

Dear Colleagues,

I hope that you had wonderful holidays and on behalf of the DSI Board of Directors I want to wish you all a very happy new year.

DSI closed 2019 with our 50th Anniversary conference. Congratulations to the 2019 DSI Conference Chair Kevin Linderman, University of Minnesota and the Conference team, Carmela Di Mauro, University of Catania, Thomas Kull, Arizona State University, and Dongli Zhang Fordham University, the Track Chairs, and the DSI Home Office Staff for putting together the perfect 50th Anniversary celebration in New Orleans. What a great way to celebrate our heritage and begin our next 50 years. Conference attendance was 1,299 which is the largest that we have had in recent years and the quality of the program and events was excellent. If you were not able to attend the conference be sure to watch the DSI 50th Anniversary video that shares the past, present, and future of DSI on our website.

As we move into 2020, there will be some changes in the editorship of our academic journals. At the November Board meeting, the DSI Board voted to approve the recommendation of the Publications Committee to appoint Xenophon Koufteros, Texas A & M University, to a four-year term as Co-Editor of *Decision Sciences*. Xenophon joins Co-Editor Mark Ferguson, University of South Carolina effective January 1. I want to thank Cheri Speier-Pero, Michigan State University, who completed her second term as Co-Editor in December, for her outstanding leadership and service. Cheri and Mark have done a great job of increasing the stature of the journal and I expect the trajectory to continue. The Publications Committee is currently evaluating candidates for editor for *Decision Sciences Journal of Innovative Education* as Editor Matt Drake, Duquesne University completes his term in July.

Plans are already well underway for the 2020 DSI Conference taking place November 21-23 in San Francisco. Conference Chair, Carmela Di Mauro, University of Catania, and her leadership team, Sriram Narayanan, Michigan State University, Wendy Tate, University of Tennessee, and Rebecca Duray, University of Colorado-Colorado Springs are working hard to develop an excellent program including a continued emphasis on interactive workshops. One exciting change is an update in the structure of the Doctoral, New Faculty, and Mid-Career Consortia to allow participants to customize their learning experience.

The success of Decision Sciences Institute depends upon active and engaged members. Elections for new Board members will begin on January 28. Although it is too late to be on the ballot this year, be sure to vote. The best way to get actively involved is by serving on a committee. The list of DSI committees can be found on our website under the About DSI/Leadership tab. Let President-elect Vijay Kannan know if you are interested in serving before April as the committees will be approved at the May Board meeting. Finally, stay engaged between the national annual conferences by participating in one of the conferences hosted by our US Regions or International Chapters or Divisions. They can also be found on our website homepage.

Janet Harlley
DSI 2019 – 2020 President

