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Message from SIM

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We wanted to take this opportunity to let you know about several events which represent a partnership between SIM leaders and the IT academic community.

The *MISQE* Academic Workshop, sponsored by SIM and *MIS Quarterly Executive*, will be held prior to the 2016 International Conference on Information Systems on Saturday, December 10, 2016 in Dublin, Ireland. The theme this year is “The Sharing Economy.” A second SIM and *MISQE*-sponsored academic workshop on this theme will be held at HICSS on Wednesday, January 4, 2017 in Hawaii. The Sharing Economy enables consumers to share access to goods and services with each other rather than buying from businesses. The rise of mobile devices, social networks and marketplace platforms enables platforms such as Uber, Lyft, and Airbnb to create new business models. Papers on this topic will become contributions to a *MIS Quarterly Executive* Special Issue on this theme.

The annual SIMposium, scheduled for October 23-25, 2016 at the Mohegan Sun Resort in Connecticut, will bring together IT leaders, SIM Chapter Leaders, and IT professionals who have participated in the RLF Programs. SIMposium will feature keynote speakers and break-out session facilitators, such as Gary Beach, a noted journalist and former publisher of *Computerworld*, who will speak on the topic, “Breakout Session-The Future of Work: US Technology Skills Gap: What Every Technology Executive Must Know.” In addition, the 2016 SIM Best Paper Award will accepted and presented. Each year, the SIM Best Paper Award recognizes research which impacts practice and which is jointly authored by an IT leader and an academic professional. Criteria for judging these papers include Innovativeness, Re-applicability, and Implementation.

SIM has pursued an aggressive STEM Outreach Initiative, and many of the 39 SIM Chapters have launched STEM initiatives, such as scholarship awards, mentoring programs, and volunteer activities designed to make young people aware of career opportunities in the technology field. SIM and its leaders are committed to attracting talent to the IT talent pool so that IT teams can be supported and strengthened. This year, we are introducing SIM STEM Outreach Awards to recognize contributions toward STEM initiatives.

For more information, see the www.simnet.org web site.

SIM is committed to bridging the gap between IT practice and academic initiatives in teaching, research, and service. By working together, SIM leaders and academic professionals can provide the talent pool, the thought leadership, and the professional service needed to raise IT initiatives to the next level.

Steve Hufford
SIM Chief Executive