

**NEDSI Board Meeting Minutes**  
**March 28, 2014**  
**Philadelphia, PA**

**Attendees:** John Affisco, Arthur Chen, Shaw Chen, Joy Field, Surendra Gupta, Janelle Heineke, Beate Klingenberg, Linda Boardman Liu, Paul Mangiameli, Javad Paknejad, Fariborz Partovi, Pedro Reyes, Mark Schniederjans, Kaushik Sengupta, Deb Sledgianowski, Eric Stein, Jennifer Swanson, Minoo Tehrani

**Minutes of the last meeting:** Janelle Heineke called the meeting to order at 1:15pm. Changes to the Baltimore minutes were solicited. No changes were made. Eric Stein made a motion to approve the minutes. Paul Mangiameli seconded the motion. The vote: yes – 17, no – 0, abstain - 0. The motion passed.

**Introduction of Mark Schniederjans, DSI President-elect:** Janelle introduced Mark Schniederjans who spoke on behalf of DSI. Mark congratulated the board on the reach and financial strength of NEDSI.

DSI is implementing a new NOAH information system that also includes a conference management system. The institute has hired an IT person to act as an internal consultant. DSI is going to make the system available to the regions. Mark asked for someone from the region to be trained on the system. Eric Stein asked about the capabilities of the system. Mark indicated that it would cover all informational needs of the organization, including conference management. Minoo asked whether there will be a cost associated with using the information system. Mark said that he does not anticipate charging the regions for the use of the system.

Mark stressed the importance of maintaining and supporting the Institute culture and having the regions and DSI be real partners. Janelle talked about the changing nature of the regions and their relationships with DSI. She asked for any thoughts from the rest of the board about what Mark had to say. Paul Mangiameli asked Mark about how to address likely motions by Rodger Collons to make changes in the constitution. Mark reinforced the importance and value of the regions and that the DSI board needs to consider the regions in their deliberations.

Linda Boardman Liu asked what progress DSI has made on replacing the Executive Director. Mark said that DSI has hired a director who hopefully will grow into the role and become Executive Director. He said the home office is moving to Houston. Moving to Houston from Georgia is a matter of moving from a school that tolerated DSI to one that embraces DSI. Janelle commented that the move is a good change for DSI and is very optimistic about the Institute going forward.

Janelle asked about the new name of the DSJ journal. Mark replied that the new name is *Decision Sciences Journal: Operations Management, Information Systems, and Supply Chain Management*. Mark is going to try to change it back to *Decision Sciences*.

**2014 conference:** Minoo Tehrani reported on the 2014 conference. The CMS has been down for the last two weeks, so the following numbers are estimates: 253 papers have been submitted. 243 people registered. Over \$40K in revenue and projected \$6K in profits. Minoo thanked everyone who stepped up and helped with the conference.

**Upcoming meetings:**

**2015 meeting:** Joy Field reported on the 2015 conference. NEDSI 2015 will be held at the Hotel Marlowe in Cambridge, MA, March 20-22, 2015. Sessions will start Friday morning, March 20 and end at noon on Sunday, March 22. She is looking at commercial conference management systems. The system that most meets our needs is priced at \$3500. The board agreed that, as Program Chair, Joy can make a decision about the choice of conference management systems. She will pursue this system for the 2015 conference.

**2016 meeting:** Pedro Reyes made a proposal for NEDSI 2016 in Alexandria. He is looking forward to the service he can provide to NEDSI. Paul Mangiameli motioned that Pedro Reyes from Baylor be the program chair for 2016 and explore Alexandria as the location. Minoo seconded the motion. The vote: yes – 16, no – 0, abstain – 1.

**Conference fee:** Janelle raised the possibility of raising the registration fee from \$175 to \$200. Minoo said that this year there were a number of participants who had trouble paying the \$175 fee. A discussion about the fee ensued. Eric Stein suggested that \$195 may be a better price point. Mark Schniederjans said that Western DSI charges \$450. Paul Mangiameli made a motion to raise the registration fee to \$195 and late fee to \$220. Eric Stein seconded the motion. The vote: yes - 17, no – 0, abstain – 0. The motion passed.

**Financial report:** Deb Sledgianowski presented the financial report. We had a small loss from last year. The ending balance in the NEDSI account as of 11/14/13 is \$30,289.40.

**Al Avery:** Janelle thanked Al Avery in absentia for all his hard work and contributions to NEDSI. All agreed.

**NEDSI board slate:** Minoo presented the new slate for board positions. Janelle asked for a motion to put the slate forward. Javad Paknejad seconded the motion. Slate included:

Slate: Candidates for the NEDSI Board:

1. Neset Hikmet
2. Q.B. Chung
3. Chu-An Li
4. Virginia Miori

Slate: Candidates for Officers:

1. John Weber--Secretary
2. Eric Stein--Vice President - Member Services
3. Linda Boardman Liu--Vice President – Communications
4. Minoo Tehrani -- President Elect

The vote: yes – 17, no – 0, abstain – 0. Janelle pointed out that this is just a vote to put the slate forward, not to approve the board. The vote to approve the slate will be at the business meeting later today.

**Limit on the number of conference submissions:** Minoo discussed how some people submitted as many as 13 papers, which caused serious problems with scheduling. She made a motion to limit the number of submissions to 3 per person. Eric Stein seconded the motion. There was a discussion about whether this can be done for the next conference. Linda Boardman Liu asked how many people would be impacted. Minoo said this applied to 4 people for the 2014 conference. Linda said we should just

approve this since it impacts so few people. There was further discussion on the advisability of limiting submissions. Joy raised the possibility of limiting the number of presentations, not authors. Kaushik Sengupta made a friendly amendment of a maximum of three presentations per author, which Minoo accepted. The vote: yes – 16, no – 0, abstain – 1.

**AV equipment:** Minoo suggested that we should buy the AV equipment instead of paying for rentals each year. Minoo made a motion to buy LCD projectors and associated technology. Beate Klingenberg seconded the motion. Linda Boardman Liu said there needs to be some clarity about who will store the equipment, care for the equipment, etc. There was more discussion on the pros and cons of buying vs. renting. Janelle called for the vote. The vote: yes – 1, no – 9, abstain – 5. The motion failed.

**New business:** Janelle asked for any new business. No other new business was raised. Janelle made a motion to adjourn. Paul seconded the motion. The vote: yes – 17, no – 0, abstain – 0. The motion to adjourn the meeting passed. The meeting was adjourned at 2:30pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Joy Field