



NEW 2012 Leadership Board

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Tutorials: Rosie Pridemore

Director: Dr. Steven Dam

FEBRUARY 2012

First Ever WMA Dinner Meeting Webcast

by Dr. Steven Dam

In order to better support the membership, the WMA Board of Directors has obtained the equipment needed to broadcast a live webcast for Dinner Meetings and other events. The first live broadcast of a Dinner Meeting took place at the

January presentation, "Introduction to Lifecycle Modeling on the Cloud". Even given last-minute notice, 12 people observed the presentation online. We would like to continue this capability throughout the year if there is enough demand. Please let us know if you would be interested in participating via the Web and if that would mean that you are

more or less likely to attend meetings in-person. In addition, we hope to set-up satellite meeting locations that can provide networking opportunities as well as access to the web conference.

Please give us your feedback by contacting Dr. Steven Dam at steven.dam@specinnovations.com or by contacting any of the WMA Leadership.

Inside This Issue...

Page 2 "Save the Date" Event Calendar, Engineers "Think Outside the Box"

Page 3 Message from the President, Laurie Nasta

Page 4 Social Media and Networking, Save \$200 Off SEDC Conference

Page 5 Did You Know?, INCOSE 2012 International Workshop, Call for Volunteers



SAVE THE DATE

February 2: Engineer's Day at George Mason University

February 2 is Engineer's Day at George Mason University

For more information:

http://volgenau.gmu.edu/events/national_engineers_week/index.php

February 3: C4I Seminar

"Security and Service Oriented Architecture" by Dr. Kenneth Laskey at George Mason University

For more information:

http://c4i.gmu.edu/events/eventDescriptions/2012/Laskey_02-03-12.php

February 16: Dinner Meeting

"Too Much Data: How to Find What You Value" with panelists Don Joder, Doug Whall, and Peggy Hwu

For more information and to register:

<http://www.incosewma.org/>

February 25: Tutorial

"A Common Sense Framework for Effective Data Management and Integration" by Doug Whall

For more information and to register:

<http://www.incosewma.org/>



DECEMBER TUTORIAL ENCOURAGED ENGINEERS TO "THINK OUTSIDE THE BOX"

by Rosie Pridemore

The WMA tutorial led by Dr. Howard Eisner, a Distinguished Professor at The George Washington University, encouraged new ways of thinking that could lead to improvements in how systems engineering and integration are carried out.

Dr. Eisner presented nine new perspectives for "thinking outside the box" including crossover, questioning conventional wisdom, and utilizing the back of the envelope concept, among others. Dr. Eisner encouraged attendees to assess their ability to think outside the box with a self-assessment and provided pointers for interpretation and improvement of their score. The

tutorial was a huge success and feedback suggested the attendees' desire to make this tutorial available every year.

The tutorial is based on Dr. Eisner's book, *Managing Complex Systems – Thinking Outside the Box*, John Wiley, 2005. Howard Eisner joined The George Washington University (GWU) in 1989 after 30 years in industry as a research engineer, manager and president of two systems engineering companies (Intercon Systems Corporation and the Atlantic Research Services Company). He has written five books on systems engineering, management, and related topics.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT, LAURIE NASTA

As my opening message as your new President, I want to highlight two themes I have set for our programs and tutorials this year. I hope you find them interesting and that they will inspire you to come out and network with your friends, your colleagues and your Board of Directors. The two Themes are: Information Technology (IT) Systems Engineering, and “Underserved” Areas in Systems Engineering (SE Competencies/Education, Data Engineering, System Security Engineering). Consistent with this, our first meeting just held fell under the “IT SE” theme, and was on “Systems Engineering in the Cloud – a Lifecycle Modeling Approach”, given by our own Dr. Steve Dam. I would also like to note our new primary meeting location move to the western part of Fairfax County with the selection of The Amphora Restaurant\Diner in Herndon, VA. This first meeting was a big success with around 60 (!) people onsite, and 15-20 people online through our online streaming pilot (a project we will expand this year). We try to align our tutorials to our presentations, so accordingly we also held a tutorial on the same topic on 28 Jan, also at Amphora. We are considering hosting future tutorials at George Mason University, in Fairfax, VA, and would be interested in your feedback on this idea.

Programs have been lined up for the first half of the year consistent with the themes, and we will be posting the information on the website for all programs, and the tutorials as they are finalized, as soon as we have all of the necessary information.

Our February programs are listed on Page 2 of this newsletter, and here are a few other upcoming events of which you should take note:

March 10: *What is the BKCASE Project and what does it mean to me as an SE?* by Dr. Arthur Pyster

April 10: *GMU Students Present Their Capstone Projects*

May 15-16: *SEDC Conference*, containing over 48 paper topics, multiple tutorials, and two Keynote speakers

Programs under consideration for the remainder of the year include a Social Networking event, Systems Security Engineering (SSE) and its integration role into the SEBoK, and hopefully DODs IT Acquisition Transformation, and our usual Holiday Party! I welcome your feedback and ideas. Feel free to email me at laurie.nasta@incose.org or find me on LinkedIn!

In noting these program plans, I am happy to note the addition of Shavon Clanagan to the leadership team. We have had ‘challenges’ with having a Programs Chair for the past two years, and I was happy to appoint Shavon to this important role to shepherd our Program Plan to be successfully delivered. Shavon comes to us from the GMU Student Division after recently graduating and entering the SE workforce at The SI Corporation. She joins new BOD member Mike Dupuy, a Systems Engineer at NetApp, who previously served as our GMU Student Chapter President. Both of these Board members served in roles in GMU Student Division leadership, so we are glad to have their experience and connections back to our Student Division.



SOCIAL MEDIA AND NETWORKING

by Mike Dupuy

Networking with other INCOSE members does not only take place at Dinner Meetings, Tutorials, or other events; in fact, you can network with, discuss with, and meet other WMA members in the comfort of your home. INCOSE-WMA exists now both on Facebook and on LinkedIn, two of the most popular social networking sites. By following our Facebook page or joining our LinkedIn group, you can connect with other members, follow announcements regarding upcoming events, and enter INCOSE related discussions with your colleagues.

To follow us on Facebook, simply “Like” our page:

“INCOSE Washington Metro Area Chapter”

To join our LinkedIn group, simply send your request to our group page:

“INCOSE Washington Metropolitan Area Chapter (INCOSE-WMA)”

Register for SEDC Before February 7
and Save **\$200** Off Your Registration

<http://www.sedccon.org/>

DID YOU KNOW?

- INCOSE-WMA remains the **largest INCOSE chapter** in the INCOSE Federation
- INCOSE-WMA has the **largest concentration of Certified Systems Engineering Professionals (CSEP's)**, 197, across all chapters

INCOSE 2012 INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP

by Laurie Nasta

The INCOSE 2012 "IW" was held Jan 20-24, and I attended as President of Chapter along with a number of active INCOSE-WMA members. This is truly a "working" session where almost all of the existing (and some new) INCOSE working groups meet to discuss, work-on, and collaborate on work products and efforts for the benefit of the members. Additionally, it is an opportunity for Chapter leaders to meet INCOSE BOD membership and collaborate on activities with an international, regional and local chapter focus.

For more information about the INCOSE 2012 International Workshop, please visit the INCOSE main page: www.incose.org.

Call for Volunteers

The WMA Chapter is always in need of extra hands, but we particularly need your help with these volunteer opportunities. If you are interested in an opportunity, please contact the Chapter President at nastal@aol.com.

Communications: Webmaster Position, Social Media Guru

SEDC Conference: Programs Support, Financial Analyst, Event Planning, On-site Help

Programs/Tutorials: Programs Support, Tutorials Support, Event Planning

Awards: Chairperson (Board Leadership Position)

Membership: Chairperson (Board Leadership Position)

For any comments regarding this issue of the INCOSE-WMA Monthly Newsletter or any other inquiries regarding these Monthly Newsletters, please contact Mike Dupuy, Communications Chair, at mike.dupuy@gmail.com.