Minutes of The Annual Meeting of The Information Systems (IS) Section

Chair Vairam Arunachalam called the meeting to order at approximately 2:00 p.m. on August 13, 2001. The minutes of the 2000 annual meeting were approved by acclamation. Vairam then gave an overview of the section's activities for the previous year.

Chris Wolfe gave the Treasurer's report. The section has a cash balance of $113,438. Journal revenue was down for the year while outflows, specifically the journal cost, were up. Expenses related to the following items were still outstanding: Mid-Year Meeting, AIS Symposium, Waterloo Conference, monograph and journal. Follow-up discussion included a suggestion to charge for electronic access to the journal and possible explanations for the decrease in journal.. Electronic access to the journal will be free for a period of time and hardcopies will continue to be sent to libraries. Additionally, the decrease in journal revenue was attributed to the decrease in library subscriptions. The backlog in journal issues was mentioned as a possible cause of the decrease in library subscriptions.

Casper Wiggins gave the editor's report on *The Journal of Information System (JIS)*. He discussed the submission and acceptance rate (18-20%). He also provided a summary of the articles in process, an overview of the turnaround time and a preview of the table of contents for the next issue of *JIS*. Following Casper's report, Vairam thanked Casper and Uday Murthy for their work as editors of the *JIS*. He then introduced Dan Stone as the new editor.

In his remarks as incoming editor, Dan posed the following questions: Is accounting information systems (*AIS*) research published in the top "general accounting journals"? What is evidence of *JIS* quality? What papers are appropriate for *JIS?* In answer, Dan indicated that a very small percentage (less than one-half of one percent) of systems papers are published in other journals. *JIS* has the largest circulation of any *AIS* journal. Dan concluded by emphasizing that *JIS* would have a broad editorial mission that reflects the "strange, eccentricity of the editor."

Paul Steinbart presented the Outstanding Dissertation Award to Patrick Randolph Wheeler for his dissertation, "The Effects of User-Choice of Decision-Aid Features on Decision Behavior and Judgment Quality." Rob Nehmer, Chair of the Notable Contributions to Literature Award Committee, presented the 2001 Award to Richard Boland for his article, "Accounting and The Interpretive Act," appearing in *Accounting, Organizations, and Society* (1993). Ron Clark and Bonita Daly also served on the committee. Elaine Mauldin received the *JIS* Outstanding Reviewer Award from the editors.

Dan Stone reported on the Doctoral Programs Strategy Committee. He reviewed the committee charge, which was to increase the *AIS* doctoral pool. Dan explained that the committee is trying to identify the problems related to accomplishing the objective and will propose solutions for addressing the problems. Dan also stated "no one is tracking the supply and demand for *AIS* faculty." At the conclusion of Dan's report, Steve Sutton solicited signatures for the new Faculty Diversity Section.

The faculty membership committee did not make a report, however, Nancy Bagranoff stated that an *AIS* resource package for new *AIS* faculty should be developed. Following Nancy's remarks,

Vairam thanked Scott Summers and Raymand Meservy for their work on the web page and faculty database.

Stephanie Bryant presented a report from the Faculty Development Committee. The Committee conducted an informal survey to identify key issues essential to faculty development. The responses from the informal survey were divided into four categories: (1) curriculum issues contents, (2) outreach promoting *AIS* section, (3) research opportunities and (4) faculty internships and residencies. Item four seemed to be very important to the membership. Other committees are addressing the first three items. Therefore, the committee will focus on item four next year. Stephanie noted that there is a possibility that faculty internships may be obtained from Andersen and the IMA.

Ralph Viator reported on regional activities. The regional meetings received from zero to four papers resulting in either no session or one session. A high demand for teaching workshops exists in most regions. The following regions held teaching workshops: Ohio, Midwest and Northeast. More than 50% of the attendees at the regional meetings are not members of the American Accounting Association (AAA). These attendees want help in teaching. Ralph suggested that the IS Section may need to evaluate whether or not it has funds to support meetings with large contingents of non-AAA members. Ralph also indicated that the regions were going back to a system of co-liaisons consisting of the outgoing liaisons and incoming liaisons.

Dan O'Leary reported on the national meeting activities. There were 19 submissions, two of which were submitted to other sections. Nine of the papers were accepted for the IS section, and the other sections accepted the two papers submitted to them, resulting in 11 papers on the program. This gave the IS Section three sessions. The Artificial Intelligence/Emerging Technologies (AIET) Section received approximately15 submissions all of which were electronically submitted. The AIET is the only section to use electronic submissions exclusively.

Nancy Bagranoff reported on the activities from the AIS Teaching Symposium. The symposium received 16 submissions resulting in 6 presentations. Julie David presented two technology sessions. All submissions and communications were handled electronically.

Amy Ray provided an update on the Mid-Year Meeting. After passing out the call for papers, Amy informed everyone that the submission fee was waived. Papers could be submitted to both the *JIS* journal and the conference or to the conference only. The estimated fees for the conference will be $135 for hotel and between $100 and $150 for registration. No registration deadline has been set. When questioned about a co-mid year meeting with the auditing section, Amy indicated that due to a lot of variation, a co-mid year meeting is no longer being pursued for the 2002 year.

Vairam conducted the election of new officers. The slate of officers for the coming year (2001-2002) was Ralph Viator for Chair, Jim Hunton for Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect, Scott Summer for Secretary and Cynthia Jackson for Treasurer. The slate passed by acclamation. Following a call

for nominations for two members-at-large, Elaine Mauldin and Brad Tuttle were elected by the membership.

At the conclusion of the election, Paul Steinbart discussed the CITP, a new certification designed to bridge the gap between technical people and top management. Vairam then passed out brochures for grants and calls for papers.

Before making the call for other business, Vairam gave some brief reflections of his year as Chair of the section. In these remarks, he stated that last year consisted of a lot of good things, a lot of debate, and some hard feelings regarding the mid-year meeting. However, the mid-year meeting is a great idea. He encouraged everyone to support the mid-year meeting because without the support of the members, it would have a negative impact on the section. Furthermore, the mid-year meeting will support the *JIS*.

When the call for other business was made, Bill McCarthy discussed his feelings regarding the ranking of journals. He expressed the need for the IS section to go on record opposing the ranking of journals. He read a position statement and indicated that he plans to submit it for consideration at next year's meeting. In the discussion that ensued, Dan Stone stated that he would like to think about it. Amy Ray agreed with the statement but indicated that one gets more bees with honey than with vinegar. She suggested re-wording the statement. She also reported that there is evidence of a change in the mind set. Margarita Lenk suggested that there needs to be empirical evidence provided to support the IS because the IS faculty tends to be more transitory.

Cheryl Dunn made an appeal for participation in a conference in New Orleans on December 15 and 16. She stated that they are hoping to get AIS people interested in research and IS people interested in AIS research.

Vairam introduced the new Chair, Ralph Viator, who recognized the work and commitment of Vairam. He indicated that last year had been a difficult year, but the section made some progress. After a few reflective remarks, he emphasized the significance of the Mid-Year Section Meeting.

> The section needs a platform to develop new leaders and to be innovative and creative. The Mid-Year meeting puts the process in place for future leaders. The section should look forward to successes and to failures; failures indicate that we are making progress.

> The officers and executive board will meet in January in Orlando at the end of the Mid-Year meeting. Scheduling the meeting at the end will provide an opportunity to receive and discuss the feedback about the Mid-Year meeting.

Ralph then described several initiatives to be implemented and identified the committee(s) responsible for the implementation

1. Creation of a Web Advisory Committee

2. Implementation of a mentoring program – Darrell Brown, Chair of Education Issues Committee

3. Implementation of faculty residency internships – Saeed Roohani, Chair of Faculty Development Committee

4. Implementation of Doctoral Programs Initiative – need help from senior faculty

5. Documentation for *JIS* editorship terms for appointment and transition – Chris Wolfe, Chair of Research and Publication Committee and Nancy Bagranoff, Chair of By-Laws Committeee

6. Continuation of the development of members – Mary Curtis, Chair of Education Issues Committee; Stephanie Bryant, Chair of Faculty Development Committee; and Cynthia Frownfelter-Lohrke, Chair of Membership Services Committee

7. Re-implementation of co-liaison program for regional meetings – Jim Hunton, Vice-Chair/Chair-Elect

Ralph adjourned the meeting.

Submitted:

Cynthia Jackson

2000-2001 IS Section Secretary