

**SIGMIS Annual Report**  
July 1, 2017 - June 30, 2018  
Submitted by:  
Fred Niederman, SIGMIS chair

## **Mission**

SIGMIS focuses on information systems and technologies and their management. SIGMIS promotes best-practice and research in the management of information systems and technologies and the use of these systems and technologies. As the oldest of ACM's SIGs, SIGMIS traces its beginning back to 1961, and for decades has been instrumental in defining and developing the field of management and information systems.

## **Awards**

Beginning with ICIS (International Conference on Information Systems) 1995, SIGMIS became the sponsor of the ICIS MIS Doctoral Dissertation Award. In December 2017 In 2017, the award was given to Thi Van-Hau Trieu, supervised by Andrew Burton-Jones, both from University of Queensland, for the dissertation entitled "Three essays on effective use in business intelligence systems context.". Note that Professor Burton-Jones is a previous winner of this award in 2006 – so the apple doesn't fall far from the tree.

Beginning at the 2004 SIGMIS CPR conference, SIGMIS initiated the “Magid Ibaria Outstanding Conference Paper of the Year Award.” This year at the 2018 SIGMIS CPR Conference, the recipient Stacie Petter (Baylor University) won for her paper – “If You Can't Say Something Nice: Factors Contributing to Team Member Silence in Distributed Software Project Teams”

Additionally recognized for their poster presentation were: Sara Moussawi, Jeria Quesenberry and Randy Weinberg (Carnegie Mellon University)– “Improving Student-Driven Feedback and Engagement in the Classroom: Evaluating the Effectiveness of the Speed Dating Model”

## **Papers**

SIGMIS held the SIGMIS CPR Conference June 18-20, 2018, in Niagara Falls, New York. The conference program is available from the SIGMIS CPR conference website at: <http://sigmis.org/conference-program/>.

Additionally, SIGMIS publishes *The Data Base for Advances in Information Systems (Data Base, for short)*, a quarterly peer-reviewed publication devoted to communicating advances in research and best practice in MIS. Beginning in January 2017, the editorship transitioned to Co-Editors-in-Chief Stacie Petter of Baylor University and Tom Stafford of Louisiana Tech University, for a three year term. Xihui “Paul” Zhang, University of North Alabama, is the

Managing Editor. Heidi Seward, Baylor University, is the Technical Editor. For information about *Data Base*, please visit the SIGMIS website at: <http://sigmis.org/the-data-base/>.

## Programs

Since 2006, SIGMIS has held the Computers and People Doctoral Consortium. This year's CPR Doctoral Consortium was held on June 18, 2018 at the SIGMIS CPR Conference with 8 participating doctoral students and 3 faculty mentors. Doctoral students came from 5 countries (US 3, India 2, Singapore, Germany, and New Zealand). Beginning with the CPR 2011 conference, SIGMIS has been providing travel grants to Doctoral Consortium participants.

This year's conference featured keynote plenary sessions at the main conference one oriented to academic issues, the other a practitioner following the conference theme.

Three panel sessions were also conducted. The first was primarily historical and academic: Looking Back at 20 years of best papers at SIGMIS CPR– Authors. Participants were: Mike Gallivan (Kennesaw State University); Deb Armstrong (Florida State University); Andreas Eckhardt (German Graduate School of Management and Law); Damien Joseph (Nanyang Technological Institute); Eileen Trauth (The Pennsylvania State University); Jeria Queensberry (Carnegie Mellon University)

The second addressed: **The IS Student and Professional: Current, Past, and Future**. Panelists were: Munir Mandviwalla, Temple University (chair); Fred Niederman, Saint Louis University; Craig Van Slyke, Louisiana Tech University; Monica Adya, Marquette University.

The third was an industry panel: Industry-Academia Panel on Conference Theme. Panelists were: Leslie Feidt, CIO, Erie County Medical Center; Ann Fruhling, University of Nebraska Omaha; T. Ravichandran, Associate Dean for Research, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute; Lawrence J. Zielinski, Executive in Residence, Health Care Administration, University at Buffalo and former President, Buffalo General Hospital; Rajiv Kishore served as Panel Moderator.

Continuously since 2001, SIGMIS has held a networking reception at the ICIS conference. The reception at ICIS 2017 was held in December in Seoul, South Korea. An estimated 75 individuals from around the world attended including several prior dissertation award winners.

This year we have initiated a research grant program. Two recipients were selected, one from the US and the other from China. We are in the process of developing the mechanics for distributing payments and establishing linkages for communication and an eventual presentation of each at an upcoming SIGMIS conference. The purposes of the grant is to stimulate excitement about the SIG, to generate new interest areas, and to contribute to the body of knowledge in MIS. We plan to conduct a similar research grant program next year enhanced by what we've learned during this round.

We have begun the process of establishing new recognized awards in the area of lifetime membership, newcomer contribution, and three pertaining to distinguished editor and reviewer of the Data Base... and paper of the year in Data Base.

We have also, thank you to Damien Joseph, begun formalizing our “in cooperation” program with outside conferences. We hope to take similar action with other ACM conferences. Our goals are: to make the information about these conferences available to our members, to provide opportunities through our informal sponsorship for our members, if they wish, to participate in these conferences, and to promote our conference and publications to these groups and their members.

## **Key Issues**

At our business meeting in June this year, we conducted a long discussion regarding the mission and strategy of the SIG. This discussion is summarized in the minutes of the meeting, posted on our website at [sigmis.org](http://sigmis.org). Though many opinions were expressed, the discussion emphasized providing a platform on which individual members could realize their own ambitions and make contributions to the larger MIS community.

Also discussed was the fact that we have had a number of very long term relationships with other organizations including IFIP that need to be reevaluated. We have begun reaching out to MIS community special interest groups, particularly regarding leadership and inclusion, which are key elements in the SIGMIS research domain.

Our two new newsletter editors continue to actively promoting *The Data Base*. One of the editors invested resources from his university to staff a Conference Exhibitor booth for the first time at ICIS 2016 to both promote the newsletter and solicit new members. This was replicated in 2017, however, the SIG will now take over funding this activity. We added this year a 5<sup>th</sup> issue to contain a special issue on cybersecurity. We are finding submissions to be a continual challenge given the strong competition for worthy papers, particularly from the papers listed in the “senior scholars” basket of 8. Nonetheless, the editors have been very active promoting the publication and organizing the operational mechanics so that contributors and reviewers have a positive experience, whether work is accepted for publication or not.

At the business meeting a long discussion was also conducted regarding the “ideal size” of the annual conference. There is much value in the closeness of a smaller conference, but there is also a threshold below which we do not want to fall. One strategy is to target a variety of interrelated topical interest areas, like leadership, inclusion, human resource management of computing professionals, and IT entrepreneurship-innovation.

It is our hope to make available contacts for participating in the ACM series of webinars.

It is also our hope to establish an informal support for naturally arising mentor relationships between SIGMIS newcomers and grizzled veterans.