

Dear Colleagues:

As my term as DSI President comes to an end on April 30, I would like to highlight some of the accomplishments DSI has achieved over the past year. But first, it has been my honor and privilege to serve as your President. I am deeply grateful for the support of the membership, DSI Board of Directors, and Executive Director, Vivian Landrum, as we continue to navigate the challenges of our rapidly changing world.

We, as an organization, have much to celebrate. Over the last two months, most of our regional conferences returned to an in-person format for the first time in two or - for some regions - three years. Clearly eager to reconnect with colleagues face-to-face, the collective regional conferences held so far this year had over 800 participants, welcoming a large number of new attendees along with many familiar faces. Congratulations to program chairs Binshan Lin (SEDSI), Venugopal Gopalakrishna Remani (SWDSI), Pia Gupta (WDSI), Theologos Homer Bonitsis (NEDSI), Osman Aydas, Fei Song, and Vijayan Sugumaran (MWDSI), and their program teams on successful conferences.

And we still have two more regional conferences to go this spring. The European DSI conference will be held in Dublin, Ireland, May 29-June 1. Qatar DSI is partnering with Qatar University's Center for Entrepreneurship for their conference, May 17-19, in Doha. Registration for both conferences is still open on the DSI website.

The DSI family continues to grow with the approval of the DASIG charter last fall. The DASIG group has been very active in DSI for many years, including hosting several online Brown Bag seminars over the course of this year, and we were delighted to formalize their role in the organization. Although the Qatar and China chapters were added in 2020, the pandemic delayed conference programming for them. However, Qatar has hosted two online webinars and now looks forward to their upcoming QDSI conference in Doha. Also in the works is the addition of a Thailand chapter. This expansion of the DSI family enriches the organization and its value to members.

The DSI family of journals is growing as well, with the launch of *Decision Sciences Insights* last fall. This journal adds to DSI's publication portfolio in the professional development domain, with the tagline, "Insightful Information in the Moment," reflecting a focus on cutting edge content to support our community's goals at all phases of their careers. Thank you to Kathy Zuckweiler, *Decision Sciences Insights* editor, and her editorial team for taking the vision for this journal and making it a reality.

A major strategic initiative this year has been the implementation of DSI's brand repositioning effort and website design project. The website design is complete – with updated content, look, and feel that better reflect our brand and value proposition to members. Of special note is the expanded professional development content, including key conference sessions and webinars from our regions, chapters, and DASIG. We had hoped to transition to the new website this spring. However, our website developers are located in the Ukraine, and I am proud that the Board of Directors unanimously chose to stay with the Ukrainian developers, rather than move the website development work elsewhere, even though it will delay the new website launch. Rest assured that, in the meantime, our current website will continue to meet the needs of DSI members.

In 2018 the DSI Board developed a strategic plan to guide organizational decision making for the next five years (2018-2023). Over the past four years, we have made much progress actualizing the objectives in the plan, always with a focus on increasing membership value. In February, the DSI Board revisited

the strategic plan and updated it through 2024, taking into consideration what we have already achieved and keeping it aligned with current conditions and possible future scenarios. As with the original plan, the updated plan, which can be viewed on the DSI website, seeks to position DSI and all its members for even greater success.

Last, but not least, we return to Houston, TX for the DSI Annual Conference, November 19-21. This is our first in-person annual conference in three years. Conference Chair Rebecca Duray and her program team – Nagesh Murthy, Tobias Schoenherr, John Visich, and Stephen Ostrom – are putting together a special conference to welcome us back together. Submissions and registration are now open on the DSI website.

As my term draws to a close, I would like to thank everyone who has made my tenure as President such a rewarding experience. All of DSI's accomplishments during the past year have truly been a group effort, starting with my fellow Board of Director members and Executive Director, Vivian Landrum. A special callout to Vijay Kannan, Immediate Past-President, for his mentorship during my term and to Natalie Simpson, President-Elect, for her boundless enthusiasm and devotion to DSI. The organization will be in good hands on May 1. Thank you to the DSI standing and ad hoc committees, regional, chapter, and SIG boards and program teams, our journal editors, and the countless members who have volunteered their time and energy and embody the spirit of "One DSI" – an organization that is stronger as we move forward together. Much of the critical work they do goes on behind the scenes but is always noticed and greatly appreciated.

Truly, the DSI family has much to celebrate. I am confident that under Natalie's leadership, our trajectory will continue onward and upward. I look forward to it.

Joy M. Field
President