Welcome to the August issue of the Newsletter!

Message from the Division President

Dear fellow members of the M&S Division,

I continue to be incredibly privileged to serve the M&S Division as the founding president since its establishment in 2017. I am pleased to provide our members with the Division's news and latest activities.

During the past year, we provided three webinars. The M&S track presented 14 sessions (including the town hall meeting) during the 2018 IISE Annual Conference and Expo in Orlando, FL. The sessions involved more than 50 presentations with 27 full-paper submissions. We are very excited to see the Division's membership growing, and we want to see further growth. Our membership started with 77 members after the approval of the Division in July 2017. As of July this year, we have 1,354 members. We gave two awards this year: Best Track Paper award and Best Student Paper award. We are in the process of creating a new award for excellence in teaching modeling and/or simulation concepts. I highly encourage you to nominate a colleague for this award at the beginning of next year. We had a successful election, welcoming four new board members: president-elect and three director positions.

This year, please consider nominating yourself for our leadership positions, join one of our committees, or volunteer as a reviewer for the M&S track. I want to thank you for your support and your commitment to the IISE. We cannot do this alone and we need your help. To grow our Division and the profession, I would urge you to join the M&S Division by updating your membership. The membership is free for all IISE members. Your participation and input is important to all of us.

This issue of the newsletter provides information about the leadership team, town hall meeting highlights, ways to join the Division, and the Division's awards. I look forward to working with all of you.

Please contact me at oma110@psu.edu should you have any questions or need more information.

Best Regards,
Omar Ashour, PhD
Modeling & Simulation Division, President (2017 – 2019)

M&S Division Board Members

Faisal Aqlan (2017 – 2019)
Role: Director of Events and Conferences
Assistant Professor of Industrial Engineering
Pennsylvania State University, The Behrend College

Xueping Li (2018 – 2019)
Role: President-Elect
Associate Professor of Industrial & Systems Engineering
University of Tennessee, Knoxville

Caroline Krejci (2017 – 2019)
Role: Secretary
Assistant Professor of Industrial Engineering
University of Texas at Arlington

Weihang Zhu (2017 – 2019)
Role: Director of Awards
Associate Professor of Engineering Technology
University of Houston

Jeffrey Smith (2017 – 2019)
Role: Director-At-Large II
Joe W. Forehand Jr. Professor
Auburn University

Renee Thiesing (2017 – 2019)
Role: Director-At-Large I
Vice President Of Strategic Alliances
Simio LLC

(New) Michael Kuhl (2018 – 2020)
Role: Director of Technical Content
Professor
Rochester Institute of Technology

(New) Dongping Du (2018 – 2020)
Role: Director of Newsletter
Assistant Professor of Industrial Engineering
Texas Tech University

(New) Raed Jaradat (2018 – 2020)
Role: Director of Outreach and Networking
Assistant Professor of Industrial & Systems
Engineering
Mississippi State University

M&S Town Hall Meeting

The M&S Division Town Hall Meeting was successfully held on May 20th at the 2018 IISE Annual Conference and Expo. During the meeting, the President, Dr. Omar Ashour, presented the History, Vision, and Mission of the Division.

In the past year, M&S membership has grown significantly, from 77 members in September 2017 to 1,189 members in April 2018. The majority of our members are students, followed by members from industry and academia. The Technical Health Report was presented during the meeting, which showed the leadership health, operations health, and membership health of the Division. The current overall performance indicator is above 60%, which means that the Division is in good shape.

This year, the M&S Division organized 13 paper sessions and one town hall meeting at the IISE Annual Conference and Expo. The total number of accepted papers was 27. We had 2 extended abstracts and 50 oral presentations.
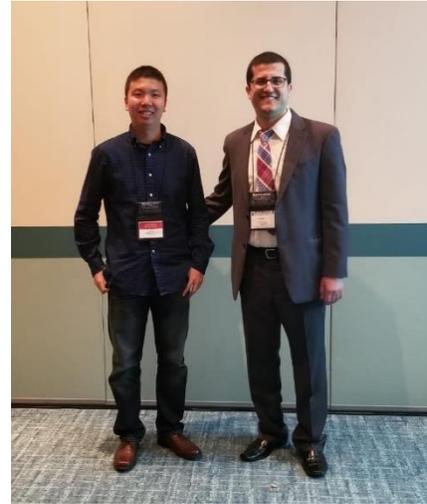
Future plans for the Division were discussed during the meeting, which include potentially involving student members in board meetings, greater communication through Newsletters, increasing the number of M&S webinars, and promoting webinar attendance. Additionally, the Division is planning to provide more awards, e.g., a teaching award and industry practitioner award, increase and maintain membership, and attract more industry sponsors.

2018 IISE M&S Best Paper Award

The M&S Division would like to congratulate Kaiming Bi from the Department of Industrial & Manufacturing Systems Engineering at Kansas State University on winning the Best Paper Award.

His paper entitled "An Agent-based Model of Individual Forgetting and Learning Behavior in Epidemics was co-authored by Yuyang Chen, Chih-Hang Wu, and David Ben-Arieh, who are also from the Department of Industrial & Manufacturing Systems Engineering at Kansas State University. Congratulations to all the authors!

The award was announced at the 2018 M&S Town Hall meeting, and certificates were given at the 2018 IISE Annual Conference and Expo. We would like to thank Simio LLC for sponsoring the awards.

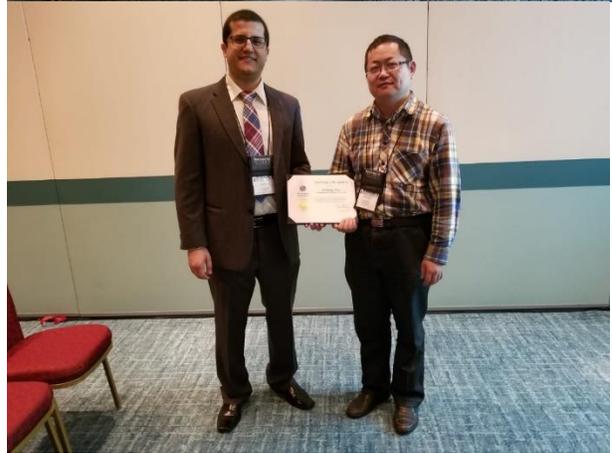## 2018 IISE M&S Best Student Paper Award

Congratulations to Mehmet F. Yildirim from the Department of System Science and Industrial Engineering at Binghamton University. His paper, entitled "Sensor Array Optimization for Chemical Gas Detection and Classification Using Discriminant Analysis", and co-authored by Dr. Shuxia S Lu, won the Best Student Paper Award.

The M&S track received many excellent papers this year, and the award committee of three judges performed double-blind reviews and selected the winner. The award was announced at the 2018 M&S Town Hall meeting, and certificates were given at 2018 IISE Annual Conference and Expo. We would like to thank Simio LLC for sponsoring the awards.

More information about the Division's awards can be found here
(http://www.iise.org/Details.aspx?id=951)

Recognizing Founding Board Members

The M&S Division would like to acknowledge the founding team for their hard work and service. Thank you to Toni Doolen for facilitating the establishment of the M&S Division as the Senior Vice President of IISE Technical Operations 2016-2017. Thanks to Gillian Nicholls for her service as the founding Technical Vice President of the M&S Division 2016-2018. We would also like to thank all board members, Xueping Li, Weihang Zhu, Caroline Krejci, Faisal Aqlan, Jeffrey Smith, Renee Thiesing, and Omar Ashour, for their service on the M&S Division founding Board of Directors.

(New Award) Excellence in Teaching Award

The M&S Division would like to invite all IISE members to nominate a faculty member for our new Excellence in Teaching Award. The purpose of the award is to recognize excellence in teaching M&S courses. The objectives of the award are to show appreciation to IISE faculty members who are outstanding in teaching M&S courses, and encourage instructors to raise the standards in teaching and disseminating M&S concepts in engineering or related programs. The candidate may be nominated by a faculty member

or a student who has taken a course from the candidate. To be eligible, candidates must be a member of IISE. The course for which he/she is being recognized must be an undergraduate/graduate course in modeling and/or simulation within an engineering or similar program. The candidate should have been preparing and teaching the course materials for at least three years. All application documents must be e-mailed as a single PDF file or a single compressed file to the Director of Awards (Dr. Weihang Zhu at WZHU21@central.uh.edu) by the due date for full consideration. No application fee is required. More information will be posted on the Societies and Divisions webpage (http://www.iise.org/Details.aspx?id=951).

2019 IISE Annual Conference and Expo
Please let us know if you would like to organize and chair a session or panel in the Modeling and Simulation track.

How to Join the M&S Division

You can connect with us via the following:

- Membership is free for all IISE members. To update you membership record, click here (http://www.iise.org/Details.aspx?id=345).
- Join our LinkedIn group to stay updated. Search for IISE Modeling and Simulation Division or click here (https://www.linkedin.com/groups/12062332).
- IISE Connect (https://connect.iise.org/home)
- Contact the President of the Division at OMA110@psu.edu