MEMORANDUM

To: IS Section Membership

From: Mary Curtis, 2007 AAA-IS Midyear Meeting Chair

Date: August 7, 2007

Re: Report on the 2007 IS Section Midyear Meeting

Overview

The 6th annual AAA-IS midyear meeting was held January 3-6th 2007 at the Hilton Savannah Desoto in Savannah, Georgia. The meeting was preceded by the New Scholar Consortium chaired by Greg Gerard, JIS Research Workshop chaired by Margarita Lenk, and SMAP presented by Julie Smith David and Bill McCarthy. The Consortium was on January 4th and the IS Section Conference was on the 5th and 6th and included a plenary session, 9 concurrent sessions, luncheon speaker on Friday and a research forum session. The conference began with an "Early Bird" workshop on the afternoon of the 4th.and closed with a speaker on Saturday afternoon. We used the discussion format for research paper sessions; that is, discussants summarized papers to encourage more audience participation. Discussants were not used in the education paper sessions. *The Research Committee (chaired by Sev Grabski) and Education Committee (chaired by Marianne Bradford) reviewed the paper submissions and selected papers for presentation.*

Registrations

New Scholars Consortium	33
SMAP	23
Midyear Meeting	129 (Members: 94, Non-members: 5, Comps: 5, Doctoral Students: 25)

Summary of Papers

Number of papers submitted	36
Number of papers in regular sessions	14
AI/ET has 2 sessions	5
Number of papers in forum session	12
Total number of papers on program	33

Paper Awards

Research Award: "Intended and Unintended Consequences of Continuous Auditing and Incentive Compensation: Trapped Between Risk and Reward," by James E. Hunton (Bentley College), Elaine Mauldin (University of Missouri-Columbia) and Patrick Wheeler (University of Missouri-Columbia)

Education Award: "Auditing System Development: Constructing the Meaning of "Systematic and Rational" in the Context of Legacy Code Migration for Vendor Incentives," by A. Faye Borthick (Georgia State University) and Paul L. Bowen (University of Queensland)

Notes

Prof. Bob Slater served as our Technology Manager, and we hope he will continue in that role. He was responsible for helping presenters load their PP presentations on laptops, helping with any equipment problems, and being the custodian of the Kensington locks (purchased this year). He did a great job!

We only have KPMG funding for the 2005, 2006, and 2007 Meetings. I believe Scott has requested a higher commitment from KPMG for future meetings. Additionally, ISACA approached us regarding sponsorship for this next meeting and should be contacted.

Due to the significant problems with producing the program (exceptionally short turn-around time, denial of ability to proof final version and significant errors in the program), I strongly recommend we produce the program in-house from now on.

Meeting Costs

In an effort to break even on this year's meeting, we did the following:

1. Last year, the registration fee was increased to $225 and SMAP registration was increased to $120.
2. Scott's suggestion to have Section members bring laptops/projectors for the presentations in the paper sessions saved several thousand dollars last year. *However, the hotel billed us for almost $2,000 for the screens and "assistance."*
3. Last year, we changed the receptions to "light snacks" and included this information in the Program that was posted on our Section website (before the Meeting) to alert our members that this would be a time to meet with colleagues and make dinner plans. In addition, the receptions are all "cash bar". *Given our surplus (see note below), we may want to add back to the Friday night reception menu.*
4. The cost of this year's meeting is compared with prior meetings:

	2007 Actual	**2006 Estimated**	**2005 Actual**	**2004 Actual**	**2003 Actual**	**2002 Actual**
Location:	**Savannah**	**Scottsdale**	**New Orleans**	**Clearwater**	**San Diego**	**Orlando**
Attendance*:	129	119	135	124		129
Revenue:	$25,850.00	$31,950.00	$30,655.00	$28,310.00	$20,950.00	$22,075.00
Expenses:	21,856.55	25,437.44	33,649.69	22,419.85	27,902.94	30,683.26
Net:	$ 3,993.45	$ 6,512.56	$(2,994.69)	$ 5,890.15	$(6,952.92)	$(8,608.26)

*Includes IS Members, non-members, PhD students, and guests.

NOTE: *It does not appear that we have collected KPMG's contribution of $5,000 to support the New Faculty Consortium for 2007, although other years' revenues do appear to include this amount. Thus, while revenue for 2007 is comparable to the prior years, net would be almost $9,000 with this contribution. Thus, we appear to have, perhaps, kept costs too low in 2007. This is reflected in the evaluations of food presented below.*

IS Section Feedback

We solicited feedback from the registrants at this meeting on the following 16 items, and on a scale of 1 to 5, each item's average score is presented.*

	2007	2006
Hotel	4.29	4.34
Meeting Site	4.44	4.50
Breakfasts	3.45	3.43
Breaks	3.75	3.47
Lunches	3.84	3.91
Receptions	3.32	3.43
Registration	4.54	4.48
New Scholar Consortium Program	4.73	4.65
Early Bird session on Thursday afternoon	4.53	n/a
JIS Research Workshop	4.89	4.17
Semantic Modeling of Accounting Phenomena (SMAP)	4.83	4.47
Plenary Session	3.85	3.39
Research Forum – Saturday afternoon	4.78	4.15
Format for Research Sessions	3.73	3.55
Format for Education Sessions	4.47	4.26
Contents of Research Sessions	4.56	n/a

* Where 1 = poor, 2 = below average, 3 = OK, 4 = very good, 5 = excellent

The speakers at Friday lunch (Caleb Sima) and on Saturday afternoon (Conan Albrect) were well received. Several commented on individually poor discussant performances and one individual recommended rating discussants, which the board might consider for 2008. Despite the low ratings of the research session format, a number of people said they would like to retain the format – if it could be executed correctly. Finally, most of the comments related to food suggested more and a greater variety at all food-related events. One individual said there should be salty as well as sweet options at breaks.