

## MESSAGE FROM SIM

We are happy to report that the pre-ICIS **SIM Academic Workshop 2011**, co-sponsored by *MIS Quarterly Executive*, was held on Sunday, December 4, 2011 at the Grand Melia Hotel in Shanghai, China. The theme for the SIM Academic Workshop was *Enterprises and People on the Move: Managing Mobility for Business Value*. Papers on topics ranging from “*Mobile Media Use by Road Warrior Consultants*” and “*Mobile IS for Executives*” were presented to the 33 attendees. Authors of these presentations and IS academics not able to attend the workshop have now submitted papers for review by a special team of editors for publication in the December 2012 special issue of *MIS Quarterly Executive (MISQE)* on this topic.

We are also pleased to announce the winners of the **2011 SIM Paper Competition**. This competition encourages research that impacts practice. Winning papers must be a collaboration between academic professionals and industry practitioners. Since SIM’s thrust is toward executive management, the work should describe an initiative of interest to senior IT leaders and should have a significant impact on the organization involved. The Abstracts and Papers are reviewed using these criteria: Innovation, Impact, Implementation, Re-applicability, and Appeal/Readability.

This year, the *Panel of Judges* included myself, two other practitioners, and three academic professionals. We thank those who served as judges: Wendell Jones, SIM Chief Executive; Lance Eliot, President, Eliot Associates; Jack Becker, University of North Texas; Carol Brown, Editor-in-Chief of *MIS Quarterly Executive* and Stevens Institute of Technology; and Mary Sumner, SIM Academic Liaison and Southern Illinois University.

The 2011 SIM Paper Awards were presented at this year’s SIMposium on November 14, 2011 in Orlando, Florida. Congratulations to the 2011 SIM Paper Competition Award Winners!

The *First Place Winner* was a paper entitled, “*Assessing Cloud Readiness at Continental AG*,” by *Claudia Loebbecke*, University of Cologne, and *Bernhard Thomas* and *Thomas Ullrich*, Continental AG. The research provided a framework for determining which information technology services are a good “fit” for the “cloud.” This framework is applicable to other organizations interested in identifying cloud-based information services.

The *Second Place Winner* was a paper entitled, “*Drawing “Align” in the Sand: The Cultural Shift Towards Embedded IT*,” by *Jerry Luftman*, Stevens Institute of Technology, and *Frank Wander*, *Mark Nathan*, and *Harshil Sutaria*, The Guardian Life Insurance Company of America. This paper uses a framework to assess the alignment of information technology with strategy and provides a re-applicable tool to better understand alignment.

Authors of winning papers are encouraged to submit them for publication review by *MISQE*, and a revised version of the first place winner paper is published in this March 2012 issue. *MISQE* is sponsored by SIM and AIS, and is available to SIM and AIS members via their association web sites: ([www.simnet.org](http://www.simnet.org), [www.aisnet.org](http://www.aisnet.org)). Guidelines for next year’s competition will be published on the SIM web site in April 2012. If you have any questions, please contact SIM Liaison for Academic Affairs, Mary Sumner ([msumner@siue.edu](mailto:msumner@siue.edu)).

The **2011 SIMposium Conference** highlighted keynote addresses by former Governor Jeb Bush and MIT CISR Research Director Jeanne Ross. Conference Sessions featured topics such as Enterprise Architecture, Leadership Strategies, and Innovative Technologies. The 2012 SIMposium Conference will be held in Grapevine, Texas, October 28-30th. 2012 promises to be a productive year for SIM programs and initiatives. SIM’s Advanced Practices Council recently released its latest report, “*Realizing Business Value from Tablets*.” Free to SIM members, this report describes a structured way for identifying and developing business applications for tablets. We look forward to a productive and profitable year for all leaders in information technology.

Best wishes for success in 2012.

Steve Hufford  
SIM Chief Executive

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