



# President's Letter



Mary Curtis,  
University of North Texas

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 23 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.

As 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 see what can be done to reverse the trend, if possible. So, this summer I began conversations with committee chairs and members of the Executive Committee to identify possible causes and interventions for this decline. Although there are numerous possible explanations, including the impact of the economy on ability and willingness to pay section dues, I believe the strongest determinant of membership in any organization is whether members are getting what they need from the organization. So, my questions to each of these individuals were: Are we serving our members and how can we improve?

We decided that our first step was to find out where we are. For this purpose, Kathy Hurr, the chair of our Membership Committee, and Carlin Dowling, the Section's Secretary, designed 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 the section engages in, for the purpose of enhancing the value we provide 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 your feedback. Talk up the Section to those who are not currently members of the section. And, most of all, continue to say "yes" when we email you to ask for a review or to accept a committee assignment.

Our Mid-Year Meeting will be in Atlanta from January 6th to 8th at the InterContinental Buckhead. KPMG has renewed their support for the meeting and we are very grateful to them. Greg Gerard, the Mid-Year Meeting chair, has a great program and interesting activities lined up for us. Vicky Arnold, the New Scholars' Consortium chair, is hard at work designing the program for the Consortium and I hope you will encourage your doctoral students and new AIS scholars to attend. 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.

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**2011 Information Systems Section Mid-Year Meeting  
January 7-8, 2011**

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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](https://members.aaahq.org/CVWEB_AAA/MainLogin.shtml) for online registration and [http://aaahq.org/meetings/2011IS\\_hotel.htm](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](mailto:ggerard@cob.fsu.edu).

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## 2011 IS Dissertation Award

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### 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 by either the student who wrote the dissertation or by one or more members of the dissertation committee. The entry should not be under simultaneous consideration by other sections of the AAA.

#### The submission requirements are as follows:

Dissertation topic dealing with information systems.

Dissertation completed between January 1, 2010 and December 31, 2010.

A letter signed by the dissertation chair stating the dissertation was completed and accepted by the degree granting institution during the above period.

A nominating 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](mailto: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.



# Photos

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Below is the link to the AAA IS Section photos from the 2010 Annual Meeting. Please thank Ann O'Brian for all of her hard work!

<http://picasaweb.google.com/AAAIHistorian/AAAISSAug2010HighlightsWithCaptions#>

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## IS Section Business Meeting Minutes

Tuesday August 3, 2010

The IS Section President, Vern Richardson opened the meeting at 7:19 a.m.

Vern Richardson presented the **President's Report**. Vern reflected on the positive and negatives for the section over his term, including:

- KPMG have renewed their funding of \$25,000 per annum for the next three years,
- The AIS Educators group and on-line journal is providing another outlet for AIS and increasing the diversity in AIS,
- The doctoral information conference at the mid year was attended by 16 pre-doctoral students, and although there is clear interest by students Vern noted the difficulty students are encountering when trying to enrol in doctoral programs because Schools do not have a strong AIS doctoral program or interests in developing one.
- The section membership has been falling over the last few years
- The submission numbers for *JIS* have been smaller than normal over the last few months
- Vern concluded his report with a call for the need for the AIS community to work together. Vern highlighted that this is extremely important for our IS section because "AIS" is very diverse.

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

Vern opened the meeting for other relevant interests to present relevant calls for papers/news.

- The Special Interest Group for Accounting Information Systems (SIG-ASYS) stated that the pre ICIS conference would be held again this year, please see their website <http://sigasys.aisnet.org/>
- The AIS Educators reminded section members to consider their online journal as an outlet for accounting information systems education research, see <http://www.aiseducators.com/journal.asp>

Kevin Kobelsky presented the **Annual Meeting Report**.

- The section has 11 concurrent sessions at the annual meeting and 2 research interactive sessions.
- 38 submissions were received, 22 papers accepted for concurrent sessions, and 8 for research interactive sessions.
- Kevin mentioned that the paper dialogue sessions were being implemented by the AAA to increase participant interaction during the sessions and he stressed that the papers in these sessions were not second rate. The sessions were equivalent to traditional concurrent sessions.
- Kevin thanked all the reviewers, authors, and volunteers.

Rick Dull presented the report for the **Past Mid-Year Meeting**.

- 27 papers presented, joint with the SET section
- Meeting was held at Clearwater Beach, Florida
- Rick thanked Ronny Daigle, Martha Eining, Elaine Mauldin and Sandy Richtermeyer for their work in organizing the meeting.
- Michael Alles coordinated a success full XBRL panel.
- The meeting was attended by 127 people
- Rick thanked Uday for organizing students to guard the projectors, and for people who assisted with providing the technology to reduce the section costs
- Rick concluded his report by reminding section members that it is important to share the load and volunteer.

Greg Gerard presented the report for the **forthcoming Mid-Year Meeting**.

- The meeting will be held at Buckhead, co-locating with the Management Accounting Section
- Aiming to provide high quality reviews on papers, and as such, the section is encouraging early submissions of papers.
- There is an on-line submission process. Volunteers should also register through the website.

Paul Steinbart tabled and presented the **JIS Editor's Report**.

- There has been a drop in submissions this year. It is normally about 4 to 5 per month, but it has only been around 1 or 2 since February.
- Consequently, the acceptance rate (37.8%) is higher than normal
- Miklos Vasarhelyi is the incoming editor of *JIS*. Paul will process all papers submitted through to December 31, then Miklos will take over.

### 2010 Award Presentations

- *JIS* Outstanding Reviewer presented to Kevin Kobelsky.
- Outstanding Dissertation Award presented to James Goldstein.
- Notable Contribution to IS Literature Award presented to Miklos Vasarhelyi and Fern Harper for their article "Continuous Audit of On-Line Systems" published in *AJPT*, Fall 1991.
- Outstanding Service Award presented to Terry Glandon for maintenance of the website

Vern then turned the meeting over to the incoming president, Mary Curtis.

**Incoming President's Report** presented by Mary Curtis

- Mary presented Vern with a plaque recognising his service to the section as President.
- Mary thanked Vern and all past leaders for their contribution to the section.
- Mary mentioned that membership will be an important area of focus for the section in the upcoming year, and to this regard all members were sent a link to a membership survey. Mary encouraged all members to complete this survey.
- Mary mentioned the push of the Mid-Year meeting to focus on providing feedback, and reminded members about the upcoming special issue of *Issues in Accounting Education* in which Greg Gerard is editing.

The meeting closed at 7:52 a.m.

Minutes prepared by Carlin Dowling, IS Section Secretary 2010 - 2011.

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## IS Section Executive Meeting Minutes

August 3, 2010  
San Francisco, California

Present: Mary Curtis, Carlin Dowling, Dan Stone, Miklos Vasarhelyi, Kathy Hurtt, Marilyn Prosch, David Boynton (AAA), Greg Gerard, Gary Schneider, TerryAnn Glandon, Vern Richardson, Paul Steinbart, Ann O'Brian, Jacqui Reck, Scott Boss, Siew Chan.

Mary Curtis, Section President, opened the meeting at 8:21 a.m.

Mary presented the **President's Report**

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.

Greg Gerard presented the **Mid-Year Meeting Report**

- Structure will be similar to past year meetings.
- New Scholars Consortium will be held on Thursday. Vicky Arnold is putting the program together. The consortium will run from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and will include topics such as career development, presenting and publishing research.
- Workshop on IT Governance and Assurance will run on Thursday. It is being organized by Ed O'Donnell. The focus will be education.
- President elect of the AAA will present a plenary session.
- Matt Johnson, KPMG Manager Director IT advisory will also speak.
- Will replace the research forum with an interactive research forum session. Presenters will make a short presentation, which will be followed by group discussion.
- Meeting is being colocated with Management Accounting Section, including a joint panel with the Institute of Chartered Accountants from England and Wales.
- Will be presenting a best reviewer award
- Using the AAA on-line reviewing systems

Discussion ensued around the need to have sessions ending/starting at the same time for the IS and MA meetings to enable attendees to "swap" between the two. Greg noted that we are only co-locating and it is not a joint meeting.

Kevin Kobelsky presented a report on the **Annual Meeting**.

- Program was created based on the number of sessions allocated.
- Kevin choose number of paper dialogue and concurrent sessions with discussants (noted administratively easier to have paper dialogue sessions, but feedback is sought regarding these sessions).
- Kevin thanked all volunteers for their work in making the program a success.

Diane Janvrin tabled and presented the **Treasurer's Report** prepared by the outgoing treasurer, Marcus Odam. Report is based on financials for 2009-2010

Kathy Hurtt tabled and presented the **Membership Committee's Report**.

- Reported that as at 2009, the membership numbers are falling.
- A survey has been sent to members to identify reasons.
- So far, there have been 28 responses. The responses are diverse.
- Trying to survey past members, but establishing contact details is difficult.
- 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 this was discussed).
- Marilyn Prosch mentioned that because members can register for the AAA Mid-Year meeting without being a member it is possible that we are losing potential members.

Jacqui Reck presented the **Research and Publications Committee Report**

Noted that there is nothing to report.

Mary noted that the committee will need to continue pursuing the potential cosponsoring of an educator's journal between AISEA and the IS Section. There was discussion around this issue, and the potential costs for the section. The membership survey includes questions regarding this issue.

Paul Steinbart tabled and presented the annual **JIS Editor's Report**.

- There has been a drop in submissions for the second half of this year
- 10% of accepted papers from international institutions. Important that editorial board has international representation
- Citations are important. Authors need to check that relevant *JIS* and *IJAIS* citations included, but it is more important that authors publishing outside of the journals site relevant *JIS* and *IJAIS* citations.
- There was discussion regarding the reasons for the potential drop in submissions, including whether the special issues being published in *IJAIS* are having an impact. There are five articles coming in the Fall issue, and Roger Debreceeny is guest editor of a special issue, and at least four papers have been accepted for this.

Gary Schneider presented the **Environmental Scanning Committee Report**.

- This is a newly formed committee responsible for coordinating and monitoring professional groups for pronouncements impacting teaching, research or of other relevance. The committee also includes Martha Eining and Ed O'Donnell.
- The aim is to form ad hoc committees for identified issues and respond on behalf of the section. The purpose is to raise the section's identity and involvement in practice.
- 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.

Dan Stone presented the **Bylaws Report**.

- Changes to the *JIS* Editor's Report were discussed. These will be presented at the annual meeting next year for voting on by the membership.
- There was discussion regarding monitoring the AAA bylaw changes.

TerryAnn Glandon presented her final report as the **Website Editor**.

- Siew Chan is the incoming editor.
- Noted that C3 has in the past been published on the website but it has now moved to the AAA commons. Need to update the commons for the old C3.

Mary reported on behalf of Marcia Weidenmier Watson, **Newsletter Editor**

- The closing date for the newsletter is October 15.

Mary closed the meeting at 9:50 a.m.

Minutes submitted by Carlin Dowling, Secretary of AAA IS Section, 2010 - 2011

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## Call for Papers

**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 investigations and reviews that synthesize a specific body of literature; however, theoretical analyses, and methodological contributions are welcome. AABR is receptive to replication studies, provided they investigate important issues and are concisely written. The journal especially welcomes manuscripts that integrate accounting issues with organizational behavior, human judgment/decision making, and cognitive psychology.

Manuscripts will be blind-reviewed by two reviewers and reviewed by an associate editor. AABR accepts electronic submissions and all manuscripts should be forwarded to the Editor. The manuscript will then be forwarded to an associate editor and reviewers via e-mail. Please incorporate all text, tables, and figures into a Word document before submitting. Also, include a separate Word document with any experimental materials or survey instruments. Please send the electronic documents to the editor at the following e-mail address: [Vicky.Arnold@bus.ucf.edu](mailto:Vicky.Arnold@bus.ucf.edu).

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