

NORTHEAST DECISION SCIENCES INSTITUTE  
Minutes of Officers and Board Meeting  
Phoenix, AZ  
November 19, 2007

Presiding: Jennifer Swanson

Present:

Rhonda Aull-Hyde	Joy Field	Peggy Lee	David Pentico
Ed Arnheiter	Laura Forker	David Levine	Dan Reid
Snehamay Banerjee	Janelle Heineke	Mike Maggard	Luis Rivera-Solis
Shaw Chen	Doug Hales	Paul Mangiameli	Ken Sousa
Mark Davis	Neset Hikmet	Larry Meile	Effie Stavrulaki
Maling Ebrahimpour	Chris Kydd	Susan Pariseau	Eric Stein
		Fariborz Partovi	Doug White

1. Jenn Swanson called the meeting to order at 11:50 am. Chris Kydd and Susan Pariseau took the minutes in the absence of Brett McKenzie, NEDSI Secretary.
2. Jenn began by thanking everyone for taking over for her last year, in particular, Rhonda, Larry and Shaw. Then Larry thanked Jenn and Stonehill College for lunch. The NEDSI Dinner was announced for the Grilled Expedition at 8:15 pm and a count was taken for attendance.
3. The minutes of the March 29, 2007 meeting were approved. (Paul made the motion to approve and Shaw seconded the motion.)
4. Snehamay gave a report on the 2008 NEDSI meeting to be held in New York, NY. A change for this year will be that the meeting will run from Thursday to Saturday (3/27-3/29). Also there will be no lunch on Friday this year, but a dinner instead. Snehamay also reported trying to set up a tour of Manhattan for Saturday morning (to which Paul M. replied "That's terrific!"). There were 162 paper submissions at the time of this meeting, including papers from France, Australia, and Asia. A concern was raised with respect to printing names on the best paper awards. Also Paul brought up the idea for a David Levine Award. He will meet with Jenn and Rhonda later to discuss this along with the situation on the Pearson awards and the Babson (SIMS) award. There was a \$5000 verbal commitment for sponsorship by a local university as well.
5. Rhonda reported on the final status of the 2007 meeting in Baltimore. There were 165 papers, 185 registrations (including 31 students), 4 best paper awards given, and the conference suffered a \$12,000 loss overall. Rhonda was thanked for her hard work and for running a successful conference.
6. Ken Sousa reported on the 2009 meeting in Providence, RI. It was going to be held at the Renaissance Hotel but now Ken is not sure. They want to charge \$2500 per day for use of their ballroom. In the meantime the Westin is booked for the desired dates, and the Marriott claimed that they never received Ken's email. Ken is also now looking at Newport and Mystic.

The Marriott Mystic wants to work with Ken on a conference. The Hotel Viking in Providence might also be an option, as might be the Mohegan Sun. Ken will also look into using university space for our conference. Anyone with comments or suggestions should email them to Ken.

7. Chris Rothlein has regretfully declined the Program Chair's position for 2010, so Neset is taking over that conference. Neset will give a preliminary report to the Board in March. Also for 2011 and 2012, Minoo and Effie Stavroulaki are under consideration for the Program Chair positions, respectively.
8. The Board decided to pay Al Avery for his considerable IS services to NEDSI. He will be paid \$1300 per year. This was unanimously supported.
9. Doug White gave a report on the Web server. He indicated that there were no problems or issues.
10. Joy Field (VP Communication) and Eric Stein (VP Member Services) discussed their respective roles for NEDSI. Eric was looking for direction from the Board as to what his position should involve. He raised the issue of how we define membership in NEDSI, as it is important for any mailings to know who the members are. The discussion led to several questions on membership in general (does one have to also be a member of DSI? How do we count prospective members?). Everyone is urged to send their comments on membership to Eric.

Joy Field offered to remain as VP Communications to be a conduit of information for the organization. Please email Joy with ideas on her role as well.

11. Mark, Maling and Paul reported on their subcommittee's discussions on NEDSI's mission statement. They believe that it should be expanded. Master's level students should be encouraged to come to our meetings and present papers.
12. Ed Arnheiter was not present at the meeting but informed Jenn that he was looking at how to attract book exhibitors to our meetings. One suggestion was to let book reps offer demos of books and ancillary materials in regular sessions. Recruiting more software companies, including simulation software companies, was an idea proposed by Ed. There was no opposition to having book exhibitors and software vendors run demo or training workshop sessions or anything else along those lines assuming session space was available.
13. Dan, Chris and Mike reported on their discussions about the role of the Advisory Board. They felt that if anyone has been Program Chair and President for NEDSI, they should be allowed to remain on the Advisory Board forever. Also the format from the past will be maintained, i.e., that the Advisory Board will meet with the President at the beginning of the regular NEDSI meeting and will serve as an advisory council to the President.
14. Neset gave the Treasurer's report. Although we lost \$7400 last year in total, the treasury is still in good shape. Snehamay should feel no pressure to make money on his New York conference.
15. Larry Meile spoke for John Affisco regarding the Proceedings. The VP Proceedings job is currently being done by Al Avery. He also uploads the proceedings to EBSCO. It was proposed

that Al should be made the VP of Proceedings if he so desires since he is already performing the duties.

16. Shaw Chen gave the Northeast National VP's report. He mentioned that one single best paper will be published in IJADS in the future.
17. New business included several announcements. Maling announced that he was the Doctoral Student Consortium leader for DSI in 2008, so please encourage your Doctoral students to participate. There will also be a 2009 Consortium in New Orleans. Shaw Chen announced that we should support our Northeast colleagues that are on the ballot for the upcoming National elections. It was suggested that we raise conference fees for 2009 and beyond. Mike Maggard made a motion for charging \$175 regular fee and \$75 for students. This motion was passed with 2 opposed and 1 abstention.
18. The meeting was adjourned at 1:00 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Chris Kydd and Susan Pariseau