



## The NorthCoast Interfacer



**2008, 2017**



**2009-2013, 2015-2016, 2018-2019**



**2014**

## President's Corner

It has been a trying winter for many, with stress levels seemingly as high as they have ever been. We all were optimistic for this New Year and return to semi-normalcy is hopefully just around the corner. In the meantime, please take care of yourselves and those around you.

During a time when professional organizations are losing their footing and facing enrollment challenges, our chapter feels as invigorated as ever. I attribute that to our continuing series of engaging speakers and topics at our monthly chapter meetings. Recent attendance has included members from other chapters across America, as well as INCOSE members from India, Sweden and Brazil! What going virtual has taught us is how easily we can reach across imaginary boundaries that were essentially self-imposed prior to now. If you have not attended a chapter meeting lately, please try one. You will not be disappointed! We are starting to plan for the return of our ever-popular on-the-road chapter event for later this summer or early fall. Stay tuned!

We are taking several initiatives this year as a specific result of our member survey. First and foremost is to ensure that our member's needs are being met. We will accomplish this with a combination of personal follow up with each chapter member, and frequent opportunities for feedback. We will continue planning for monthly, high-quality chapter meetings with timely topics. Supporting members in their pursuit of professional certification is a high priority. Last month we had Courtney Wright, the INCOSE Certification Program Manager present at our chapter meeting, and we are planning further support activities later in the year.

In closing, I want to say how important it is for us to hear from you. Please reach out to any one of us for with your feedback on how we can better meet your needs as a chapter member.

I wish you a healthy and safe early spring!

- Tim Schuler

C-NO President

## Upcoming Chapter Meetings – 2021

The chapter is off to a great start in 2021 with timely topics and interesting speakers in our January and February meetings. As we move into warmer weather, we are hoping to be able to add some in-person events back into the mix as well, so stay tuned for more info!

The March chapter meeting will feature Troy Peterson, VP at System Strategy, Inc.; past President of the Michigan chapter; and INCOSE Associate Director for Systems Engineering Transformation. Troy will be speaking on the topic of **Digital Engineering and Transformation**.

Mark your calendars for Tuesday, March 16, 2021, at 5:30 pm.

## WANTED: Great Ideas for Upcoming Chapter Meeting Topics



We are always looking for topics and presenters of interest for future chapter meetings. Perhaps **you** have an idea for a particular topic and would like to present it or lead a panel discussion at an upcoming meeting? Maybe you have an idea for a tutorial you'd like to share, or for a seminar or workshop that you think might be beneficial to the membership?

Please feel free to contact Marian Cronin at [marian.f.cronin@nasa.gov](mailto:marian.f.cronin@nasa.gov) or 216-433-2660 with your ideas!

## INCOSE Northeast Ohio Chapter Book Discussion

[Critical Systems Thinking and the Management of Complexity](#) by Michael C. Jackson

The International Council on Systems Engineering has long declared a wish to extend the scope of application of systems engineering from its traditional sphere of complex technical systems to more complex socio-technical systems. But what are the circumstances in which systems engineering can be successful in guiding and managing interventions in non-traditional domains such as transportation, housing, infrastructure, health, and environmental systems? This involves an analysis using critical systems thinking. If you are interested in learning how others outside of INCOSE apply critical systems thinking to these kind of problems, and what we can learn from them, you would benefit from this book discussion.

Our first book discussion session on this book running through the summer is full! (We need to limit the group size to allow for ample discussion time.) However, if you are interested in attending the next session, please contact [carldister@ieee.org](mailto:carldister@ieee.org)

Carl J. Dister, CSEP

## Welcome to New Chapter Members

Welcome to our new members from December and January! The Board of Directors hopes the Chapter can aid you in your professional development and looks forward to getting to know you.

- Darpan Ganguli, Honeywell Intelligrated
- Dennis Mull

-Dennis Rohn

Cleveland-Northern Ohio Chapter Membership Chair

## INCOSE International Workshop 2021 Recap

The 2021 INCOSE International Workshop (IW) 2021 was conducted as an all virtual event, from January 29-31, 2021, although a number of working group and business meetings occurred prior to and after the main dates. This was the first time the IW has been conducted virtually.



**2021**  
Annual **INCOSE**  
international workshop  
**Virtual Event**  
January 29 - 31, 2021

The workshop saw around 700 registrants, the largest IW to date. While still learning to use the new virtual platforms, the entire workshop went smoothly and permitted attendees to participate real-time, or watch recorded sessions at their leisure. The Administrative report mentioned that membership has grown to 18,423 members, 30% of whom are in Americas Sector Chapters and 43% of whom are associate members (not affiliated with any Chapter). There are 83 corporate member organizations and 33 academic member organizations. Technical Operations presented seven awards to working groups during the Opening Plenary. The IW Opening Plenary also included several new officers on the Board of Directors. The INCOSE 2020 Annual Impact Statement has been published and can be found at: <https://www.incose.org/incose-impact/incose-annual-impact-statement>.

One large aspect of IWs has been a series of model-based systems engineering (MBSE) presentations, which occurred don Saturday and Sunday. INCOSE makes the content of these available on the MBSE Wiki at: <https://www.omgwiki.org/MBSE/doku.php?id=start>.

A new Systems Engineering tools database was demonstrated during the IW, is now available for use, and can be accessed using your INCOSE credentials. It can be found at: [https://www.systemsengineeringtools.com/v0\\_9/](https://www.systemsengineeringtools.com/v0_9/).

One of the Town Halls conducted during the IW provided insight into how to apply the Systems Engineering Competency Assessment Guide, which is a companion to the Systems Engineering Competency Framework released in July 2018. The Assessment Guide is in work and should be released soon. Another INCOSE Product that is being worked on is a Professional Development Portal (PDP). The on-line PDP is intended to be a comprehensive solution for Systems Engineers and other professionals who want to enhance their systems engineering knowledge and skills. The PDP will provide access to: self-assessment based on the INCOSE SE Competency Framework; recommendations of appropriate professional development content materials and

programs provided by INCOSE and selected organizations, aligned to the individual user needs; and quick references to Certification, Events, Working Groups, Mentoring, the Institute for Technical Leadership, and other INCOSE offerings. Initial deployment is planned for May 2021.

## 14th Annual INCOSE Americas North-Central and Great Lakes Regional Conference (NC-GLRC14)

The former INCOSE Annual Great Lakes Regional Conference (GLRC) has been expanded to include all of the Americas North-Central region. As a result of the on-going COVID pandemic,



14<sup>th</sup> Annual ANC and  
Great Lakes Regional  
Conference  
**Virtual Conference  
and Workshop**  
**April 9-17, 2021**  
Systems Engineering  
Capability and Competency



it has also been restructured to be all virtual and will take place April 9-17, 2021. Registration will open March 10.

The INCOSE NC-GLRC features important topics from critical sectors such as transportation,

aerospace, agriculture, biomedical and healthcare, defense, education, energy, environmental sciences, government, information, infrastructure, and safety and security. This year's theme, *Mobility Systems - Land, Sea, Air and Space*, explores the application of a systems approach to mobility, across all sectors.

Watch the Conference website for additional details as they become available.  
<https://www.incose.org/GLRC>

## INCOSE International Symposium 2021

You likely saw in a message from the INCOSE President that a decision was made to conduct the 2021 International Symposium (IS) as an entirely virtual event. This follows on with the success of the 2020 IS, which was the first entirely virtually IS.

Registration and other details will be forthcoming as they are developed. For updates, watch the IS2021 website: <https://www.incose.org/symp2021/home>.



## Upcoming INCOSE Related Events

The list below provides a sampling of upcoming webinars and events that may be of interest to INCOSE members. Now that most chapters are holding virtual events, it is easy to join if a topic is of interest. Many are listed on the INCOSE Events Page: <https://www.incose.org/events-and-news/events>, in addition to the Systems Exchange Cafés.

- April 9-17, 2021 – 14th Annual INCOSE Americas North-Central and Great Lakes Regional Conference (NC-GLRC14) (virtual)  
<https://www.incose.org/glrc>
- July 17-22, 2021 – Annual INCOSE International Symposium (IS 2021) (Virtual)  
<https://www.incose.org/symp2021>
- Monthly Webinars (various dates) – Aerospace Corporation Systems Engineering Forum (virtual)  
<https://web.cvent.com/event/3edc0c45-0b77-416a-9bc7-9ffc1b1c0bb6/websitePage:234cac89-c2c2-4805-a879-7af49a83d1b8>
- INCOSE Systems Exchange Cafés (various dates and times)  
<https://www.incose.org/about-incose/community/virtual-cafe>
- PHOENIX Integration Virtual Events covering Multi-Disciplinary Analysis & Optimization (MDAO), Model Based Systems Engineering (MBSE), and Digital Mission Engineering (DME) (various dates and times)  
<https://www.phoenix-int.com/model-based-engineering-enabling-the-vision/>

-Dennis Rohn

## Like us on Facebook

If you are on Facebook, search for Cleveland-Northern Ohio INCOSE Chapter and “like” us.



### 2021 Chapter Officers:

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Tim Schuler

**Vice-President:**

**Secretary:**

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