

SIGSIM FY'12 Annual Report
July 2011- June 2012
Submitted by: Drew Hamilton, Past Chair

Awards

- a) An award of the **ACM SIGSIM Distinguished Contributions Award**, which recognizes individuals based on their overall contributions to the field of modeling and simulation, including technical innovations, publications, leadership, teaching, mentoring, and service to the community was not made this year. The recipient of the Award typically receives a plaque and an honorarium of \$1500. Dick Nance reorganized the SIGSIM Awards Committee and the 2011 ACM SIGSIM Distinguished Contributions Award was made to James Wilson of North Carolina State University.
- b) Juan Pablo Saenz Corredor (University of Miami) was awarded the **ACM SIGSIM Best Ph.D. Student Paper Award** at the 2011 Winter Simulation Conference. The recipient of the Award received a plaque and an honorarium of \$200.

Significant papers on new areas that were published in proceedings

SIGSIM sponsored the following two conferences and one workshop.

- Winter Simulation Conference (WSC)
- ACM International Conference on Modeling, Analysis, and Simulation of Wireless and Mobile Systems (MSWiM)
- Workshop on Principles of Advanced and Distributed Simulation (PADS)

WSC, MSWiM, and PADS publish high quality papers in their proceedings. It is infeasible to identify which papers were significant since they all contribute to the state of the art in many different dimensions. Additionally, we continue to expand in cooperation with many other simulation conferences, notably from the Society for Modeling and Simulation and in doing so we increase the size of the simulation holdings in the ACM Digital Library.

Significant programs that provided a springboard for further technical efforts

SIGSIM provided the following benefits to its members:

- a) SIGSIM-members-only access to ACM SIGSIM M&S Knowledge Repository
- b) Proceedings (CD) of the annual Winter Simulation Conference (WSC) mailed to each SIGSIM member
- c) Proceedings (hard copy) of the annual International Workshop on Principles of Advanced and Distributed Simulation (PADS) mailed to each SIGSIM member
- d) Reduced registration fees for many conferences including WSC and PADS
- e) SIGSIM members are granted full on-line access to the proceedings of the SIGSIM sponsored / supported conferences in the ACM Digital Library

SIGSIM provided the following benefits to its community:

- a) Distinguished Contributions Award
- b) Ph.D. Colloquium and Poster Session at the annual WSC
- c) Best Ph.D. Student Paper Award at the annual WSC
- d) Sponsorship of annual conferences: WSC, PADS, and MSWiM
- e) In-cooperation support of many conferences including: DEVS, DS-RT, EOMAS, MASCOTS, MSI, SIMUTools, SpringSim, SummerSim and SW

- f) LinkedIn Professional Group named “ACM SIGSIM”, which provides professional networking among the Modeling and Simulation (M&S) professionals
- g) Announcements via a moderated email distribution list about events of interest, Calls for Papers, and Calls for Participation.

SIGSIM's benefits delivered to its members and community together with the two conferences and one workshop it has sponsored provide a springboard for further technical efforts. However these conferences and workshops are run outside of ACM. Our plan is to establish a unique SIGSIM conference to give our SIG more of its own identity as well as increasing participation by new members.

Innovative programs which provide service to our technical community

SIGSIM's Modeling and Simulation (M&S) Knowledge Repository (MSKR) at <http://www.acm-sigsim-mskr.org/> has been an innovative program which provided services to the SIGSIM technical community. Osman Balci has done a commendable job keeping this web site current.

A SIGSIM Conference

The first SIGSIM PADS Conference scheduled for summer 2013 is an important milestone for SIGSIM. SIGSIM is a very different SIG in that it is financially viable with no real activities and no membership outreach. WSC and in the past PADS, have been co-sponsored by several other groups and thus SIGSIM tended to get lost in the crowd. Current SIGSIM Vice Chair Margaret Loper will serve as the first SIGSIM PADS conference chair. The difference is this conference will make is that it will serve the SIGSIM membership rather than be a conference that is run outside of ACM. This conference will provide a venue for high quality computer science oriented publications. This conference serves both a community need and the SIGSIM need to provide a viable activity for its members.

Summary of key issues that SIGSIM membership will have to deal with in the next 2-3 years

SIGSIM cannot outsource its responsibility to serve its members. The long term SIGSIM relationship with WSC is important and very financially rewarding for SIGSIM. There is no need to change SIGSIM's relationship with WSC that is healthy and working well. However, WSC will never meet the membership needs of SIGSIM. Our flat membership numbers make that clear. In-Coops and joint sponsorship of non-ACM conferences are positive things, but they cannot build and support membership. Membership in SIGSIM has been flat for some time. A successful SIGSIM PADS annual conference can help change this membership trend for the better. Participation in ACM SIGSIM should not be limited to a non-ACM conference conducted during the Fall Final Exam week at many universities. A successful SIGSIM PADS conference will change this status quo for the better.