



NORTHEAST DECISION SCIENCES INSTITUTE
Minutes of Officers and Board Meeting
Boston, Massachusetts
March 26, 1998

Presiding: Maling Ebrahimpour

1. Maling Ebrahimpour called the meeting to order at 11:45 a.m. and greeted guests James Evans, President of the National Decision Sciences Institute, and Robert Pearson, longtime NEDSI friend and supporter.
2. The minutes of the November 24, 1997 meeting in San Diego were approved without changes.
3. Jim Evans offered greetings from National DSI. He described planned changes in the infrastructure of the organization, including updating internal processes; increased attention to Member Services; increased integration of information technology, such as Proceedings on CD ROM and a searchable membership database on the Web site; the development of a new teaching-oriented journal which will publish cases, articles on pedagogy, and experiential exercises.
4. The report from the region's National Vice Presidents (Michael Maggard and Nancy Weida) was provided by Mike Maggard. Along with the innovations described by Jim Evans, the National DSI is planning to institute credit card registration for national meetings and national Program Chairs will have their own Web Masters.

The 1999 International Meeting will be held in Athens in July 1999; the November 1998 National Meeting will be in Las Vegas.

5. Paul Mangiameli provided the Treasurer's report. As of March 24, Boston meeting revenues were \$19,322. There were 149 pre-paid registrants.
6. Shaw Chen, Program Chair for the 1998 Boston meeting, reported that there were 210 registrants for the meeting and that Larry Meile, Vice President Promotional Activities, broke the record by having 11 exhibitors at the meeting. Updating the Treasurer's report, as of March 26, total meeting revenues were \$21,500, though expenses were also high due to the meeting location.
7. Susan Pariseau, Program Chair for the 1999 meeting in Newport, Rhode Island, reported that plans are proceeding well. The Call for Papers was published in the Boston meeting Proceedings; the room rate for the Newport meeting will be \$109 per night; and Chairs for all tracks and special sessions are committed.

8. Luis Rivera-Solis reported on plans for the 2000 meeting to be held in Atlantic City. Bill Bistline will serve as Local Arrangements Chair; the room rate is expected to be approximately \$100. The meeting will be scheduled for the end of March/beginning of April.
9. Avijit Banerjee reported on 2001 meeting plans. He is investigating both St. Thomas and Puerto Rico. Room rates after Easter, at the beginning of the off season, would be in the \$100-125 range.
10. Discussion was held regarding the site for the 2002 meeting. Paul Mangiameli proposed Pittsburgh and William Sipple offered Robert Morris College as the sponsoring school.
11. The Slate of officers and board members presented by Paul Mangiameli, Maling Ebrahimpour, and Stephen Schiffman was unanimously approved.
12. Paul Mangiameli described the long association between NEDSI and the Case Association (the regional organization of the North American Case Research Association). He proposed that there be an *ex officio* NEDSI Board position to be occupied by a representative from the Case Association. The proposal was moved, seconded, and unanimously approved.
13. Mark Davis described the increasing competition for attendance among various professional meetings and suggested that, since the NEDSI Program has been unvaried for some time, there be an *ad hoc* committee formed to define where NEDSI wants to be in 5-10 years. Some potential changes to the program discussed in the past have included:
 - a. Plant visits.
 - b. Focus on new outcome standards proposed by the AACSB:
 - 1) Employers of our students describing what they look for in employee skills and competencies.
 - 2) Agencies doing outcome assessment leading a session on assessment of core business skills (such as writing, listening, and presentation skills; multicultural awareness)
 - c. Increasing involvement of people from industry.
 - d. The potential for incorporating cross-disciplinary themes to reduce the “silo-ed” feel of the current tracks.

The motion for Maling Ebrahimpour, as current president, to form such a committee was moved, seconded and approved unanimously.

14. Mr. Pearson reminded the assembly that education in the U.S. is a \$180 billion dollar industry, but that every year, industry spends an additional \$40 to educate the educated. He reminded us that we need to be mindful of learning what industry wants and providing it.
14. The meeting was adjourned (in record time) at 12:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Janelle Heineke