
MWDSI Newsletter

*Newsletter of the Midwest Region Decision Sciences Institute
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The MWDSI Newsletter is published once each semester. Suggestions, opinions, announcements, and other contributions are welcome.

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Midwest Decision Sciences Institute





From the President:

Gene Fliedner

Oakland University

“Cleveland Rocks!” This past annual meeting in Cleveland was terrific.

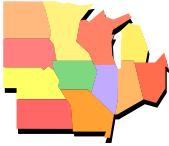
I would like to recognize and thank Program Chair Charles Watts and Associate Program Chair Mark Treleven for a successful meeting. Both worked diligently to put together a first rate schedule of sessions and services. The sessions were informative and entertaining. The accommodations were first rate. The collegiality could not be beat. The meeting website and program information were the best to date. We should also thank all the presenters, Session Chairs and paper reviewers for making this a successful meeting. This meeting will set a high standard for future meetings.

Speaking of future meetings, “Holy Toledo!” Next year we will be meeting in Toledo, Ohio. Let’s make every effort to participate in the 2005 annual meeting. Please contact the Program Chair Jan Hartley (jhartle@cba.bgsu.edu) and volunteer your support to review papers, host a session, or both. Jan will need a lot of help as she is serving as Program Chair, DSI Regional VP, and as President-Elect for Midwest DSI. Let’s make a commitment for April 15-16 to be in Toledo in 2005!

Now I’d like to present you with a challenge for the upcoming year. The Midwest Decision Sciences Institute would like to increase its member participation in annual meetings. With a larger extent of member participation and with a larger membership, even more exciting sessions and activities can be put together. I challenge you to identify five colleagues either at your institution or a nearby College or University that currently do not, but should be participating in Midwest Decision Sciences Institute annual meeting. Let’s think about the importance of collaboration. So, get out of your silo when you think about these colleagues and invite individuals from disciplines other than your own.

Numerous benefits are derived from meeting participation. Junior faculty and doctoral students have an opportunity for professional development and to participate in the actual decision-making process to a greater extent than most professional meetings. But let’s also encourage senior faculty not to forget their roots. It is our senior colleagues that we can all learn some of the most important lessons and these lessons can come at the Midwest regional meetings. If you do not participate, you cannot make a positive contribution.

Gene Fliedner, President, Midwest DSI



2005 ANNUAL MIDWEST DSI MEETING

April 14-16, 2005, Toledo –Ohio



The Midwest Region Of the Decision Sciences Institute (MWDSI) will hold its 36th annual meeting at the Radisson Hotel at downtown Toledo, Ohio on April 14-16, 2005. Persons in business, government and academia are invited to submit competitive papers, proposals for symposia, tutorials, and workshops on current topics in all areas of decision sciences.

Tentative plans include a plant tour during the afternoon of Thursday April 14th. Research paper sessions will be on Friday April 15th and the morning of Saturday April 16th. Hopefully the world famous Toledo Mud Hens baseball team will be in-town for a night at ball-game.

See attached map for the location of the Radisson Hotel. The address is 101 N Summit Street, Toledo, OH 43604.



Program Chairs

Jan Hartley
Bowling Green State University

Mark Vonderembse
University of Toledo



THE STAN HARDY AWARD

Eve Rosenzweig

Emory University

Aleda Roth

University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill

James Dean Jr.

University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill

For the paper of “The Influence of an Integration Strategy on Competitive Capabilities and Business Performance: An Exploratory Study of Consumer Products Manufacturers,” *Journal of Operations Management*, Vol. 21, 2003, pp.437-456.



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Summary of the 2003 MWDSI Membership Survey

The 2003 MWDSI membership survey was sent to all DSI members residing within the territory of MWDSI as well as the recipients of the most recent 3 MWDSI meetings.

There were 56 respondents, consisting of 11 assistant, 21 associate, 17 full professors and 3 students. 23 of the respondents were in OM, 15 were in MIS, 12 were in Management Science or Statistics, while 6 of them were from other disciplines. (see question 8). Many of the respondents were long time members of the DSI. 26 of the 56 respondents have been member of DSI for 15 years or longer. (see question 7) 43 of the 56 respondents were from schools within the geographical area of MWDSI.

12 of the respondents indicated that they attend the MWDSI meeting every year, 10 of them indicated that they attend the meeting every two to three years, 8 indicating attendance every 4 to 7 years, while 6 respondents stated that it has been more than seven years since their last attendance. The breakdown of the last attendance at MWDSI conference can be found in the attached table for question 2.

The respondents indicated that the main reasons for attending the MWDSI meeting were:

1. Close proximity to my residence
2. Networking, meeting old friends and making new friends
3. Relatively inexpensive
4. Making a research presentation.

Since "Close proximity to my residence" and "relatively inexpensive" received a high priority among the list of many factors, I do not think it is a good idea to consider having the MWDSI meeting outside the area. As the responses to question 4 suggests, most of the respondents were not very interested in having the MWDSI meeting outside the geographical area of the region. Only 7 indicated they would attend a meeting outside the area for sure, while majority indicated either they would not be able to attend due to high cost or long distance from their current residence.

In answering question 5, the question about what could the MWDSI do to improve its services, only 14 respondents gave specific responses. The majority of these responses had to do with more practitioner involvement and more teaching, pedagogy related workshops and tutorials.

Questions 10 and 11 addressed the issues of conflicts and participation in other meetings during the approximate time of MWDSI meeting. 27 of the respondents indicated that they attended other meetings during the potential time of the MWDSI meeting. There were many competing meetings listed, the most common one being the POMS meeting. 13 of the 27 respondents indicated their attendance is or could be affected by these other meetings. Therefore we need to make sure to minimize the conflicts with other meeting times and try to make our meeting more appealing so that if there is a conflict, the member will choose the MWDSI meeting over the other conflicting meeting.

Question 1:	# of Respondents
Never	14
Every Year	12
Every 2-3 Years	10
Every 4-7 Years	8
More than 7 years Between	6
NA	2

Question 2:	# of Respondents
Never	13
2003	11
2002	8
2001	3
2000	4
1999-1995	7
1994-1990	3
1989 or earlier	2
NA	2

Question 3:	# of Respondents
a	32
b	28
c	28
d	15
e	17
f	30
g	14
h	14
i	16
j	6
other	2

Question 4:	# of Respondents
a	7
b	9
c	15
d	7
e	15
f	22
other	4
NA	1

Question 5:	# of Respondents
NA	32
None	9
Not Sure	3
Yes & Gave Examples	14

Question 6:	# of Respondents
In Area	43
Out of Area	9
NA	1

Question 7:	# of Respondents
0-2 years	3
3-5 year	7
6-10 years	10
11-14 years	3
15-20 years	17
21 & Over	11
NA	2

Question 8:	# of Respondents
Group 1	23
Group 2	12
Group 3	4
Group 4	2
Group 5	15

1. Logistics, OM, Production, Supply Chain Mgmt
2. Statistics, Regression, DS, Mgmt. Science
3. Mgmt., Strategy, HR, International Bus, Mktg.
4. Accounting and Finance
5. MIS, IS, Computer Systems, DSS

Question 9:	# of Respondents
Assitant	11
Associate	21
Student / Instructor	3
Full / Distinguished Prof.	17
NA	1

Question 10:	# of Respondents
Yes, Many Listed	27
No	26

Question 11:	# of Respondents
Yes	13
No	10
Maybe	5
Sometimes	2
NA	23

