



October 2011

INFORMS Forum for Women in OR/MS

INFORMS Annual Meeting

Events at Charlotte, NC

WORMS Business Meeting –

All those interested in issues related to women professionals in OR/MS are invited to join us for our business meeting. This is an excellent opportunity to voice your ideas and become involved with the Forum. We will also be voting on amendments to the by-laws. Refreshments will be served.

WORMS Luncheon

Celebrate women professionals in OR/MS and enjoy lively conversation by attending our annual luncheon. The annual Award for the Advancement of Women in OR/MS will be presented. Register in advance to ensure that you get a ticket.

Monday November 14: WORMS Business Meeting.
Convention Center, Room 209A, 6:15-7:15PM
Tuesday November 15: WORMS Luncheon.
Westin Grand C., 12:30-1:30PM



2010 Award Winner Brenda Dietrich

President's Message

Eva Regnier

Last month, I had the pleasure of reading the nominations packages for the 2011 WORMS Award. The supporting letters from current and former students and colleagues about the impact that the nominees had on their lives were extremely moving. In many cases having support when it was needed, usually early in their careers, made the difference between transfORMing successful OR/MS professionals and dropping out.

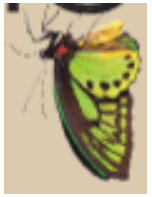
This makes the WORMS events at the annual meeting so important. The fast-approaching INFORMS annual meeting is the biggest annual opportunity for connecting face to face with women in OR/MS and their supporters. Every year I meet students navigating their first overwhelming INFORMS meeting, and established professionals doing fascinating work that I would otherwise never encounter among the throngs of thousands.

The annual luncheon on Tuesday is always a heartwarming and lively event, including the presentation of the WORMS Award. It is almost sold out, so buy your tickets if you haven't already. Please also attend our business meeting Monday night and the WORMS-sponsored sessions listed on the next page.

Not everyone will be able to attend the annual meeting. The ease of electronic communication makes it easier than ever for us to network and support students and colleagues, even internationally. Several recent WORMS officers blog regularly – [Laura McLay](#), [Anna Nagurney](#), and [Aur lie Thiele](#), and talk about how to succeed in the profession. Laura and Aurelie also tweet. I joined twitter just to follow them (don't tell my husband). WORMS now has a Facebook page.

Cont. on page 4

Join "The official Women in OR/MS" group in [Facebook](#) and [LinkedIn](#).



WORMS at Charlotte, NC

November 12th-15th

Sunday November 13

13:30-15:00

[Best of WORMS - Three women in OR/MS present their highly influential work published in INFORMS journals in 2010.](#)

Armony, M. and Ward, A.R. (2010) Fair Dynamic Routing in Large-scale Heterogeneous-server Systems. *Operations Research* v. 58 n. 3 p. 624-637.

Honhon, D., Gaur, V. and Seshadri, S. (2010) Assortment Planning and Inventory Decisions Under Stockout-Based Substitution. *Operations Research* v. 58 n 5 p. 1364-1379.

Ding, W.W., Levin, S.G., Stephan, P.E., and Winkler, A.E. (2010) The Impact of Information Technology on Academic Scientists' Productivity and Collaboration Patterns. *Management Science* v. 56 n. 9 p. 1439-1461.

Sunday November 13

16:30-18:00

[Panel Discussion: Can We Do Anything About Women Dropping Out of Academia?](#)

Session Chairs: Yael Grushka-Cockayne and Nicole DeHoratius

Panelists:

Mor Armony, Associate Professor, New York University

Cynthia Barnhart, Professor, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Cheryl Gaimon, Professor, Georgia Institute of Technology

Ann Marucheck, Professor, University of North Carolina- Chapel Hill

Linda Whitaker, Chief Product Officer, Quantum Retail Technology

Monday November 14

08:00-09:30

[Panel Discussion: Leaders Offer Professional Advice to Women and Men](#)

Session Chairs: Esma S. Gel and Anna Nagurney

Panelists:

Mark Daskin, Professor, University of Michigan

Radhika Kulkarni, Vice President, SAS Institute Incorporated

Anna Nagurney, Professor, University of Massachusetts-Amherst

Les Servi, Principal, MITRE

Eric Volman, Visiting Research Professor, George Mason University

Thank you to our Sponsors!

Lehigh University, Rossin College of Engineering

Texas A&M University, Department of Industrial
and Systems Engineering

Ohio State University

SAS Institute Inc.

University of Michigan, Department of IOE

Virginia Commonwealth University, Department of Statistical Sciences
and Operations Research

Arizona State University, Department of Industrial Engineering

University of Texas-Arlington, Department of Industrial Systems and
Manufacturing Systems Engineering

Arizona State University, Carey School of Business

Northwestern University

Penn State University-Erie, Business School

Mississippi State University, Dept. of Industrial and Systems Engineering

George Mason University, Department of Systems Engineering
and Operations Research

Naval Postgraduate School Foundation

News Items

Students Wanted!!

The University of Massachusetts Amherst has received a \$3.2-million grant from the NSF Integrative Graduate Education and Research Traineeship (IGERT) program to start an interdisciplinary graduate program in Offshore Wind Energy Engineering, Environmental Science, and Policy, with **Erin Baker** as the director. The new graduate program will train 24 doctoral students over the course of five years in the technology, environmental implications, and social/economic/regulatory challenges of offshore wind farms.

The IGERT grant will support each Ph.D. student for two or three years. The multidisciplinary program will feature 20 faculty members from nine University of Massachusetts Amherst departments in the College of Engineering, College of Natural Sciences, School of Management, and College of Social and Behavioral Sciences. We are looking for top notch students in IEOR as well as Mechanical, Civil, and Electrical engineering, Environmental science, Biology, Economics, and Planning.

Creating energy from wind is not new, yet growing demands for clean power now has us looking out to sea. Coastal seas and open oceans are breezy by nature, potentially making offshore wind farms an economical source of renewable energy. Nevertheless, offshore wind farms are not without controversy, whether because of changes in the aesthetics of the coastline, potential impacts on navigation, or disturbance to seabirds, fish, and marine mammals. Still, the number of proposed offshore wind farms is growing rapidly and it is becoming clear that the future of offshore wind relies on a holistic, interdisciplinary approach that includes technical assessments and planning, as well as assessments of environmental impacts, regulatory and policy issues, and human dimensions.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: Erin Baker, Mechanical and Industrial Engineering Department, College of Engineering, UMass Amherst, edbaker@ecs.umass.edu

Anna Nagurney, the John F. Smith Professor of Operations Management at the Isenberg School of Management at University of Massachusetts Amherst, and the Director of the Virtual Center for Supernetworks, and Tilman Wolf of the College of Engineering, also of University of Massachusetts Amherst, have received a three-year \$909,794 grant from the National Science Foundation to create a network architecture and protocols to bring greater choice throughout the Internet. The project, "Network Innovation Through Choice," is part of a \$2.732 million collaborative NSF grant with the University of Kentucky, North Carolina State University, and the Renaissance Computing Institute of Asheville, N.C.

Eric Wolman, currently Treasurer of WORMS, celebrated his 80th birthday this year. Eric has been an active member of WORMS since the 1980s. He won the [2008 INFORMS Moving Spirit Award](#) for his contribution to this Forum. He is and has been a constant and active supporter of the forum and of its officers, especially those new to INFORMS leadership, and has also mentored many of us. **Donna Llewellyn** describes Eric's role in her career this way: "Eric is the epitome of a wise and trusted mentor and supporter - he listens intently, asks probing questions, pushes those he mentors to be the best that they can be according to their own definition, not according to his definition... and he is willing to push back and make you think about what you are doing and saying - his attention to the story of how I am living my professional (and personal) life has always made me want to reflect and be sure that it is the right story, one that I am proud of."



Sadan Kulturel-Konak, Associate Professor of Management Information Systems and Coordinator of the Engineering Entrepreneurship Minor at Penn State Berks, was named a recipient of the 2011 Take the Lead Award of the Girl Scouts of Eastern Pennsylvania. Each year Girl Scouts of Eastern Pennsylvania recognizes outstanding women for their breakthrough leadership and community service at their annual Take the Lead event. Girl Scouts lead the entire program as an emcee, host or award presenter, and gain public speaking and speech writing skills.

News Items, continued

We are very pleased to announce the Workshop on Women in Industrial Engineering Academia (WIEA) 2012 for the U.S. and the Eastern Mediterranean, a workshop sponsored by the U.S. National Science Foundation and Kadir Has University. This event will take place from May 30 through June 1, 2012 in Istanbul, Turkey. This workshop builds on the foundation and success of WIEA 2008 held in Ankara and Istanbul, Turkey.

The workshop focuses on issues for women in academia in industrial engineering, operations research and related technical fields. Building and sustaining international academic collaborations will be especially emphasized in WIEA 2012. Both women and men are invited to apply – WIEA 2008 benefited from the active participation of a variety of women and men from multiple countries and we encourage the same for WIEA 2012.

Applications for participation in this workshop are currently being taken. Prospective attendees can be current faculty members (of any rank) and doctoral students who intend a career in academia. Travel stipends are available. Complete information about the workshop and the online application can be found at <http://wiewa2012.auburn.edu>.

Please share this announcement with your colleagues and students who may be interested. Applications are due by January 15, 2012.



The U.S. Department of Agriculture has awarded a four-year, \$3.2 million grant to The University of Texas at El Paso to oversee a multi-university effort to produce more scientists and engineers who can develop new alternative energy sources and ways to increase energy efficiency. **Heidi A. Taboada**, assistant professor of Industrial, Manufacturing and Systems Engineering, is the principal investigator of the Building a Regional Energy and Educational Network (BGREEN) project. "Demand for professionals with sustainable energy knowledge is increasing as employers need graduates who can better respond to energy challenges in all professional and business contexts," Dr. Taboada said.

President's Message, continued

The world needs more successful women and men in our profession – perhaps especially in the U.S., where there are too few qualified young people in the science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) fields. Women continue to be under-represented in STEM around the world, even as our lives become more and more technology-saturated.

Fortunately, as the WORMS Award nomination packages testify, there are many wonderful men and women whose outstanding work makes them great role models and who find time to actively support their students and colleagues. I look forward to connecting with many of you in Charlotte, and learning about WORMS members' professional contributions and connecting with women in OR/MS and their supporters.