

The System Dynamics Society

President's Letter

It is both a privilege and a pleasure to be writing to members of the System Dynamics Society as president. Through your hard work, 1992 finds the Society in better shape than ever, with growing membership and stature for our journal, increasing interest in system dynamics in academia and the world of practice, and a wide range of exciting new work in the field of simulation and system dynamics produced by a growing number of researchers around the world. While much work remains in the development and dissemination of feedback principles and systems thinking in both academia and the "real world," the positive feedback loops currently driving the growth of the field show no signs of weakening.

This president's letter contains news of upcoming conferences, solicits your input for election of society officers and nominations for Jay W. Forrester Award, and important information on other society affairs and projects.

— John Sterman

The System Dynamics Review

Last year the publication of the *System Dynamics Review* was transferred to John Wiley and Sons, Ltd., England, in order to broaden the exposure of the journal to other scientific communities and to realize some production economies. Through the hard work of George Richardson, the editors, referees, and production people at both the Society and at Wiley, this transition has gone quite smoothly. Several Wiley-produced issues of the journal have now appeared, maintaining the high quality look and feel of the *Review*, and containing a wide range of important articles. The journal will now be published three times a

year, with a further transition to four issues per year scheduled to take place as the volume and quality of articles submitted increases.

The review welcomes high quality articles for consideration and especially encourages members of the society to solicit contributions from colleagues working in the fields of simulation, feedback systems and related disciplines, as well as articles describing educational initiatives and real-world applications of system dynamics and systems thinking.

Membership dues for 1992 are \$70 for regular members, and \$35 for students. To subscribe to the journal and join the society, send payment directly to: Journal Subscription Department, John Wiley and Sons, Ltd., Baffins Lane, Chichester, West Sussex, PO19 1UD, England. Orders for back issues of the *System Dynamic Review* (through Volume 6) and for conference proceedings should go to the executive officer of the Society, Julia Pugh, 49 Bedford Road, Lincoln, MA 01773; fax 617/259-0969.

Current Officers of the Society

The current officers of the Society are:

President:	John Sterman
President-Elect:	Peter Milling
VP Finance:	Jack Pugh
VP Meetings:	Mike Radzicki
VP Member Activities:	Alan Graham
VP at Large:	James H. Hines
Secretary:	Bob Eberlein

Members of the Policy Council — *Through 1992*: Andreas Breiter, Ralph Levine, Ali Mashayekhi, Henry Weil; *Through 1993*: Brian Dangerfield, Peter Galbraith, Ulrich LaRoche, Jac Vennix; *Through 1994*: Douglas Franco, Jack Homer, Suburo Kameyama, Juan Rego.

Election of Officers

Candidates for 1992 election (to take office in 1993) are:

President-Elect: Andrew Ford
Secretary: Bob Eberlein
VP Finance: Jack Pugh
VP Membership: Janet Gould
Policy Council (to serve through 1995): Pål Davidsen, Julia DiStefano, Jim Lyneis, Enrique Zepeda.

Under the constitution of the society, these people will assume office, unless alternative candidates are nominated by petition signed by ten members of the Society before June 15, 1992. If alternatives are nominated, a ballot will be mailed to all members. Send any nomination petitions to the Society secretary, Bob Eberlein, 149 Waverley Street, Belmont, MA 02178; fax 617/489-5316.

Election results will be announced at the conference in Utrecht and in subsequent issues of the President's letter.

Jay W. Forrester Prize

The 1991 Jay W. Forrester Award was presented to Professor Dennis Meadows for his pioneering work in the development of participative simulation games to teach principles of system dynamics and their application to a wide range of environmental and development issues.

Nominations for the 1992 award, which recognizes the best published work in the field of System Dynamics in the previous five years, should be sent to Professor David Andersen, Rockefeller College, SUNY, Milne 3146, 1400 Washington Avenue, Albany, New York 12222.

Conferences

The 1992 International System Dynamics Conference will be held 14-17 July in Utrecht, The Netherlands. The conference is hosted by Jac Vennix and the University of Utrecht. It promises to be an exciting

and well-attended conference with a diverse intellectual program and pleasant activities. Contact: Jerry Windhouwer, PO Box 80140, 3508 TC Utrecht, The Netherlands. Phone (0)30-534880; Fax: (0)30-531619; E-mail: ISDC92@cc.ruu.nl.

The 1993 conference will be held in Mexico City and hosted by Enrique Zepeda of the Monterrey Institute of Technology. Tentative dates are 20-24 July 1993. Mark your calendars!

The 1994 conference will most likely be held somewhere in Europe. The 1995 conference will be held in Japan and hosted by the Japanese chapter of the System Dynamics Society.

Proposals for future conferences are welcome. Contact the meetings vice-president, Mike Radzicki, at Worcester Polytechnic Institute, Department of Social Science and Policy Studies, Worcester, MA 01609-2280, Fax: 508/831-5483; e-mail: mjrads@wpi.wpi.edu.

Bibliography of System Dynamics Publications

Kip Cooper and Bill Steinhurst have produced a comprehensive, updated electronic bibliography of research and publications in system dynamics. The bibliography, available on floppy disks, is available for \$35 per copy. The bibliography is available for both Macintosh and IBM compatible computers and is provided in three file formats: (1) a common text file for use with word processors; (2) a common format database file which can be uploaded to most database programs; and (3) an "EndNote" file format readable by the Endnote bibliography program.

Shipments include all three formats on a single 3.5" floppy disk. Please specify your operating system (Macintosh or IBM). Send your order to: System Dynamics Society, Bibliography, 49 Bedford Road, Lincoln, MA 01773. Fax: 617/259-0969.

Your order must include payment (check or money order) in U.S. funds drawn on a U.S. bank. Sorry, we cannot accept credit cards. Please allow 4-6 weeks for delivery after we receive your order.

Kip and Bill have done a wonderful job in collecting and organizing the bibliography and will continue to update it. To ensure that your work is included, or to submit corrections for the next revision (1993), send complete bibliographic information, including author(s), title, journal or book, volume, date of publication, page numbers, place of publication or location of conference, and appropriate key words to the address above.

New Sponsors of the Society

We are pleased to announce that Apple Computer and High Performance Systems have become sponsors of the System Dynamic Society. We are grateful to them for their support of the Society, along with our continuing sponsors, the MIT System Dynamics Group, SUNY-Albany, Frank Davidson, Jay Forrester, Pugh-Roberts Associates, Sandhill Systems, and Ventana Systems. Thank you all.