

From: Scheurer, Robert P
Sent: Thursday, August 10, 2006 4:16 PM
Subject: Midwest Gateway INCOSE President's Message

Dear Midwest Gateway INCOSE Members,

I hope your year is going well and that I've seen you at one or more of our recent chapter programs. It's been a very busy year thus far for systems engineers, and things are no different with your Midwest Gateway Chapter. As part of my periodic President's message, I wanted to update you with some quick metrics on INCOSE in general and our chapter in particular.

As announced at the annual International Symposium held in July at Orlando, FL, INCOSE now has 6200 members, 51 chapters, 51 corporate members, and has representation from 42 countries. Meanwhile, our own chapter membership has grown to 84 members, including seven student members and one retired member. We're conducting programs on a regular basis and have a great Board of Directors that meets monthly to identify new, innovative, and hopefully informative programs and activities on your behalf. Based on our average chapter meeting attendance (exceeding 40 participants at each general meeting), it appears that we are generating interest and raising awareness. I was proud to receive the INCOSE Bronze Circle Award on our Chapter's behalf at this year's symposium, recognizing chapters who are striving for excellence at the local level.

While systems engineering is a hot topic at most technical circles these days, specific subjects were particularly hot. Among these are: System of Systems engineering with related complexities, systems architecting along with modeling and simulation, and practical applications demonstrating SE value/return on investment. The symposium highlighted these with some good presentations and guest speakers (be sure to look up the 2006 proceedings on the INCOSE web site member area: <http://www.incose.org/membersonly2005/>), but our local chapter would also like to address these as well as other topics. Please let our programs chair, Bill Schoening william.w.schoening@boeing.com, or me know if you or a colleague would like to present systems engineering-related subject matter at an upcoming meeting.

In planning for the second half of the year, our chapter continues to come up with new ideas for future meetings (resuming in September), a possible energy-themed tour, and the re-launch of our chapter newsletter. Watch upcoming communications as we organize these into deliverable products and ask for assistance in bringing them to the membership. We've also formed a new Outreach Committee, chaired by Marcos Chu, which will be connecting our chapter with other relevant organizations, especially local universities and technical organizations. Please contact Marcos at 314-545-6635 or marcus.d.chu@boeing.com for further details and participation opportunities.

As always, thanks for your on-going chapter involvement. We have a huge number of opportunities on which to spend our limited resources (including time); but now more than ever, systems engineering principles enable us to maximize the return on that investment. I'll watch for you at an upcoming chapter event or on our chapter web site at: <http://www.incose.org/mdwest/>.

Bob Scheurer, President

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