President’s Letter

2011 IS Mid-Year Meeting
New Scholars Consortium
Award for Research Excellence
Adoption of New Bylaws
Call for Papers

It is truly an honor to serve as President of the IS Section this year. When Ralph Viator, my dissertation chair, encouraged me to attend my first IS Section midyear meeting, I was completely overwhelmed by the reception I received from everyone I met. It never occurred to me that I might have the opportunity—and challenge—to help guide the Section at some point in the future.

My first challenge in assuming the role of President for the Section was to try to fill the shoes of Vern Richardson, who did a great job as President last year. One of the many projects that Vern oversaw was the very successful AAA annual meeting in San Francisco this past August. Kevin Kobelsky, our Annual Meeting coordinator, received 1 panel session idea and 38 paper submissions, and ended up with 11 sessions and a total of 22 paper presentations on the final program. The sessions were a mixture of two types: some had discussants and some did not. We are anxious to get your feedback about your experiences in each of these types of sessions. Thanks, Kevin, for your hard work and for a successful annual meeting.

The second challenge I had in becoming President, which I admit facing with some trepidation, was to staff the many committee assignments for the section. I began talking with people at the midyear meeting last year about possible roles, and I can honestly say, not a single person turned down my request to serve. I cannot thank all of you enough for your willingness to work for the good of this section.

I thought about what I wanted to accomplish this year (besides filling committees), I was confronted with one important fact: our membership numbers are declining! I don’t want to make this too dramatic of a statement—we are still one of the larger sections in the AAA, the numbers haven’t dropped a lot, we are still strong. But, ... We need to address the issue and what we can do to reverse the trend, if possible. So, this summer I began conversations with committees and members of the Executive Committee to identify possible causes and interventions for this decline. Although there are numerous possible explanations for this trend, the one thing that is clear to me is that the primary reason for a decline in representation of any membership in any organization is whether members are getting what they need from the organization. So, my question to each of these individuals was: Are we serving our members and how can we improve? This resulted in our first step to find out where we are. For this purpose, I have asked Kathy Hurtt, a committee chair, to design a survey for current members and for AIS faculty who aren’t members. (You may remember being asked to complete the survey.) We are analyzing that data and other feedback to assess our current level of service to you and identify opportunities for improvement. If you didn’t get the opportunity to complete the survey, or if you can think of additional ideas, please drop me or Kathy an email or give us a call.

Our next step is the evaluation of every activity of the section to determine how we are providing the services we promise to our members. This will be followed by a more formal strategic planning process over the next year. Finally, we need your help! Give us feedback on what you think of the Section and how we can improve. If you aren’t a member of the Section, please consider joining.

Our Mid-Year Meeting will be in Atlanta from January 6th to 8th at the Hyatt Regency. The meeting will feature a keynote session, panel sessions, and poster sessions. Talk up the Section to those who are not currently members of the section. And, most of all, come out and participate in the fun! We want everyone to have a great time and to accept a committee assignment.

Our New Scholars’ Consortium meeting will be held in Atlanta from January 6th to 8th. Vern has continued his efforts from last year to recruit new doctoral candidates into our doctoral programs, and is organizing an information session for individuals in the Atlanta area and beyond who would like to learn more about graduate studies in AIS. Registration is open! I look forward to seeing you there.
The 2011 Information Systems Section Mid-Year Meeting will be held January 7-8, 2011 at the InterContinental Buckhead Atlanta. Buckhead is an upscale district within Atlanta with more than 300 restaurants, bars, and nightclubs, and over 1,400 retail units. Just prior to the meeting on January 6, there will be a full-day New Scholar Consortium (preceded by a welcome reception on the evening of January 5). Also on January 6, there will be a half-day (afternoon) CPE Workshop on IT Governance and Assurance (WITGA). WITGA will focus on practices that organizations use for identifying threats to IT performance, developing procedures to manage IT risks, and assessing the effectiveness of IT controls. The workshop has been designed to help participants design teaching materials and identify relevant research questions by interacting with practitioners who work at the cutting edge of IT governance and assurance. Registration is now open for the meeting—please see https://members.aaahq.org/CVWEB_AAA/MainLogin.shtml for online registration and http://aaahq.org/meetings/2011IS_hotel.htm for hotel information. Questions about the meeting can be directed to Greg Gerard at ggerard@cob.fsu.edu.
On January 6, 2011, the Information Systems Section will once again sponsor a New Scholars and Doctoral Student Consortium in association with the AAA IS Section and SET Section Mid-Year Meeting. The Mid-Year meeting will be held January 6-8, 2011 in Atlanta, Georgia. We encourage doctoral students at any stage in their program and new scholars in the first three years of their career as an Assistant Professor to attend. There is no cost associated with the consortium, and Ph.D. students attending the consortium can also attend the remainder of the Mid-Year Meeting at no cost due to a generous grant from KPMG. The Consortium will kick off with a reception Wednesday night at 6:30, followed by a program from 10:00 AM to 3:30 PM on Thursday. The program will include the following topics:

- Early career development: A survival plan. This session will focus on how to manage the dissertation process, how to stay motivated during the dissertation process, how to manage the job search process, what to expect as a new assistant professor.
- Conducting business relevant academic research in AIS. This session is on identifying “hot” research topics, finding support from external sources, and obtaining data and participants.
- Presenting and publishing research. This session will focus on how to be a good reviewer, how to be a good discussant, how to be a good presenter, how to move a paper from the initial draft to actual publication (including revising and resubmitting a paper).

In order to register for the Consortium, the student or new faculty member must be a member of the Section. Registration for the Consortium and Mid-Year Meeting is available at AAAHQ.org. To get further information or to sign up for the Consortium, please contact Vicky Arnold at varnold@bus.ucf.edu.
The Notable Contribution Award committee seeks your input and nominations for the 2010-2011 Notable Contributions to IS Literature Award. Please contact any of the committee members:

Faye Borthick: borthick@gsu.edu
Ron Clark: rclark@auburn.edu
Casper Wiggins: cwiggins@uncc.edu
Nominations are invited for The Information Systems Section
2011 Outstanding Dissertation Award
The Information Systems Section of the American Accounting Association is pleased to announce its 2011 Outstanding Dissertation Award Competition. The purpose of this award is to recognize outstanding dissertations in the field of accounting information systems. The winner will be honored with a plaque presented at the IS Section Business meeting at the 2011 Annual Meeting in Denver, CO. An abstract of the winning dissertation will appear in the Section Newsletter. Entries may be nominated either by the student who wrote the dissertation, or by one or more members of the dissertation committee. Entries will be under simultaneous consideration by other sections of the AAA.

The submission requirements are as follows:
- Dissertation topic dealing with information systems.
- A letter signed by the dissertation chair stating the dissertation was completed and accepted by the degree granting institution during the above period.
- A curriculum letter stating why the dissertation should be recognized as outstanding.
- A paper from the dissertation that meets the criteria for papers submitted to the Journal of Information Systems* or a 15 page abstract (the paper format is strongly encouraged).
- Please scan and convert each document into a PDF file if the document contains signature(s) and/or official letterheads.

Please submit all the PDF files related to the nomination to:
Dr. Gary F. Peters
Chairperson: Outstanding Dissertation Award Committee
E-mail: gfpeters@walton.uark.edu

All submissions must be submitted by March 31, 2011. The award committee may request finalists to submit a copy of their completed dissertation.

* Please refer to the latest issue for requirements related to length, format and other matters such as inclusion of experimental instruments.
Below is the link to the AAA IS Section photos from the 2010 Annual Meeting. Please thank Ann O’Brien for all of her hard work!

http://picasaweb.google.com/AAAISHistorian/AAAISAug2010HighlightsWithCaptions#
The IS Section President, Vern Richardson opened the meeting at 7:19 a.m. Vern reflected on the positive and negative for the section over the term, including:

- KAHP has reviewed their funding of $25,000 per annum for the next three years.
- The Executive Group and on-line journal is providing another outlet for increasing the diversity in AIS.

The discussion included the recent idea of a submission fee being added to the section. There was an 80% decrease in submissions from 607 in 2008 to 127 in 2010. The section is contemplating an increase from $30 to $50, which is what other sections are doing. Students and new scholars are concerned about the additional $25,000 per annum funding from KPMG.

Vern thanked the meeting for their interest in setting up a new system to help present relevant data for paper/news.

The Special Interest Group for Accounting Information Systems (SIG-AIS) updated that the pre-conference session would be held again this year, please see the pre-conference sessions.

The IS Educators reminded section members to consider their paper online as an outlet for publishing systems information.

Kevin Kobelsky presented the Annual Meeting Report:

- The meeting will be held at Buschun, co-hosting with the MIS and Marketing Session.
- The meeting was attended by 127 people.
- The AIS Educators group and on-line journal as an outlet for AIS and increasing the diversity in AIS.

Outstanding Reviewer Award presented to Kevin Kobelsky.

Outstanding Convention Presenter presented to Michael Alles.

Outstanding Service Award presented to Terry Glandon for maintenance of the website.

Diane Janvrin tabled and presented the Treasurer's Report on behalf of the outgoing treasurer, Marcus Odam. Diane noted that the budget report (not shown) includes the financial statements to April and does not include the additional $25,000 per annum funding from KPMG.

Incoming Treasurer presented by Mary Curtis.

Vern presented the meeting to focus on the forthcoming Mid-Year Meeting.

The meeting closed at 7:52 a.m.
Mary Curtis, Section President, opened the meeting at 8:21 a.m. Marilyn Prosch, David Boynton (AAA), Greg Gerard, Gary Schneider, TerryAnn Glandon presented her final report as the Website Editor. Mary noted that the committee will need to continue pursuing the potential costs for the section. The discussion around this issue, and the potential costs for the section. The committee also includes Martha Eining and Ed O’Donnell. There was discussion that the name of the committee was not clear, and a suggestion be made that the committee be called the Professional Practice Committee. The purpose is to raise the section’s identity and involvement in practice.

Kathy has also considered the potential for using Hassleback to identify faculty with interests in AIS that are not members of the section (the cost of trying to survey past members, but establishing contact details is difficult). So far, there have been 28 responses. The responses are diverse.

Call to fill some vacant regional liaison positions.

Update on AAA National Activities: AAA is developing a strategic plan and wants sections to also do. Call to fill some vacant regional liaison positions.

Diane Janvrin tabled and presented the Membership Committee’s Report. This was discussed).

Calling for the following year for voting on by the section. The purpose is to raise the section’s identity and involvement in practice.

Gary Schneider presented the JIS Editor’s Report. This is a newly formed committee responsible for coordinating and monitoring professional group for researchers and editorial board has international representation. 10% of accepted papers from international institutions. Important that authors publishing outside the journals site relevant citations included, but it is more important that authors publishing outside of the section. Important that authors publishing outside of the section. Important that authors publishing outside of the section. Important that authors publishing outside of the section. Important that authors publishing outside of the section.

There was discussion on monitoring the AAA bylaw changes. There were changes to the JIS Editor’s Report were discussed. These will be published in JIS in Fall 2010. There has been a drop in submissions for the second half of this year and Ed O’Donnell. There was discussion regarding the monitoring of professional groups for pronouncements impacting teaching, research or of other relevance. The committee also includes Martha Eining and Ed O’Donnell. There was discussion that the name of the committee was not clear, and a suggestion be made that the committee be called the Professional Practice Committee.

Kevin thanked all volunteers for their work in making the program a success.

MidYear Meeting Report

Roger Debreceny is guest editor of a special issue, and at least four papers have been accepted for publication. Jim is the incoming editor.

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Advances in Accounting Behavioral Research (AABR) publishes articles encompassing all areas of accounting that incorporate theory from and contribute new knowledge and understanding to the fields of applied psychology, sociology, management science, and economics. The Journal is devoted to original empirical research and review that synthesize a specific body of literature; however, theoretical analyses, and replication studies, provided they investigate important issues and are concisely written, are welcome. The journal especially welcomes manuscripts that address accounting issues with organizational behavior, human judgment/decision making, and cognitive psychology.

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