



# SE REVIEW



May 2008

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## President's Perspective

Mentors make strong communities. Our Systems Engineering community is no exception. Mentors guide in the making of choices of others in their community as such, they are the bridge between education and experience and back to education. They are not necessarily teachers who guide in education or journeymen who guide experience. Mentors help to provide choices based on experience on what to do with education and help provide choices also based on experience on education that can enhance experience. Without a mentor's help, the choices are made by chance opportunities a Darwinian-type process. The survival of the fittest may give rise to strong individuals, but they weaken communities. With a mentor's help, strong communities are built stronger than any independent individual.

### Next Board Meeting

5 June 2008  
1100 – 1300  
Building 2187  
Room 3250

### Next Chapter Meeting

5 June 2008  
1100 – 1300  
Building 2187  
Room 3250

It is not unusual that a person's first mentoring experience happens early in their education. I eventually showed a gift for Mathematics, and my father was my mentor. He was a chief engineer for a large nuclear engineering project. Besides guiding me through my college choices, he guided me to fields that applied mathematics and jobs that would provide further funding for advanced education. Sometimes a son doesn't take the father's advice soon enough (and I was no exception). By the time I figured out that a pure Mathematician was not for me and tried my father's field of nuclear engineering, I lacked the academic foundation. However, I found through numerical methods that Computer Science was a good applied mathematics field for me. After college, I moved away and didn't see the need for a mentor or even what they were. It was common accepted practice to job-hop every two to three years to quickly move up the salary ladder. I did get some good job experience but wasn't part of a community that supported advanced education. I eventually gave up some on my salary ladder to join a community and got some professional mentors to boot.

### Inside this Issue:

President's Perspective .....1  
INCOSE News ..... 2  
Chapter Highlights... 4  
Upcoming Events .....5  
SoMD Current Board of Directors .....7

Those first professional mentors guided my choices for my advanced education in engineering and opened experiences of long-term projects. Teams almost always perform long-term worthwhile projects, and my projects were no exception. Teams are complex systems, and after working in them, I wanted to lead them. I was fortunate to gain a mentor to guide me. He had been an accomplished project leader and then a supervisor near retirement. To be truthful, he wasn't well liked, but he offered me a job as a supervisor and something about him reminded me of my father. He was a hard, but fair, supervisor and a great mentor; that was part of what reminded me of my father. He helped me get education in leadership and guided me into IEEE and INCOSE. During my leadership training and involvement in INCOSE, I learned what a mentor was, why he was a good one, and that I needed to be one too. I have mentored many now, and I can safely say that it is one of the most worthwhile long-term projects I have done. Being a mentor has never made me money and has cost me lots of time, which just reinforces how worthwhile it is.

I'll finish with two thoughts to consider. First, if you don't have a mentor, you should find one. Remember mentors are people; they have faults too. I would recommend one that is honest, has the experience you seek, and knows mentoring is worthwhile. Lastly, if you have experience, help make our Systems Engineering community strong and be a mentor. You don't have to be perfect, just honest about you experience. If you spend the time, you will find it to be very worthwhile.

Respectfully,  
John Walker  
President, Southern Maryland Chapter  
[president@INCOSE-SoMD.org](mailto:president@INCOSE-SoMD.org)

# INCOSE News



## The International Symposium 2008 Registration Is Open

The world's premier Systems Engineering Event will take place at the Jaarbeurs Conference Center (Beatrix building), Utrecht, the Netherlands. Utrecht is a historic city in the centre of the Netherlands, only 30 minutes away from Schiphol Int'l airport as well as downtown Amsterdam. This region has thriving high technology industries and is the home to major Universities and a tourist destination known for its internationally-renowned heritage and culture. The 18<sup>th</sup> Annual INCOSE International Symposium (IS2008) is going to be held 15-19 June, 2008. Symposium registration, guest program and hotel registration are now accessible on the event website. We strongly recommend everyone make their hotel reservations as early as possible. This June Utrecht is the place for serious systems engineers to be! To register or find additional information about the symposium, please visit the conference website [www.incose.org/symp2008](http://www.incose.org/symp2008).

## Basis for INCOSE Certification Exam Changes Starting July 2008

The INCOSE certification examination is currently based on INCOSE's Systems Engineering Handbook, version 2A as well as version 3.1 and will continue to be based on both versions of the handbook through June of 2008. Starting in July 2008, the examination will be based solely upon version 3.1 of the INCOSE SE Handbook. If you are planning to take your certification exams after July 1, 2008, should prepare with version 3.1, which is available in both electronic download and bound paperback. For details, see the INCOSE Store <http://www.incose.org/ProductsPubs/incosestore.aspx>.

## Changes in Membership Year

Your annual membership now expires 12 months after your enrollment anniversary. This may not be a change for most members, since your current membership year expires at the end of June, the same time as last year. For some existing members, and for all new members, this could mean that your membership may not expire at the end of June, as it has in the past. If you want to know what your enrollment date is and when your current membership will expire, just view your member profile <https://www.incose.org/membersOnly/memberInfo/updateMemberInfo.cfm>. Should you have problems or questions, e-mail Central Office (<mailto:info@incose.org>).

## INCOSE Connect Upgraded

Hundreds of working groups, chapters, and technical teams rely on INCOSE Connect to Collaborate effectively. The Communications Committee has just completed a major upgrade to INCOSE Connect. The upgrade objectives were to improve support for a wide number of browsers, and add the ability for each Connect site to have new tools such as blogs and wikis. Training primers at [www.incose.org/members/accessConnect.aspx](http://www.incose.org/members/accessConnect.aspx) for the new software have been provided. With this upgrade INCOSE will soon be releasing a new INCOSE-wide collaborative wiki based on the Systems Engineering handbook v3.1. Working groups and individual members will be able to contribute their systems engineering expertise.

## INCOSE Publications Go Digital

Starting with the next issues, the Journal of Systems Engineering, published by Wiley-Blackwell and INSIGHT, published by INCOSE, will be digital only, unless you request a hard copy when you renew your membership. You will need to pay for hard copies of these publications. Electronic copies are included in the cost of membership. You may access the SE Journal via the Wiley website <http://www3.interscience.wiley.com/cgi-bin/jhome/39084>. If you need help registering with Wiley, please check out these instructions [https://connect.incose.org/Shared%20Documents/wiley\\_instructions.pdf](https://connect.incose.org/Shared%20Documents/wiley_instructions.pdf). You may access INSIGHT via the INCOSE INSIGHT Library on INCOSE Connect <https://connect.incose.org/INSIGHT%20Library/Forms/AllItems.aspx>.

## Prepare for Certification with an Online Tutorial

Interested in SE certification? The INCOSE Hampton Roads Area (HRA) Chapter and Northrop Grumman are hosting an online tutorial providing an overview of the INCOSE SE Handbook V3.1 to prepare for the SE certification exam. Taught by John Clark, HRA



Director of Education & Training and Northrop Grumman Mission Systems Chief Engineer, the tutorial will cover the Certified Systems Engineering Professional (CSEP) process and the sections and appendices of the SE Handbook, Version 3.1 (the basis for the certification exam beginning July 2008).

Beginning 30 May, the tutorial consists of twelve weekly sessions Fridays from 1200-1330 ET. Prior to each session, participants are encouraged to read the sections and appendices of the Handbook to be presented. The course overview including the session, date, section/appendix, and topic will be published at a later date. Course materials include the tutorial slides (including Notes), sample questions, and prior-session audio. The infrastructure will support up to 250 participants.

Registration is not required for Northrop Grumman current employees. They can access the course at no cost via either their Sametime Server or their training course directory at [\rsmv48-eprocess\epi\Training\Course-Data](#). Registration is required for INCOSE Corporate Advisory Board (CAB) member company current employees. They can register at no cost by emailing their name, company name, email address, phone number, and INCOSE Connect firstname.lastname to [kelly.moses@incose.org](mailto:kelly.moses@incose.org) to obtain the course access information. Registration is required for INCOSE non-CAB member participants and includes a minimal fee of \$100 per registrant to cover INCOSE expenses. This registration will be handled on a first-come, first-served basis using an online registration site to obtain the course access information.

Please note, you must be either a current Northrop Grumman employee or a member of INCOSE to participate in the tutorial. Contact [john.clark@incose.org](mailto:john.clark@incose.org) or [kelly.moses@incose.org](mailto:kelly.moses@incose.org) for additional details.

### **Foundation Seeks Applicants for Stevens Institute Doctoral Award**

The [INCOSE Foundation](#), in cooperation with the [Stevens Institute of Technology](#), is soliciting applications for the Doctoral Award for Promising Research in Systems Engineering and Integration. The purpose of this award is to inspire and recognize innovative doctoral-level research related to the field of systems engineering and integration. This award carries a US\$5,000 grant to the doctoral student along with a plaque and recognition at the annual INCOSE International Symposium. Applicants must submit a completed application form, and must have two academic faculty references on their behalf. Application and recommendation forms can be downloaded from the INCOSE Foundation Web site at [www.incose.org/about/foundation/index.aspx](http://www.incose.org/about/foundation/index.aspx). Completed application forms and faculty references must be received by 15 April 2008. To be eligible, an applicant must be a qualified doctoral student in a degree program with an approved research proposal approved. The applicant must submit an application, and applicants may not receive more than one award. Please contact [William Ewald](#), chief executive officer of the INCOSE Foundation, at [william.m.ewald@macrointernational.com](mailto:william.m.ewald@macrointernational.com) for further information.

### **INCOSE Webinar Series is Coming**

The INCOSE Corporate Advisory Board had the brilliant idea to start up a regularly scheduled, web-based, free tutorial open to all INCOSE members and CAB company employees. The first Webinar will be held after the International Symposium. We are currently confirming the schedule of speakers, and we assure you it will be an impressive collection of speakers and topics. Please be alert to future announcements. If you would like to participate as a provider or volunteer, please contact [mailto:webinar@incose.org](mailto:mailto:webinar@incose.org).

### **Systems Engineering Job Bank**

INCOSE has partnered with JobTarget to deliver a full-featured job site (<http://jobsconnection.incose.org>) developed explicitly for the systems community. Individuals can post their resume to the anonymous resume bank free of charge and create personal job alerts so that they are notified when opportunities of interest are available. Employers can search the focused resume database and post job openings. The job bank allows job seekers to: search targeted opportunities; post your resume for free (and anonymously); choose what to divulge in your resume; stay connected to the employment market; and receive alerts for opportunities of interest.



### INCOSE Discussion Forum

INCOSE has created a discussion forum to address issues (such as changes in membership year, electronic INCOSE elections, and electronic copies of *Insight* and the *Journal of Systems Engineering*, answer your questions, and take your suggestions and recommendations for further improvements. Tell us what you think in the Discussion Forum at <http://www.incose.org/forum/index.cfm?page=topic&topicID=126>.

### Update your membership profile

Did you know that you have the ability to reset your own password, change your address, phone number and employer, and even change the e-mail addresses you want your incose.org e-mails to go to? Did you know that you can also update your biography and even your picture? To keep your membership information up to date, just go to [www.incose.org](http://www.incose.org). On the left side, select the option to View / Update Member Record.

## Chapter Highlights

### Outreach: Feature Story!

Two of our Chapter members, Karl Geist and Dawn Jaeger, participated as essay judges for the 2008 National Engineers Week Future City Competition. The competition was held on 18-30 February at the Hyatt Regency Capitol Hill in Washington, DC. Teams from 36 middle schools nationwide participated. The first place winners came from Heritage Middle School in Westerville, Ohio. The winners received a trip to US Space Camp in Huntsville, Alabama. Second place went to Farnsworth Middle School in Guilderland, New York. Third place went to Our Lady Help of Christians School in Abington, Pennsylvania.

The mission of the Future City Competition is to provide a fun and exciting educational engineering program for seventh- and eighth-grade students that combine a stimulating engineering challenge with a “hands-on” application to present their vision of a city of the future. The competition requires:

- Problem solving
- Team work
- Research and presentation skills
- Practical math and science applications
- Computer skills

Future City celebrated its 16<sup>th</sup> year. It asks middle school students to create cities of the future, first on computer and then in large tabletop models. Working in teams with a teacher and volunteer engineer mentor, students create their cities using the *SimCity 3000™* videogame donated to all participating schools by Electronic Arts, Inc. of Redwood City, California. They write a city abstract and an essay on using engineering to solve an important social need—this year’s essay asked students to describe how nanotechnology will monitor their city’s structures and systems to keep its infrastructure healthy. Then they present and defend their cities before engineer judges at the competition. Some 30,000 students from more than 1,100 schools participated in 2007-2008.

“Future City sparks imaginations to see engineering as a critical component of their world and a viable pathway for their own futures.” Future City National Director Carol Rieg

For more information, visit the website <http://www.futurecity.org>.

## Member Contributions & Support Needed

We are in desperate need of more help, more involvement, more members, and more leadership from our current members to maintain our ambitious schedule of events. Also please send news on your projects at work, on your personal or professional achievements, any notable upcoming events the membership should know about, etc. Send electronic pictures, too! We continue to request that each of the Chapter members provide us with a brief bio, so everyone will get to know you a little better. This will also make it easier to network with other Chapter members. Please include items such as where you went to school and any degrees, current and past positions, INCOSE activities, and any other information you would like to share. Our newsletter can use your articles and your support. Please send all contributions to Karl Geist at [kgeist@md.metrocast.net](mailto:kgeist@md.metrocast.net), Dawn Jaeger at [Dawn.Jaeger@navy.mil](mailto:Dawn.Jaeger@navy.mil), or Steve McKeown at [mckeown\\_steve@bah.com](mailto:mckeown_steve@bah.com). If you have any questions, please send an e-mail or call Dawn at 301-757-0907, or Steve at 301-862-7033. So, please consider volunteering and being part of the exciting opportunities in Systems Engineering. As current members, the Chapter Board of Directors (BOD) welcomes your feedback to the chapter's plans. Address these comments to any of the Chapter's Officers or BOD members found in the Chapter's monthly SE Review newsletter. Thank you!

## Upcoming Events

### Southern Maryland Chapter March Meeting

*Hosted by INCOSE SoMD Chapter in Patuxent River, Maryland*

**When:** TBD June 2008, 1115-1245

**Where:** NAS Patuxent Rivers Officers' Club, Patuxent River, MD

**Theme:** TBD

**Info:** [www.incose-somd.org](http://www.incose-somd.org)

**Speaker:** TBD

**POCs:** Steve McKeown, (301) 862-7033, Karl Geist, (301) 475-5646 or Ted Warren, (301) 757-1825

**Venue:** Buffet

**Cost:** \$5.00 for SoMD INCOSE Chapter members, \$8.00 for Non-members

### Southern Maryland SPIN Chapter March Meeting

*Hosted by SoMD SPIN Chapter in Patuxent River, Maryland*

**When:** TBD June 2008

**Where:** Frank Knox Building, Lexington, Park, MD

**Theme:** SPIN Elections

**Speaker:** TBD

**Info:** <http://www.somdspin.org/>

**POC:** Liz Burnett

**Venue:** Snacks

**Cost:** Free

### 2008 INCOSE International Symposium

*The 18th International Symposium -- Hosted by Region 3 Chapters*

**When:** 15-19 June 2008

**Where:** Jaarbeurs Conference Center (Beatrix building), Utrecht, Netherlands

**Theme:** "Systems Engineering for the Planet"

**Info:** [www.incose.org/symp2008/](http://www.incose.org/symp2008/)

**POC:** Paul Schreinemakers, [schreinemakers@sepiadvies.nl](mailto:schreinemakers@sepiadvies.nl)

**Description:** Presentations and panel discussions, tutorials addressing different in-depth topics will be held throughout the Symposium. The tutorials will be available at no extra cost, note your preference. This year's theme is applying Systems Engineering principles and perspectives to improving the sustainability of our planet: balanced solutions that account for social, technological, economic, environmental, and political constraints. This should prove to be a very exciting symposium! The symposium will address the expanding scope of Systems Engineering application and responsibility. Examples are Safety & Security, Disaster control, Resource efficiency, Infrastructure, Transportation systems, Climate impact, Water Management, Education & Government, Sustainable developments... you name it.

## Upcoming Events (cont.)

Information on  
Working Groups  
can be found at the  
INCOSE web site:

[www.incose.org](http://www.incose.org)  
*Advancing the Practice*  
→ *Technical Activities*

A novelty for this event will be a set of three Sub-Theme Tracks, focusing on the application of SE in complex consumer and industrial systems, transportation systems and water management & flood control. Each of these STT's will span one day and address the topic via an introduction, several related papers, an on-site visit and a closing panel discussion. Additionally, all tutorials at the symposium will be sponsored, so NO additional registration fee will be charged. Register early, because registration for tutorials will be on a 'first come first serve' basis. Additional information can be found on the conference website [www.incose.org/symp2008](http://www.incose.org/symp2008). Come and join us to make this a great event! Paul Schreinemakers, General Chair of the Host Committee.

### Systems Engineering and Test & Evaluation (SETE) 2008 Conference

**When:** 22-24 September 2008

**Where:** Rydges Lakeside, Canberra, Australia

**Theme:** "SETE for the Enterprise – Enhanced Capabilities through Integration"

**Info:** <http://www.sapmea.asn.au/conventions/sete2008/>

**POC:** Fiona Gurd, SAPMEA Meetings Management, 08 8274 6053 or e-mail at [sete2008@sapmea.asn.au](mailto:sete2008@sapmea.asn.au)

**Description:** Tutorials will be held on Monday, 22 September followed by two full days of Conference Sessions. The program includes a combination of plenary, panel, tutorial, and workshop sessions as well as providing time to network with colleagues during refreshment breaks that will be held within the exhibition area.

This conference will focus on emerging Systems Engineering and Test and Evaluation (T&E) challenges in the System of Systems (SoS) domains as well as addressing systemic problems in those areas, with the objective of providing sponsors and attendees with a high return on investment. SoS integration and T&E are areas of concern for both Industry and Defense. IT systems in many organizations, for example, are little more than a collection of independently useful applications that could benefit significantly through integration. Issues addressed will include lifecycle governance, evolutionary acquisition, rapid acquisition, architecture at the Enterprise level and professional practice standards.

### 2009 INCOSE International Workshop

**When:** 31 January – 3 February 2009

**Where:** San Francisco, California

**Theme:** Various Committees, Working Groups, and Certification Beta Test

**Info:** <http://www.incose.org/>

**POC:** PCMI, (858) 565-9921

**Description:** The workshop features many committee and working group meetings such as the Certification Working Group, Handbook Working Group, INCOSE Fellows, the Corporate Advisory Board, Certification Advisory Group, Certification Beta Test etc.

### 2009 INCOSE International Symposium

*The 19th International Symposium -- Hosted by Region 6 Chapters*

**When:** 19-23 July 2009

**Where:** Singapore

**Theme:** TBD

**Info:** TBD

**POC:** TBD

**Description:** TBD

## SoMD BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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