toward making 2010-11 a great year for our organization!

Best regards,

Arvid C. Johnson  
President, Midwest DSI, 2011-11

## A NOTE FROM THE PAST-PRESIDENT

**D**ear MWDSI Colleagues,  
My term as MWDSI president ended with the 2010 meeting in Toledo. I would like to take this opportunity to reflect on my experience with MWDSI and to thank everyone that has made this experience even more memorable and enjoyable.

As president I was able to rely on a fantastic board of directors, consisting of Ceyhun Ozgur (Past President), Arvid Johnson (President-Elect), Gerry Aase (Secretary), Xiaodong Deng (Treasurer), Vijay Shah (VP Planning and Development), Hokey Min (VP Publications), Peter B. Southard (VP Member Services), Sachin B. Modi (VP Student Liaison), Brad Hull (VP Industry Liaison), Charlie Watts (Archivist), and Gene Fliedner (Webmaster and Regionally-Elected VP). I here-with sincerely thank them for all of their support and hard



*Tobias Schoenherr, PhD  
Assistant Professor of  
Supply Chain Management  
Broad College of Business  
Michigan State University*

work they did in their respective roles.

My sincerest thanks also go to Anand Kunathur, Conference Chair, and Udayan Nandkeolyar, Program Chair, who put together an amazing MWDSI conference in Toledo. The preparation and

hard work that went into this conference truly showed, and it is very much appreciated.

One of the tasks in my current role as past-president was to coordinate the slate of candidates for officer positions that will become vacant at the 2011 MWDSI meeting. I was able to rely on the invaluable help and advice by Diane Parente and Ceyhun Ozgur, who were also members of this committee. Together we developed a promising list of outstanding candidates, which are introduced in this newsletter. I encourage you to vote during the 2011 MWDSI meeting and show them your support.

It has been a true honor and pleasure to give back to this association that has provided me with so much. My first MWDSI meeting I attended was in 2001 in Michigan, as a first-year doctoral student, where I was welcomed with open arms. The collegiality and friendship that I experienced during this first conference was amazing, which grew even more over the years. Many of you have become true friends and mentors to me, and have provided me with invaluable guidance as I embarked on my academic journey. I would like to thank especially Janet Hartley, Dick Penlesky and Gene Fliedner, who from the very first meeting on provided me with invaluable advice, and have continued to do so throughout my term as president.

Sincerely,  
Tobias Schoenherr  
Past-President

## SPRING MEETING 2011: THE NEED FOR SPEED!!!

We are pleased to announce that 2011 MWDSI meeting will be hosted by the Kelley School of Business at Indiana University from May 12-14 in downtown Indianapolis. The conference will feature lots of exciting special events, including a tour of Federal Express's night sort operation and several special invited sessions dealing with healthcare operations. Indianapolis is the second largest FedEx hub in the world, processing over 8 million

packages per night. In addition to regular paper sessions, the conference will include special workshops on innovative teaching, new research methodologies and academic administration.

The conference hotel is the Fairfield Inn and Suites by Marriott, which is providing us with a special conference rate of \$99 per night. The sessions will be held at the Campus Center of Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis, which

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is a few blocks from the Fairfield Inn. Submission of ideas for workshop sessions related to innovative teaching, new research methodologies, and academic administration are encouraged.

The web address of the conference website, which contains more detail about the conference is

<http://www.mwdsi2011.com/>. Volunteers are welcome, particularly track chairs. Anyone who is interested in chairing a track or otherwise helping is encouraged to contact Dr. Barbara B. Flynn, [bbflynn@iupui.edu](mailto:bbflynn@iupui.edu).

## INTRODUCING MWDSI'S NEWEST FELLOWS

We are pleased to provide you with a brief summary of the newest Midwest DSI Fellows – Dr. Gene Fliedner of Oakland University and Dr. W. “Rocky” Newman of Miami University.

### *Dr. Gene Fliedner*

I have been an active member of Midwest DSI (MWDSI) for 20+ years. This spans the years beginning in August 1983 and continuing until August 1988 and from August 1995 to the present date. In addition to presenting papers, I have served as a session chair, track chair, and session discussant during numerous annual meetings. The following recounts some of my formal service contributions to MWDSI:

1. April, 2001 – March, 2003: Secretary
2. April, 26-28, 2001: Program Chair for 32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Program, Dearborn, MI
3. April, 2003 – March, 2004: President-Elect
4. April, 2004 – March, 2005: President
5. April, 2005 – March, 2006: Immediate Past-President
6. August, 2004 – Present: MWDSI Webmaster
7. April, 2008 – March, 2010: Vice President of Decision Sciences Institute representing the Midwest Region

In addition to the contributions above, my manuscript submission for the 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting in

April, 2002 received the MWDSI Best Paper Award. I have also co-authored and co-proposed MWDSI Bylaw 5.3, 5.3n, and 9. In August 2004, with the approval of the MWDSI Board of Directors, I created the MWDSI website. This included applying for the domain name, creating the website and populating it with all of its current content. I have served as the webmaster for the website since that time. All throughout my years I can clearly note that I have made many great friends and contacts within MWDSI. I'd like to offer my thanks for the opportunities.

### *Dr. W. “Rocky” Newman*

Dr. Newman has served Midwest Decision Sciences Institute in several capacities throughout the years. This is highlighted by his role as MWDSI President in 2003. He has also served as the Program Chair for the MWDSI annual meetings which were held on Miami's campus during both 2003 and 2009, both of which turned back substantial profits. Dr. Newman has presented at most of the MWDSI conferences since 1989 and has also held several Vice-President positions in the Midwest region since that time. He worked with MWDSI as the Editor-in-Chief and Associate Editor of the Mid-American Journal of Business (now the American Journal of Business) to sponsor the Best Paper Award for MWDSI for several years.



MWDSI ANNUAL MEETING:  
INDIANAPOLIS, IN  
May 12 - 14, 2011

## NEW MWDSI OFFICERS NOMINATED

The following individuals were recently nominated for vacant positions on the Executive Board of Midwest DSI. The election will take place during the 2011 MWDSI Annual Meeting.

**President-elect: Peter B. Southard** is an Assistant Professor of Management in the Opus College of Business at the University of St. Thomas in St. Paul, MN. He grew up on a farm in central Iowa, received his Bachelor of Science degree from Iowa State University and his MBA from Drake University. He received his Ph.D. from the University of Nebraska – Lincoln where his major area was Operations and Supply Chain Management with a strong minor in Management Information Systems. Peter has taught supply chain management, operations management, Six Sigma quality, lean production and process improvement, operations planning and control systems, information systems, business strategy, and statistics for over 10 years on both the graduate and undergraduate level. He has published scholarly articles in journals such as *Communications of the ACM*, *The International Journal of Operations and Production Management*, *The International Journal of Production Economics*, *Benchmarking: An International Journal*, *Management Decision*, and *The International Journal of Healthcare Technology and Management* as well as two book chapters and several conference proceedings including the annual national meetings of the *Decision Sciences Institute*, *Academy of Management*, and *HICSS*. His research interests include the effects of technology innovation on supply chains with a special focus on services. His industry experience includes eight years in financial services as a senior vice president and branch manager of a private bank and six years with the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) in the department f.k.a. the Farmers Home Administration (FmHA). His consulting experience includes work with National Research Corporation in Lincoln, NE and Regina Medical Center in Hastings, MN. Peter has served as Vice President for Member Services, Midwest Region of the Decision Sciences Institute from 2007 to present. He was also

a member of the Conference Planning Committee for the 2008 Annual Meeting of the Midwest Decision Sciences Institute. As such, he assisted Diane Parente in organizing and hosting that meeting.

**Secretary: Gerald Aase** is currently an Associate Professor of Operations Management at Northern Illinois University. He received bachelor degrees from the University of Minnesota in Mechanical and Agricultural Engineering and a Ph.D. in Operations Management from Indiana University. Dr. Aase's research interests involve process improvements through the use of technology. His work has appeared in the *International Journal of Operations and Production Management*, *International Journal of Production Research*, *European Journal of Operations Research*, and *International Journal of Production Economics*. Dr. Aase has been involved in the Midwest Decision Sciences Institute since his first year of the doctoral program. He has held several officer positions for MWDSI including Secretary for the past two years.

**VP Planning and Development: Joseph R. Muscatello** is an Assistant Professor of Business Management and Related Technology at Kent State University- Geauga. He received his Doctorate from the Cleveland State University and researches in the areas of enterprise systems, supply chain management, forecasting, project management and the impact of technology on organizations. He has published in *Omega*, *International Journal of Operations and Production Management*, *Information Resource Management Journal*, *Applied Computing and Informatics*, *Journal of Business Forecasting*, *Journal of Safety Research*, *Business Technology Educator* and the *Business Process Management Journal*. He has also published several book chapters and presented at academic and professional venues over 50 times!

Dr. Muscatello is a former Director with Cap Gemini Ernst & Young and has Fortune 500 executive level manufacturing experience in the chemical and metal industries. He is APICS certified at the Fellow level and teaches APICS



(New MWDSI Officers cont. from page 4)

certification courses domestically and internationally. He is the owner of several businesses and sits on 2 for-profit and 2 non-profit Boards of Directors.

**VP Member Services: Matthew Swinarski** is an associate professor in the Sam and Irene Black School of Business at Penn State University, The Behrend College. He received his Ph.D. in MIS from the State University of New York at Buffalo. His active research areas are IS sourcing and IS education. His papers have been published/accepted in *Communications of the ACM*, *Decision Support Systems*, *Communications of the AIS* and *Advances in Management Information Systems*. and he has presented his research at numerous conferences including Americas Conference on Information Systems (AMCIS), Hawaii International Conference on System Sciences (HICSS) and Decision Sciences Institute (DSI). He has also served as Issue Managing Editor for the *Journal of Information Technology Theory and Application (JITTA)*. His industry experience includes installation, configuration, and service contact management of enterprise applications.

**VP for Industry Liaison: Bradley Hull** is Associate Professor and Reid Chair in the Department of Management Marketing and Logistics at John Carroll University. He teaches courses in operations management, logistics, and transportation.

Dr. Hull recently completed a study the logistics infrastructure of Northeast Ohio through a project with NEOTEC (Northeast Ohio Trade and Economic Consortium). The results are available at [www.neohiotransportationupdate.com](http://www.neohiotransportationupdate.com). In addition, he has consulted for the Cleveland-Cuyahoga

Port Authority. Prior to John Carroll, Dr. Hull had a 28 year career managing supply chains in the oil and chemicals industries with British Petroleum. At BP he was logistics director for BP Chemicals Company and later managed (much of) the Alaskan Oil supply chain.

He has published articles in the *International Journal of Logistics Management*, *International Journal of Production Economics*, *Journal of the Transportation Research Forum*, *Journal of Macromarketing*, and *Logistics Information Management*. He is a member of the CSCMP, CFA, ISM, WERC, OFCA, and, of course, DSI.

**VP for Student Liaison: Sachin Modi** is an Assistant Professor of Operations and Supply Chain Management at the University of Toledo. He received his B.S. in Engineering from the University of Poona, India, a M.S. in Industrial Engineering from the University of Cincinnati and his Ph.D. in Operations Management and Decision Sciences from Indiana University. Dr. Modi's research interest include procurement, supply chain management, innovation and information technology. His work has appeared in the *Journal of Operations Management* and the *Journal of Supply Chain Management*. He serves as an ad-hoc reviewer for the *Journal of Operations Management*, *Journal of Supply Chain Management*, *International Journal of Operations and Production Management*, and *Production and Inventory Management Journal*. He also served as track chair for the 2009 POMS conference and VP for Student Liaison for the MidWest DSI for the 2009-2010 year. In the past he has also served as reviewer for both the regional and national DSI meetings.



MWDSI ANNUAL  
MEETING:  
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## STAN HARDY WINNERS ANNOUNCED

The judging of the papers for the Stan Hardy Award is complete, and the winner has been determined. The winning paper – “Co-opetition and Investment for Supply-Chain Resilience” – was co-authored by Nitin Bakshi (London Business School) and Paul Kleindorfer (INSEAD). It appeared in *Production and Operations Management* (Vol. 18, No. 6, pp. 583-603). The paper was selected based on its current relevance and contribution to the field of Operations Management (OM), its practicality and contribution to industry practice, and its rigor, creativity and readability. The award will officially be presented at this year’s Midwest DSI Annual Meeting, on April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2010, in Toledo, Ohio.

According to the Midwest DSI Bylaws, the President-elect convenes the Stan Hardy Award Committee to select the outstanding paper published in the OM field during the preceding year to receive the Stan Hardy Award at the annual meeting of the Midwest Region. This committee polls the editors of the following academic journals in OM and asks them to provide the top two OM articles published in their journal during the most current year: *Decision Sciences Journal*, *International Journal of Production Research*, *Journal of Operations Management*, *Manufacturing and Service Operations Management*, and *Production and Operations Management*. The committee, then, evaluates these articles and selects the Stan Hardy Award winner.

I am very grateful to the editors who so generously provided their time, energy and expertise in evaluating the papers in their respective journals and nominated their two best papers. *Decision Sciences Journal* (Vicki Smith-Daniels),

- *International Journal of Production Research* (J. E. Middle, editor),
- *Journal of Operations Management* (Kenneth K. Boyer and Morgan L. Swink, co-editors),
- *Manufacturing and Service Operations Management* (Stephen C. Graves, editor), and
- *Production and Operations Management* (Kalyan Singhal, editor).

I am also very grateful to this year’s judges, who also so generously provided their time, energy and expertise in evaluating and ranking the papers:

- Mohamed Askar (Dominican University),
- Janet Hartley (Bowling Green State University),
- Udayan Nandkeolyar (University of Toledo),
- Ceyhun Ozgur (Valparaiso University), and
- Young Ro (University of Michigan – Dearborn).

On behalf of Midwest DSI, I extend congratulations to the 2010 Stan Hardy Award winners and appreciation to the journal editors, the judges, and the authors of all the high-quality manuscripts considered for the 2010 award.

Arvid C. Johnson  
 Dominican University  
 Brennan School of Business  
 2010 Stan Hardy Committee Chair  
 Information on Journals

### *The American Journal of Business*

**Focus:** The *American Journal of Business* provides an effective medium for academics and practitioners to share and discuss key business developments and issues. The *Journal’s* audience is the business community—both academic and practitioner. It is the intent of the *Journal* to publish articles aimed at improving business practices or enhancing instructional efforts through application, transfer and interpretation of knowledge. The *Journal* publishes discipline-based scholarship and welcomes contributions that apply research to practice.

**General:** *AJB*, now in its 26<sup>th</sup> year of publication follows a double-blind review policy by two or more reviewers. The *Journal’s* goal is to provide constructive and timely feedback to authors. In the review process, the Editorial Board of the *Journal* perceives its role to be developmental rather than evaluative. The first review of manuscripts is usually completed within 12-14 weeks of submission. The manuscript acceptance rate is approximately 25 percent. The *Journal* is published twice a year. For submission guidelines, please visit, <http://www.AJBonline.org>.