



# NEWSLETTER



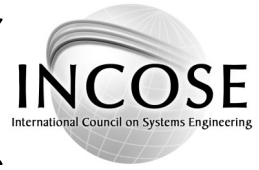
2002, 2004-10



2003



2008 President's  
Award for Most  
Outstanding  
Chapter



## UPCOMING EVENTS

### March Speaker Meeting

#### Systems Engineering for the Great Iron Horse

Speaker: Jorg Largent,

When: Tuesday, March 13, 2012, 5:30—7:45 p.m.

Where: Booz Allen Hamilton, LAX Office

*plus remote sites*

*Details on page 2*

### Networking Event

#### Relax after work, discuss the upcoming conference and other extemporaneous topics of interest

When: Wednesday, March 7, 2012, 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Where: Lido Di Manhattan Ristorante & Bar

1550 Rosecrans Avenue in Manhattan Beach.

*Details on page 4*

### INCOSE-LA Mini-Conference

#### Systems Engineering for Agility and Affordability

When: Saturday, March 31, 2012

An all-day event including presentations, a panel discussion, and amenities

Location: Loyola Marymount University, Los Angeles

*Details on pages 1 and 3*

**SEE "SAVE-THE-DATE" AND MORE  
UPCOMING EVENTS  
LISTED ON PAGE 2**

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## Systems Engineering for Agility and Affordability Mini-conference

March 31, 2012

*Please note flyer on page 3*

The INCOSE-LA Mini-Conference is fast approaching. The Mini-Conference will be a one-day, single track conference, and will be held on Saturday, March 31, 2012 at Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles. This is gearing up to be a great opportunity to hear presentations on an emerging hot topic for systems engineers. As in the past, this conference not only addresses a topic of interest to the systems engineering professionals, it also affords an opportunity to meet colleagues, to exchange perspectives and interests, and to learn about various subjects within the field of systems engineering.

This year's mini-conference will feature a comprehensive discussion of agility and affordability as essential elements of the systems engineering process and will consider practical approaches to performing system engineering more efficiently and effectively. There is an increasing call for more "agility" in the execution of the systems engineering process. The conference will be informative, educational, and interactive, giving those in attendance an opportunity to participate in both the paper presentations and the panel discussion.

Cost: The cost, which includes handouts and amenities, for the conference is \$60.00 for presenters, students, and senior members of INCOSE, \$85.00 for INCOSE members, and \$100.00 for non-members. Please note: these rates are available only until March 2, 2012. After that date the rates increase, so register early. See the website (<http://www.incose-la.org/events/conferences/mini-conference-2012.html>) for more details and to register.

Amenities: hot buffets for breakfast and lunch, plus breaks with coffee, tea and light refreshments.

Keynote speaker: Gwynne Shotwell was appointed President of the Space Exploration Technologies Corporation (known familiarly as SpaceX) in December, 2008. As President, she has focused on the operational activities of SpaceX, including sales, marketing, manufacturing, launch operations, legal, government relations and finance.

Gwynne joined SpaceX in 2002 as Vice President of Business Development to generate and manage SpaceX's customer base and the company's strategic and government relations. Previously, she served for ten years at The Aerospace Corporation and, before that, directed business development at Microcosm, Inc. She began her engineering career at Chrysler Motors.

## **March Speaker Meeting**

“Systems Engineering for the Great Iron Horse”

**Presenter:** Jorg Largent

### **PARTICULARS**

**When:** Tuesday, March 13, 2012, 5:30 — 7:45 p.m.

**Where:** Booz Allen Hamilton, LAX Office  
Building 5220 — 2nd. Floor, Suite 200  
5220 Pacific Concourse Drive

*Remote sites will be available at the Control Point Corporation in Santa Barbara, JPL in Pasadena, the Boeing Company in Huntington Beach, and in the Antelope Valley*

**Cost:** Members-FREE; Non-members-\$10.00

### **Meeting Agenda:**

5:30 - 6:20 p.m. Registration, networking, refreshments

6:20 - 6:30 p.m. Welcome and announcements

6:30 - 7:45 p.m. Presentation followed by questions and answers

Refreshments will be provided at the host site. Contact remote site contacts for more information regarding parking, refreshments, and other administrative matters at their site locations.

**ABSTRACT:** Systems engineering is as old as it is unheralded. Jorg’s presentation will discuss systems engineering from a historical perspective with a focus on railroads and steam locomotives.

The industrial revolution ushered in the large scale use of machines for mechanical advantage and with it the beginnings of modern systems: railroads. Jorg will then overlay systems engineering upon this history, illustrating that the principles of good systems engineering were in place before the language was invented. All facets of the systems engineering process can be found in the history of railroads, as can the use of system engineering to respond to paradigm shifts such as the introduction of electricity and Diesel locomotives. Use cases, logic diagrams, “if-then” conditions, and systems of systems from the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries will be discussed and illustrated.



**BIOGRAPHY:** Like many systems engineers, Jorg had been practicing systems engineering for many years without understanding that such was the case. Jorg, an Aerospace Engineering graduate of Georgia Tech (1971) started his career in the United States Air Force (1963 – 1967) where he learned to improvise under sometimes-unpleasant circumstances: de facto systems engineering. After graduating from Georgia Tech and working in orbital mechanics on the Apollo program, he transferred to Boeing’s Vertol division and began a career as a Flight Test Engineer. Dealing with systems as a user and solving the problems that cropped up led to more experience with systems engineering, although still without the name. Jorg’s flight test experience spanned seventeen years and involved helicopters, strategic aircraft, and a variety of developmental systems and vehicles. In 1994 and 1995 Jorg was formally trained as a systems engineer at Caltech.

At one point, while attending Caltech, Jorg swaggered into his boss’s office and announced, “No problem, boss. We already do this.” He was wrong, as he was to learn while mentoring a rocketry team from a local high school; a team which qualified for the national competition in 2007. Jorg is a student of the process who, after 40-plus years, continues to learn as he has learned from sergeants, from circumstances at altitude and on the hangar floor, and from “disadvantaged” high school students who triumphed over their circumstances to become budding young rocket scientists.

Jorg’s interest in railroads per se began several decades ago as a ferroequinologist. He observed and studied railroads at every opportunity, including the design and operation of steam locomotives. Jorg’s interests in railroads and in systems engineering dovetailed nicely as railroads are the first large scale system of systems spawned by the industrial revolution. In 2007 Jorg took the plunge and starting hands-on learning how to operate steam locomotives. In addition, Jorg has been working on the Sierra Railroad, albeit at the lowest levels, maintaining track, maintaining and servicing locomotives, and providing over-the-road safety, all the while learning more about the application of the systems engineering process.

### **R.S.V.P.:**

**ALL PARTICIPANTS:** Please register online at <http://www.incose-la.org> (this is important so as to help facilitate implementing the meeting). You will be asked to provide your full name, title, company, phone number, and email address. State whether you are a US Citizen, resident alien, or foreign national. Please indicate the site at which you will be attending.

*(Continued on page 4)*

## ***SAVE THE DATE***

### **April Speaker Meeting**

#### **Bio-mimicry: Systems Engineering in Nature**

When: Tuesday, April 10, 2011, 5:30 p.m. — 7:45 p.m.

*More details available in the April edition of the Newsletter, on the INCOSE-LA website, and in a Reflector notice*

### **Conference on Systems Engineering Research 2012**

When: March 19 — 22, 2012

Location: St. Louis, Missouri

Go to <http://cser.mst.edu> for details

### **Joint SPIN and INCOSE-LA Meeting**

#### **Agile Systems Engineering**

When: Thursday, March 22, 2012, 5:15 p.m. to 7:45 p.m.

*More details available on page 7*

### **Improving Space Operations Workshop**

#### **Hosted by the AIAA**

When: April 24 — 25, 2012

*More information on page 7*

### **INCOSE International Symposium**

When: July 9 - 12, 2012

Where: Rome, Italy

*More information on page 6*



**International Council on  
Systems Engineering (INCOSE)**  
*Los Angeles Chapter*  
*is proud to host the*



# 2012 Mini-Conference

Saturday, March 31, 2012 – 7:30 am to 5:00 pm

**Loyola Marymount University**  
1 LMU Drive, Los Angeles, CA 90045

## **"Systems Engineering for Agility and Affordability"**

### **Presentations on agility and affordability in the SE process**

*This Mini-Conference will feature a comprehensive discussion of **agility and affordability** as elements of the systems engineering process. The conference will be informative, educational, and interactive – giving those in attendance an opportunity to participate and to better understand these latest issues.*

*The Technical Program Committee has selected a series of presentations that will consider practical approaches to performing systems engineering more efficiently and effectively, and which will bring more agility into the systems engineering process in its application to software products. Each presentation and the panel discussion will be followed by a question-and-answer period.*

### **Keynote Speaker: Gwynne Shotwell**

President, SpaceX (Space Exploration Technologies Corp)

### **Single track of topical presentations**

**plus Panel discussion by prominent  
leaders in our profession**

Moderated by Marilee Wheaton, The Aerospace Corporation

### **Our Sponsors**



**Plan on attending this special one-day event – an opportunity to listen, learn, discuss, and share with fellow professionals.**

**\*\* Breakfast and lunch buffets included \*\* Exhibitors \*\***

<b>Registration Fees</b>	<b>Before March 3, 2012</b>	<b>March 3 through March 23, 2012</b>	<b>After March 23 or On-site</b>
<b>INCOSE Member</b>	<b>\$85</b>	<b>\$105</b>	<b>\$120</b>
<b>Non-member</b>	<b>\$120</b>	<b>\$120</b>	<b>\$135</b>
<b>Student / Senior Member or Mini-Conf Presenter</b>	<b>\$60</b>	<b>\$75</b>	<b>\$90</b>

See our *Newsletter* and check our website [www.incose-la.org](http://www.incose-la.org) for more details.

**INCOSE-LA Chapter NEWSLETTER**

Vol. 10: Issue No. 3 March 2012

# Networking Event!

By Nehal Patel

The Los Angeles Chapter will be hosting a quarterly Professional Networking Event on Wednesday, March 7, 2010 from 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. in the Lido Di Manhattan Ristorante & Bar at 1550 Rosecrans Avenue in Manhattan Beach. The purpose of this gathering is to welcome any new members and to provide an opportunity for Chapter members to gather and network in an informal setting. This will also be an opportunity to discuss the plans for the mini-conference being held later in the month.

Networking events have been and continue to be a great way to meet other systems engineering professionals and members of the INCOSE-LA Chapter, and your participation is welcomed. Past meetings have included extemporaneous and spirited discussions of professional interests to the members.

Appetizers will be provided, compliments of INCOSE-LA. There will be a "No Host" bar. Please come and join us.

*(March Speaker Meeting, Continued from page 2)*

Site dependent requirements, including registration dates, are listed below.

**Booz Allen Hamilton (the host site):** Attendees must R.S.V.P. by Friday, March 9, 2012. Please bring your picture identification (driver's license, passport or green card) to the meeting.

#### Planned Remote Webcast Sites:

**Antelope Valley/Palmdale:** Held on the campus of the Antelope Valley College in the "BE" (Business Education) building, room 207. Open to all; no R.S.V.P. deadline. Point of Contact: Mike Wallace, phone: 661-540-0290, email: [m.wallace@ngc.com](mailto:m.wallace@ngc.com).

**Huntington Beach:** The Boeing Company, 14900 Bolsa Chica Road, Building 17, Conference Room 109. Please register by Friday, March 9, 2012. Open to U.S. citizens and non-resident aliens. ***We regret that foreign nationals will not be able to attend at the Boeing Company site.*** Visitors will need to bring identification and check in with Security in the lobby of Building 17 **not later than 6:00 p.m.** *Please bring your picture identification (driver's license, passport and/or green card) to the meeting.* Point of Contact: Beth O'Donnell, phone: 714-372-2543, email: [elizabeth.l.o'donnell@boeing.com](mailto:elizabeth.l.o'donnell@boeing.com). **Refreshments will be provided at this site.**

**Goleta:** Control Point Corporation, 110 Castilian, Suite 200, Goleta. Please register by Friday, March 9, 2012. POC: Scott Grant, [scott.grant@control-pt.com](mailto:scott.grant@control-pt.com). 805-882-1884, x108 for directions or more information.

**Pasadena, JPL** – Please register online by Thursday, February 9, 2012. Contact Michela Muñoz Fernández at [Michela.Munoz.Fernandez@jpl.nasa.gov](mailto:Michela.Munoz.Fernandez@jpl.nasa.gov) for specific location and directions.

**DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS MARCH 12!**

## Why Process Matters

By Dr. Larry Earnest, Director of Systems Engineering Education

This article discusses the advantage of an organization's being process-driven organization rather than being an organization that simply has processes.

Systems engineers see processes as a documented way we do something. A process converts inputs into a value-added result (i.e. systems in the form of products or services) with the help of resources, subject to project constraints and rules. These processes are performed in collaboration with project plans which allocate resources and workflow activities that contribute towards the development of the desired system.

A key challenge for each business enterprise is to have a common understanding of all things process related. Each organization must standardize, interpret, and apply process terms in the same way from program to program. Standard processes are a competitive advantage because they increase organizational awareness and knowledge of business processes, and they reduce associated organizational complexity across process boundaries. Having standardized processes that meet the requirement of a well-defined process is the entry level requirement for becoming process-driven.

Each project requires its own defined processes that are tailored from the Standard Processes. A well-defined process is a process that includes readiness criteria, inputs, standards and procedures for performing the work, verification mechanisms (such as peer reviews), outputs, and completion criteria" (from the Capabilities Maturity Model integrated).

***Being a process-driven organization does not simply mean that an organization has processes. A well documented process is only about 10% of what is required to achieve sustainable results. How the process is tailored and implemented within an organization is the other 90%.***

A process driven organization is exemplified by valuing its processes as strategic corporate assets and by the reflection of that value in the organization's practices and beliefs. An attribute of a process-driven behavior is how deliberate knowledge assets are managed. A process-driven organization regularly accesses previously executed processes as a means of capturing lessons learned, process improvement, and potential reuse on new programs.

The process-driven organization builds efficiencies surrounding the rapid flow of materials, information, and business commitments within and outside established process boundaries. Process-driven behavior results in breaking down functional silos which enables collaboration; and in the organization's accesses project-specific processes to capture lessons learned.

Comments? Please join the discussion on LinkedIn:

[http://www.linkedin.com/groups?gid=1456737&goback=.myg.amf.1456737\\_50632689](http://www.linkedin.com/groups?gid=1456737&goback=.myg.amf.1456737_50632689)

If you don't have a LinkedIn account please send your thoughts to the author, Dr. Larry Earnest, ([larry.earnest@incose.org](mailto:larry.earnest@incose.org)). Your thoughts and experiences will be consolidated and shared with the systems engineering community through a new series of venues to be announced in the April newsletter.

## A Report from the Strategic Planning Meeting

By Alan Kirschbaum and Jorg Largent

The Board of Directors of the Los Angeles Chapter hosted an extended Strategic Planning Meeting on January 23, 2012. Several members of the Chapter joined the board members in the discussions of plans for the coming year.

Chapter President John Silvas opened the meeting by welcoming all in attendance. After introductions were made, Past-President Beth O'Donnell discussed the responsibilities of the various positions on the Board of Directors.

The objectives of the meeting were to:

- Transition to the new Board of Directors
- Develop a strategy for 2012 and beyond
- Prepare core operating plans
- Incorporate feedback from the town hall meeting

John stated that his goals for the Chapter included: tapping into the extensive resources the chapter has to offer, increasing the value of membership with collaborative events and informative systems engineering products and services, and improving chapter collaboration with academia and industry. President Silvas also wants to identify, encourage, and mentor prospective chapter leaders.

The established activities of the Chapter were discussed and calendared. Systems engineers in the Los Angeles area can look forward to a continuation of the traditional speaker meetings, networking meetings, tutorials, and conferences. The Chapter is planning on ten speaker meetings – skipping the months of July and December. In addition to the *Newsletter* and Reflector notices, members can go to the Chapter website to look at the calendar for future events.

Information on activities hosted by other professional organizations and of potential interest to systems engineers in the area was discussed. Information on these activities will be included in the *Newsletter*, timeliness and space permitting.

One concern voiced was the need to create better means for the Chapter to provide information on employment opportunities – where can members who are unemployed or facing the prospect of a layoff get information on opportunities in the systems engineering profession (see “Help Wanted” in the February 2012 edition of the *Newsletter*).

Other topics discussed included a suggestion that “systems science” would be a valuable topic for a speaker meeting or tutorial, a proposal that the Chapter pursue additional outreach opportunities, and a proposal that the *Newsletter*, in addition to the hard copy format, be converted to a soft copy webpage format for easy reading on the Chapter’s webpage.

Larry Earnest, the Director of Systems Engineering Education advocated more Certified Systems Engineering Professional (CSEP) offerings, including more instructors on west coast. Larry wants to meet the members’ needs and to be complementary to other offerings including “Advanced SE Skills Workshops” and “Planning for Becoming a Lead SE”. He pointed to a Corporate Advisory Board funded project through Lockheed-Martin Corporation on what is needed for systems engineer education as a source of guidance.

(Continued on page 6)

## A Report from the International Workshop

INCOSE conducted the 2012 International Workshop January 21 through 24, 2012, in Jacksonville, Florida. The workshop consisted of meetings for the entire group of attendees, meetings of the various working groups, and several networking events.

Outgoing President Ms. Samantha Robitaille gave an inspiring speech with insights into the challenges faced by the systems engineering professional and sprinkled with humor about those who practice the profession. John Thomas was inducted as President and he too spoke well, addressing the challenges of the profession and the initiative required on the part of the practicing systems engineer. President Thomas has posted four position papers on the INCOSE website: “How to Recognize You Have a Systems Problem,” “Why SEs Are Essential,” “Critical Tools in the SEs Toolbox,” and “Why INCOSE” (<http://www.incose.org/newsevents/news/details.aspx?id=250>).

The Workshop on Model Based Systems Engineering was well attended and had several excellent presentations on the concept and how the tool can be used to great advantage in the application of the systems engineering process. The team from Georgia Tech gave a presentation on modeling tools they have developed; tools that use the power of the concept and modern computers to synthesize solutions involving billions of permutations and combinations.

The workshops often pointed to the need to clarify terminology. One discussion centered around the word “test.” Is “test” limited to the right-hand side of the requirements “V,” or does it include testing done as a part of production (are the products build correctly as they come off the line) or testing done as a part of utilization (is the tire pressure correct)?

The INCOSE organization has been regrouped from regions to sectors. The purpose of the reorganization was to improve communications from the members to the chapters to the sectors with the Sector Directors being the link to the INCOSE Board of Directors. The Los Angeles Chapter is in the Americas sector and Ray Jorgenson is the Sector Director for the Americas. The meeting of the chapter leaders from within the Americas Sector focused on how best utilize the new organization so as to meet the needs of the members. One concept is to divide the Americas Sector into regions, and as decisions are made regarding the makeup of the Americas Sector, the information will be forwarded to the Chapters. One note was that the sector and regions would have the prerogative to organize conferences and tutorials as best met the needs and interests of the members in the sector or a given region respectively.

The Los Angeles Chapter again hosted a networking event for those in attendance from the Chapter, but expanded the event to include members from throughout the region. Several students from the Arizona State University chapter participated in the socializing and discussions.

The INCOSE leadership team worked on planning for the International Symposium, which will be held July 9 through 12, 2012 in Rome, Italy. Preparations for the symposium are well under way and further information can be obtained at the web site: <http://www.incose.org/symp2012/>



## The International Symposium and How to Get to Rome

By Jorg Largent

The INCOSE International Symposium will be held July 9 through 12, 2012. As in the past symposia, the upcoming event in Rome, Italy, will offer nearly 1,000 of the world's leading systems engineers opportunities to interact at the same time they learn of the latest developments in tools, methodologies, and approaches. INCOSE President John Thomas wrote that he is particularly excited about the disciplines represented, including transportation – notably high-speed rail – along with national security issues (including a keynote from one of the world's foremost cyber security experts, Mike McConnell), and issues around efficient energy design.

For those of us in the Los Angeles Chapter, travel to Rome requires attending to some details beyond those associated with travel in the United States. The U. S. Department of State provides needed information available at its website: <http://www.travel.state.gov/>. Some of the considerations a travel should consider are:

- Passports and visas
- Immunizations
- Health issues
- Cell phones
- Lap tops and the internet
- Money – currency exchange

These considerations vary from country to country, and most of the requirements unique to one country or another are spelled out on the website.

### Passport information:

The first step in planning a trip outside the United States is to obtain a U.S. passport. To avoid the increased fees of an expedited passport service, a traveler must submit his or her passport application in a timely manner.

### First-time applicants:

You must apply in person at a post office, library, or passport agency if:

- You're applying for your first passport
- Your expired passport was issued more than 15 years ago
- Your expired passport was issued when you were age 15 or younger

### Required documents for first-time applicants:

- Two identical 2x2-inch passport photos
- Completed passport application
- Certified U.S. birth certificate
- Proof of identity (such as a driver's license or government-issued ID)

Check, money order, or credit card payment of \$135 for citizens ages 16 and older, or \$105 for ages 15 and younger

### Passport renewal:

Your expired or soon-to-expire passport can be renewed by mail if:

- It was issued within the last 15 years
- Your passport is in good condition
- You were age 16 or older when it was issued
- Your name has not changed, or you can legally document your name change.

For passport renewals, complete the application, and mail it, along with two identical passport photos, your most recent U.S. passport, a marriage certificate or court order if your name has changed, and a check or money order in the amount of \$110 to:

The National Passport Processing Center  
P.O. Box 90155  
Philadelphia, PA 19190

**Emergencies:** Consular personnel at U.S. embassies and consulates abroad and in the U.S. are available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, to provide emergency assistance to U.S. citizens. Contact information for U.S. embassies and consulates appears on the Bureau of Consular Affairs website at <http://travel.state.gov>. Also note that the Office of Overseas Citizen Services in the State Department's Bureau of Consular Affairs may be reached for assistance with emergencies at 1-888-407-4747, if calling from the U.S. or Canada, or 202-501-4444, if calling from overseas.

**Cell phones:** Check with your provider. There are several options, such as adding service to your existing phone while you are overseas, renting, or buying a one-time-good-deal phone for the duration of your visit.

Some advice from a seasoned British traveler: Most, if not all, networks have roaming arrangements. For voice calls and texts the rates are reasonable (two to three times "home" rates). Data can, however, be very expensive – so don't use it. There are stories of people faced with massive (thousands of pounds £) bills for downloading films using their mobile phone.

**Side trips:** Many travelers will want to take advantage of being in Rome to expand their travel to other exotic destinations. While Italy does not require a visa for most travelers traveling on a United States passport, other countries do. As always, check the Department of State website for visa requirements. While there, check on the recommendations for immunizations (a link to the Communicable Disease Center is provided on the Department of State website).

More information on foreign travel will be published in future editions of the *Newsletter*. When in doubt or if there are any questions, go to the U. S. Department of State website at: <http://www.travel.state.gov/>.

*(Strategic Planning Meeting, Continued from page 5)*

The goals of the Systems Engineering Education for the year include: supporting existing guest speaker initiatives, promoting INCOSE at the Northrop Grumman Corporation facility in Azusa, improving member participation, developing CSEP instructors, and developing advanced systems engineering skills workshops.

Paul Cudney, the Membership Director, expressed the need to do new things to promote the chapter and INCOSE in general. For example, there is a wealth of social media but it must be nurtured daily to be valuable and must reach a tipping point.

In conclusion, it was a constructive meeting and the participants left with an understanding of what can be done to improve the value of the Chapter to the membership and with the initiative to get it done.

## Joint SPIN and INCOSE-LA Meeting Agile Systems Engineering

**SPEAKER:** Dr. Suzette Johnson, Agile Engineering and Leadership, Northrop Grumman Integrated Systems Technical Fellow, Northrop Grumman Corporation

**WHEN:** Thursday, March 22, 2012, 5:15 p.m. to 7:45 p.m.

**NOTE:** *the guards leave at 6:00 p.m., therefore all attendees need to arrive before then so as to be issued a badge.*

**NOTE:** *Due to Department of Defense requirements, foreign national cannot attend this meeting*

### Meeting Schedule:

5:15 - 6:00 p.m. registration, networking, and refreshments

6:00 - 6:15 p.m. welcome and announcements

6:15 - 7:45 p.m. presentation followed by questions and answers

**WHERE:** Northrop Grumman E2 Presentation Center (formerly TRW, in tall building off of Entrance 2), 2264 Marine Ave., Redondo Beach

**COST:** Free, but donations accepted for sandwiches and drinks.

**ABSTRACT:** Many organizations and programs are embracing more agile and adaptive practices to better address a high rate of requirements volatility, changing mission needs, and the desire to take advantage of the latest technological advancements. This environment requires systems engineering practices that can adapt to and manage these changes; practices are critical for the successful delivery of systems to the users.

This presentation builds on the Agile Development Approach as defined in the INCOSE handbook and discusses how the Agile framework and major systems engineering practices can work together. Specific topics include Iteration 0 and the creation of the product backlog, release planning, and iteration planning and execution with discussion on V-Model components. In addition, emphasis is placed on the necessary collaboration needed to enable a well-managed process.

**SPEAKER BIOGRAPHY:** Dr. Suzette Johnson works for Northrop Grumman in Annapolis Junction, Maryland. As a systems engineer and project manager, she is strongly interested

in implementing Agile practices. Her initial experience with Agile-related practices began over ten years ago with lean product development. Starting in 2005 she assisted in leading a team within a large systems-of-systems environment to transition from traditional engineering approaches to more agile and adaptive practices. Dr. Johnson is responsible for leading and coaching a spectrum of organizations on implementing Agile practices so as to adopt these practices to meet their needs. She leads Northrop Grumman's Agile Community of Practice, speaks at multiple conference engagements each year, and provides training workshops.

Dr. Johnson received a Doctorate of Management at the University of Maryland with a dissertation focus on investigating the impact of leadership styles on software project outcomes in traditional and agile engineering environments.

### Eighteenth Annual Improving Space Operations Workshop April 24-25, 2012

The Space Operations and Support Technical Committee (SOSTC) of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics is sponsoring a workshop on improving space operations. The workshop is being hosted by Jet Propulsion Labs and SpaceOps. This year's workshop will be held April 24 and 25, 2012 at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena.

The SOSTC is concerned with all aspects of civil, military, and commercial space operations and support, including direct and supporting operations, the systems and software affecting operations, and space operations and operational risk management. The SOSTC addresses all types of space operations. It is involved with all phases of mission operations, including pre-launch and launch activities, early mission commissioning activities, on-orbit activities, cruise and encounter activities, post-landing activities, and end-of-life operations. The SOSTC likewise addresses space related operational support activities, including training, servicing, mission planning, flight dynamics, telemetry transmission, command and control, and data handling, analysis, and storage.

Additional information can be found in the February 2012 edition of the *Newsletter* and at the workshop website: [https://info.aiaa.org/tac/SMG/SOSTC/Workshop\\_Documents/2012/SOSTC\\_2012\\_workshop\\_flyer\\_Final.pdf](https://info.aiaa.org/tac/SMG/SOSTC/Workshop_Documents/2012/SOSTC_2012_workshop_flyer_Final.pdf)

### The Board of Directors wishes to welcome the following new members in the Los Angeles Chapter of INCOSE:

Note: The information listed below is from the member directory and is based upon your initial membership application. If the information is not correct or complete, then please access the member directory (at [www.incose.org](http://www.incose.org)) to update your information.

Name	Title	Company
Matthew Berg	Technical Project Manager	Get Moore Solutions, LLC
Melin Dadual	Graduate student	
Paul Graven	CEO	Cateni, Inc.
Chaim Kalgrad	Systems Manager	
Douglas Orellana	PhD Student	University of Southern California
Lynda Wright	Systems Engineer	Boeing

## INCOSE-LA Chapter NEWSLETTER

Vol. 10: Issue No. 3 March 2012

# INCOSE-LA Chapter NEWSLETTER

Vol. 10: Issue No. 3 March 2012

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**Return Address:**

**PO Box 10969  
Westminster, CA 92685-0969**

**THE INCOSE-LA CHAPTER MINI-CONFERENCE IS ALMOST HERE: MARCH 31, 2012!**

More information and registration at <http://www.incose-la.org/events/conferences/mini-conference-2012.html>

## Forwarding Address Requested

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