

Newsletter – Fall 2020

From the President

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Southwest Decision Sciences Institute 52nd Annual Meeting

March 2022
New Orleans, Texas

Program Chair:

Dr. Venugopal
Gopalakrishna- Remani
University of Texas at Tyler
venugopal@uttyler.edu



Greetings fellow SWDSI members! 2020 has certainly provided plenty of surprises and challenges for our organization. I expected to be telling you that I was looking forward to seeing you in Galveston in March for our annual meeting and conference, but I am instead delivering a much different message.

SWDSI meets with the Federation of Business Disciplines (FBD). FBD will not be holding an in-person or virtual conference in 2021. The monetary risk was just too great for the FBD member organizations. FBD was able to postpone our commitment to

Moody Gardens for a couple of years. So if all goes well, we will be meeting in Galveston in March of 2023.

In essence, we are “pausing” SWDSI programs for 2020/2021. We will open our nomination process for our annual awards in the Fall of 2021, but please start thinking about who you would like to nominate for one of our prestigious awards (Distinguished Service Award and Outstanding Educator Award).

The next SWDSI conference will be in March of 2022 in New Orleans. If you are interested in presenting at a regional DSI conference, please consider the NEDSI conference. You will find the CFP at the end of the newsletter. In the meantime, please consider attending one of our SWDSI webinars. Three were presented earlier this fall and are available on the website. Three more will be in early 2021 (see the list below). Also, I hope you are making plans to attend the DSI virtual conference later this month. It sounds like the virtual conference will be a great experience with some interesting keynote speakers. I will look for each of you in the virtual conference world and perhaps video chat in the Conversation Café.

Matt Lindsey, Stephen F. Austin State University

Report from SWDSI 2021/2022 Program Chair

We request your participation in valuable professional and personal development opportunities through workshops during these challenging times. We will continue to monitor the coronavirus situation and will keep you up-to-date on any program changes. We encourage you to submit papers to NEDSI 2021 as an alternative conference this year. In addition to participation via abstracts/papers, there are other opportunities available, such as workshops, exhibit booths, and ad sponsorships. The 2021 Northeast Decision Sciences Institute Annual Conference will be held virtually March 26-27, 2021. All papers, abstracts, and undergraduate posters must be submitted electronically on or before January 16, 2021, via the conference website: <https://nedsi2021.exordo.com/>. The CFP is at the last page of the newsletter.

Our thoughts are with everyone who has been impacted by the COVID-19 crisis. We hope you are staying safe and healthy, and we look forward to seeing you at future DSI and SWDSI events.

Warm regards,
Venugopal Gopalakrishna-Remani (Venu), Ph.D., BVSc & A.H, MBA, PGDPM

SWDSI 2020-2022 Team



President (2020-2022)
Matt Lindsey
Stephen F. Austin State University



VP – Student Liaison (2018-2021)
Gayle Prybutok
University of North Texas



President Elect (2020-2022)
Dan Peak
University of North Texas



VP – Finance (2018-2021)
Lynne Cagle Cox
University of North Texas



Program Chair (2020-2022)
Venu Gopalakrishna- Remani
University of Texas at Tyler



VP – Participation (2020-2023)
Pamela Rogers
Stephen F. Austin State University



Past-President (2020-2022)
Khaled Alshare
Qatar University



Secretary (2019-2022)
Balaji Janamanchi
Texas A & M International



Program Chair-Elect (2020-2022)
Kittipong (Ken) Boonme
Texas Woman's University



Council Member (2019-2022)
Xianghui (Richard) Peng
Penn State Behrend



Council Member (2019-2022)
Mary Fischer
The University of Texas at Tyler



Council Member (2018-2021)
Will Senn
Emporia State



Council Member (2020-2023)
Gina Harden
Stephen F. Austin State University



Council Member (2020-2023)
Michael Ellis
University of Central Arkansas



Council Member (2018-2021)
Denise Philpot
University of North Texas



Regional Archivist (unlimited term)
Peggy Lane
University of Louisiana at Monroe



Council Member (2020-2021)
Robert Cutshall
Texas A & M University – Corpus Christi



Webmaster (2020-2023)
Carl Rebman
University of San Diego

Report from VP – Participation

SWDSI's Campus Representative Program assists in promoting DSI and SWDSI membership as well as conference participation. Currently, there are 21 SWDSI campus representatives, however, we welcome volunteers for this program. Campus representatives are a grassroots effort to help identify and attract new members. The primary responsibility is to act as a liaison for SWDSI with your colleagues and graduate students. Campus representatives help disseminate information about the call for papers and conference submission process. Please consider volunteering by contacting VP for Participation Pam Rogers (rogerspp@sfasu.edu) for additional information. Current Campus Representatives are below. If you and your school are not on this list you should volunteer. This is a great way to get more involved without a large service time commitment. If you spoke with Pam at the conference (or before/after) and don't see your name, please email her with your interest and willingness to serve in this role.

Ata Yesilyaprak	Alabama A&M University
Raj Kamalapur	Angelo State University
Guoying (Grace) Zhang	Midwestern State University
Elizabeth Prejean	Northwestern State University
Thiagarajan Ramakrishnan	Prairie View A&M University
Khaled Alshare	Qatar University
Janis Warner	Sam Houston State University
Pamela Rogers	Stephen F. Austin State University
Joseph Schuessler	Tarleton State University
Balaji Janamanchi	Texas A&M International University
Rick Simmons	Texas A&M University Central Texas
Robert Cutshall	Texas A&M University Corpus Christi
Barbara Hewitt	Texas State University
Lucian Visinescu	Texas State University
Ken Boonme	Texas Woman's University
Mark McMurtrey	University of Central Arkansas
Peter DeVries	University of Houston-Downtown
Jie Yang	University of Houston-Victoria
Colleen Carraher Wolverton	University of Louisiana - Lafayette
Peggy Lane	University of Louisiana Monroe
Hong Qin	University of Texas - Rio Grande Valley

2020 DSI Doctoral Symposium - A must-attend for PhD students

The doctoral symposium at DSI this year will be held on Friday, November 20. This symposium is free for DSI members to attend but requires a separate online pre-registration. Attendees must register for and pay the DSI Annual Meeting registration (\$75) to be able to attend the symposium. Registration for one event does not automatically apply to the other.

The symposium will offer panels of speakers to provide wisdom on a variety of topics including: How to Navigate your Academic Career, Responding to Comments and Conducting a Peer Review, A Global Team on Teaching in a Global Setting, Meet the Editors - An Interactive Session, Writing a Compelling Introduction, Generation Z, Crafting a Manuscript that Makes a Theoretical and Practical Contribution, and Online Teaching for PhD Students.

All professors are encouraged to share this information with their PhD students and encourage attendance. For details on the symposium and registration information, go to <https://decisionssciences.org/annual-conferences/national-dsi/doctoral-symposium/>.

For questions, please contact Program Chair of Professional Development Wendy Tate at wendy.tate@utk.edu.

Report from VP – Finance

If you did not attend the 2020 SWDSI conference, please stay active on the email distribution list by donating \$10 to SWDSI to help defray the cost of refunding conference registration fees. Any members who were at the conference are also welcome to donate. Contact Lynne Cagle Cox (VP of Finance) at LynneCagle.Cox@unt.edu if you have questions about donating. Mail donations to Lynne at:

Lynne Cox
13 Remington Dr. E.
Highland Village, TX 75077

Report on Committees

SWDSI committee assignments will remain as previously announced through March 2022. These committees are very important in helping SWDSI prepare for the future as well as recognizing contributions of our members. Below is the membership and chair of each committee so you can contact them with nominations in Fall 2021.

Nomination Selection Committee

Chair: Khaled Alshare, *Qatar University*
Mohan Rao, *Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi*
Michael Ellis, *University of Central Arkansas*

Distinguished Service Award Selection Committee

Chair: Gina Harden, *Stephen F. Austin State University*
Robert Cutshall, *Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi*
Mary Fischer, *University of Texas at Tyler*
Kai Koong, *Tuskegee University*
John Seydel, *Arkansas State University*

Outstanding Educator Award Selection Committee

Chair: Peggy Lane, *University of Louisiana Monroe*
Denise Philpot, *University of North Texas*
Victor Prybutok, *University of North Texas*
Carl Rebman Jr., *University of San Diego*

Strategic Planning Committee

Chair: Robert Pavur, *University of North Texas*
Paul Cronan, *University of Arkansas*
Peggy Lane, *University of Louisiana Monroe*
Mark McMurtrey, *University of Central Arkansas*

DSI 2021 Membership

Whether you renew DSI membership during the year or when registering for the DSI annual meeting, make sure you indicate your primary regional affiliation as SWDSI. It is critical for our members to check the SWDSI box when paying DSI membership dues. This is the only official way to maintain your SWDSI affiliation. The DSI Home Office collects and disseminates information based on who checks that box. This includes information related to specific regional interests. All SWDSI officers and board members are required to maintain current membership in DSI and participate in SWDSI activities such as the conference and officer/board meetings. DSI members receive a discounted registration rate when registering for the SWDSI conference, so all are encouraged to join DSI to enjoy the benefits of membership and officially be counted.

SWDSI Fall 2020 Webinar Series

Southwest Decision Sciences Institute hosted three webinars in Fall 2020 for interested individuals. Recordings of the sessions are now available online. The SWDSI Board would like to extend gratitude to Dr. Victor Prybutok, Dr. Gina Harden and Dr. Gayle Prybutok for presenting this interesting information October 2020. Over 150 people joined the Webinar series. Your support is greatly appreciated. If you missed these great presentations, the recordings are available at the links below.

Methods Monday



Dr. Victor Prybutok, the Regents Professor of Decision Sciences in the G. Brint Ryan College of Business, Vice Provost for Graduate Education and Dean of the Toulouse Graduate School at the University of North Texas, presented “Survey Development for Research and Customer Feedback” for “Methods Monday” the first session in the series. Dr. Prybutok is also the VP of Conferences for DSI.

[Click here for the session recording](#)

Teaching Tuesday



The second session in the webinar series, was “Teaching Tuesday” which was presented by Dr. Gina Harden. She is an Associate Professor of Management at Stephen F. Austin State University and a Board Member for SWDSI. Dr. Harden presented “How to teach dashboard building for mobile platforms.”

[Click here for the session recording](#)

Wild Card Wednesday



Wild Card Wednesday” concluded the Fall webinar series. Dr. Gayle Prybutok, Assistant Professor of Health Services Administration at the University of North Texas, presented “Creating a Teaching Portfolio.” She is the SWDSI Vice President – Student Liaison.

[Click her for the session recording](#)

SWDSI Spring 2021 Webinar Series

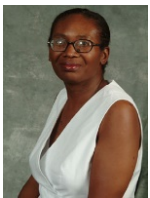
In Spring 2021, Southwest Decision Sciences Institute will host three new professional development webinars. The SWDSI Board would like to extend gratitude to those who volunteered to present a webinar. If you missed the professional development opportunities in Fall 2020, mark your calendars for the Spring webinars.

Methods Monday



For “Methods Monday” in January 2021, Dr. Will Senn will present on using PRISMA to perform a guided systematic literature review. Dr. Senn is an Assistant Professor of Information Systems and Data Analytics in the School of Business at Emporia State University. He is an Editor of the international journal, *Education for Information*. He holds a PhD in Information Science from the University of North Texas. Will is a member of a multidisciplinary team of researchers in business who are currently looking at data and research involving service quality and satisfaction. His areas of research are in survey measurement, service quality, and information systems.

Teaching Tuesday



“Teaching Tuesday” in February 2021 will feature Queen Booker from Metropolitan State University. She will present on “Humanizing Your Online Course”. One of the reasons for the achievement gap between online courses and courses in a face-to-face settings is the human connection. This webinar will discuss strategies to improve the feeling of human connection for students and ways to maintain student and instructor engagement. Queen holds a doctorate from the University of Mississippi, an MBA from the Wharton School at the University of Pennsylvania, and a bachelor’s from Harvard University. She is the Director of the MS in MIS program at Metropolitan State University.

Wild Card Wednesday



“Wild Card Wednesday” will conclude the Spring webinar series in March 2021. Dr. Robert J. Pavur is a Professor in the Information Technology & Decision Sciences Department at the University of North Texas. He holds a masters and doctorate degree in Statistics from Texas Tech University. He has published in such journals as the *Annals of Operations Research*, *IEEE Transactions on Reliability*, *European Journal of Operational Research*, *Journal of the Operational Research Society*, and *International Journal of Operations and Quantitative Management*. Robert is a long time member of the Decision Sciences Institute and has held several officer positions. He is also a member of the American Statistical Association (ASA) and the Institute for Operations Research and the Management Sciences (INFORMS). His topic will be “Moderated Mediation or Mediated Moderation” and will explore the combining the concepts of moderator variables and mediator variables in research.

Registration for these webinars will be available soon. To get an email notification when registration is available, please email Matt Lindsey at lindseymd@sfasu.edu.

If you would like to present a future webinar in Summer or Fall 2021, contact Matt Lindsey at lindseymd@sfasu.edu with your proposed presentation topic.

Harnessing Analytics for Enhancing Healthcare and Business **50th NEDSI Annual Conference March 26-27, 2021**

MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

As a result of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the 2021 Northeast Decision Sciences Institute Annual Conference will be held virtually March 26-27, 2021. The two-day conference will start on Friday and continue through Saturday afternoon. More information about the virtual platform to be used for the conference will be forthcoming.

CALL FOR PAPERS

Full papers, abstracts, and workshops are invited for, but not limited to, the topic areas listed below. Undergraduate students may submit proposals for poster sessions. Sessions involving practitioners will be given consideration. Submissions will be blind refereed and accepted papers will be published in the online Conference Proceedings.

By submitting a manuscript, the author certifies that it is not copyrighted or previously published, has not been presented or accepted for presentation at another professional meeting, and is not currently under review for presentation at another professional meeting. At least one of the authors certifies that he/she intends to register for and attend the conference to present the paper if it is accepted.

All papers, abstracts, and undergraduate posters must be submitted electronically on or before January 16, 2021 via the conference website: <https://nedsi2021.exordo.com>.

If you have proposals for workshops or roundtable discussions, please email the program chair, Dinesh R. Pai at drp18@psu.edu.

PROGRAM TRACKS

- Accounting, Finance, Economics
- Big Data, Analytics, and Knowledge Management
- Cyber Security, IT, and Emerging Technologies
- Decision Making: Public Administration and Policy
- DSS, Machine Learning, and Artificial Intelligence
- Education, Curriculum, and Cases
- Healthcare Analytics and Services Management
- Human-Technology Interface
- Innovation and Creativity
- Legal, Ethical, and Social Issues
- Operations Management/Operations Research
- Marketing and Consumer Behavior
- Strategy and Organizational Behavior
- Supply Chain Management and Logistics
- Sustainability Management
- Undergraduate Student Poster Competition

NEDSI is the Northeast Regional Subdivision of the Decision Sciences Institute.