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I attended my first “AIDS” meeting in 1974 in Atlanta as I was finishing up my PhD at the University of Georgia and interviewing for an assistant professor position. I recall interviewing with future DSI presidents Bob Markland (then at St. Louis University), Sang Lee (then at Virginia Tech) and Larry Moore at Virginia Tech, where I accepted a position and am still there 45 years later. I cannot begin to measure the positive impact my participation in the Decision Sciences Institute has had, not only on my academic and professional career, but also through the many friends and colleagues I have met over the years, which included my much valued friend Carol Latta. As a former department head I can also attest to DSI’s value as a resource as virtually all of the faculty in my department were first interviewed at DSI meetings. I am also very proud of Virginia Tech’s record of service to the Institute that includes three former presidents and Dennis Grawoig Distinguished Service Award recipients, six Fellows, and eight Southeast DSI regional presidents.