Scientific Event

Second International Conference on Simulation, Gaming, Training and Business Process Reengineering in Operations

Riga, Latvia, September 8-9, 2000

The second International Conference "*Simulation, Gaming, Training and Business Process Reengineering in Operations*" was held in Riga, Latvia on September 8-9, 2000. It was organised by the Riga Technical University (Latvia) in co-operation with Linköping University (Sweden), BALTECH University Consortium in Science and Technology, Baltic Operations Research Society and Latvian Simulation Society. The conference was hosted by the Riga Technical University and sponsored by the Latvian Council of Science.

There were 84 presentations at the conference, including a tutorial (by **Dr. Eugene Kindler** from Charles University, Czech Republic), 2 plenary presentations (by **Dr. S.K. Banerjee** from the University of Strathclyde, United Kingdom and **Dr. Edward Williams** from Ford Motors Company, USA), 18 regular sessions, Special BaltORS Session and Sum Up Planetarium. Two Special Workshops were devoted to performance of specific projects: Copernicus 1998 project PL976012 DAMAC-HP "Further Development and Practical Application of Harbour Processes Managing and Controlling Models, Methods and Techniques" of the European Commission, and CONSA "Competence Network of Simulation Applications" network of competence, financed by the Swedish Institute (Sweden). About a hundred conference participants presented 13 countries, including Latvia, Lithuania, Estonia, Germany, Sweden, Denmark, Russia, USA, Czech Republic, Belgium, UK, Poland and The Netherlands.

Dr. Eugene Kindler at his lecture 'On simulation of systems containing simulating components' demonstrated that such kind of systems could be simulated by programming tools that are simultaneously object-oriented, agent-oriented and block-oriented. As an example of practical implementation of the suggested approach, he presented a Simula-based simulation model of processing containers at the Baltic Container Terminal. **Dr. S.K. Banerjee** discussed effects of new technology in managing manufacturing. He suggested to establish a manufacturing management strategy development process, that would examine all types of technology needs issues and not just physical processes. **Dr. Edward Williams** made a plenary presentation were the necessity for enhancing collaboration among educators and practitioners was underlined as a road to improvement in validity, extent and value of practical applications of operations research and simulation.

Regular presentations were grouped around the following subjects: Theory/Techniques, Simulation Business Process Reengineering & Applications, Statistical Analysis and Applications, Training and Games, Control Engineering, Decision Support Systems and Artificial Intelligence, Information and Communication Systems, and Economics and Environment.

Results of the **DAMAC-HP project** of the European Commission, that ran during 2 years (finishing in August 2000, project co-ordinator **Dr. Eberhard Blümel** from IFF Magdeburg, Germany)), were presented and are related to developments and applications of IT-based models, methods and tools for managing harbour processes. A new book published within this project was demonstrated. Activities of the **CONSA project** of the Swedish Institute (project co-ordinator **Prof. Birger Rapp** from the University of Linköping, Sweden) were presented. The project is aimed to build up a self-supporting competence network in the Baltic area that will actively contribute with simulation and modelling knowledge and skills to solving different problems in the socio-economic area. Two recently published issues of the CONSA Research Report Series "Simulation: Applications, Research and Education in the Baltic Area" (Reports 3 and 4) were presented as well.

The **BaltORS session** was related to activities of the Baltic Operations Research Society that is aimed to consolidate colleagues from the Baltic countries (Latvia, Lithuania, Estonia), whose professional interests are in the area of operations research and simulation.

Conference papers are published in the conference proceedings that include 79 papers, presented on 384 pages.

For further information please contact the conference Local Arrangements Chair:

Professor Galina Merkuryeva
Riga Technical University
1, Kalku Street
LV-1658 Riga, Latvia
E-mail: gm@itl.rtu.lv