

MESSAGE FROM SIM

As 2005 comes to an end, we reflect on a busy year filled with achievements. We've updated the Society for Information Management's (SIM) vision and mission to include a focus on delivering knowledge that creates business value and enables personal development. Threads of this vision are woven throughout SIM's programs.

Excellent resources such as MISQE allow SIM to maintain its strong working relationship with the academic community. Every new technological advancement prompts change in the CIO position. This is all the more reason to collaborate with SIM's strong academic community who provide leading research in an unbiased environment. Highlights of SIM's relationship with the academic community include:

- Three SIM Paper Award Winners: IndyMac Bank, Nordea Bank, and JBoss, Inc. were recognized for their innovative approaches in information technology. It's their creativity and insight that continues to raise the bar for our community. In this edition of MISQE you will find the tied first place finisher, a paper titled "Managing Online in Perpetual Perfect Storms: Insights from IndyMac Bank," submitted by Erik Krogh, First Vice President and Divisional CIO, IndyMac Bank FSB; Omar A. El Sawy, Professor of Information Systems & Director of Research, Center for Telecom Management, Marshall School of Business, University of Southern California; and Paul Gray, Professor Emeritus of Information Science, Claremont Graduate University.
- On December 10, 2005, SIM will hold its 11th Annual Academic Workshop, Research for Practice: An Exploration of IT Issues Facing Senior Executives. Intended for both academicians and practitioners, this workshop bridges the gap between academic research and IT management. Scheduled hot topics include: The Regional/National Context: Business Strategy and IT Practices; Leveraging Technology, Networks, and Social Capital to Achieve Business

Value; Key Issues in IT Management; and much more.

In response to the changing role of IT professionals and the reported decrease in enrollment of students pursuing IT careers, SIM has made the advancement of the IT profession a major initiative. Highlights of SIM's efforts include:

- The annual *SIMposium* provides tailored education for the CIO and executive IT community. *SIMposium 2005, Innovation in Boston: Where the Next Revolution is Brewing*, brought a realistic view of the business climate we're in right now. Beyond the first-rate speakers, top-notch evening events, and record-breaking attendance, there was a contagious energy among the more than 640 senior IT executives who attended.
- Through its Regional Leadership Forum (RLF), SIM offers an intensive leadership development program for IT executives. SIM expanded RLF's reach for 2006 by confirming a seventh regional location in Southern California.
- SIM's ground-breaking research project, "IT Workforce Developments, Now and into the Future," led by Professor Kate Kaiser of Marquette University was conducted by more than 20 academics from leading universities in the United States and Europe. Initial highlights of the analysis show project management related and business domain capabilities topped the list of critical in-house IT skills in 2005.
- In collaboration with Microsoft, SIM launched a seminar series to accelerate students' interest in the IT profession. The series links SIM members, composed primarily of senior IT executives and thought leaders, and Microsoft with current and potential college students. The first installment was held October 5, 2005 at Pace University, and the next installment is scheduled for December 1 at Northeastern University in Boston.
- SIM's IT Procurement Community of Interest (working group) has been actively fostering

collaboration and a candid exchange of knowledge among the different professions participating in the IT procurement process. Each best practice and framework developed by the IT Procurement Community of Interest is made available to all SIM members for implementation in their organizations.

- SIM's high-level research program, the Advanced Practices Council (APC), is an exclusive network of C-level IT professionals, which affords its members the opportunity to share ideas, thoughts, concerns, and strategic industry initiatives.

As we look forward to 2006, I wish Steve Pickett success as he assumes the presidency for SIM International. May SIM's efforts continue providing vital knowledge that benefits our members, their organizations, and the IT industry.

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SIM's Vision:

To be recognized as the community that is most preferred by IT leaders for delivering vital knowledge that creates business value and enables personal development.

SIM's Mission:

SIM is an association of senior IT executives, prominent academicians, selected consultants, and other IT thought leaders built on the foundation of local chapters, who come together to share and enhance their rich intellectual capital for the benefit of its members and their organizations.