

Meeting notes for SIAG/UQ Business Meeting 4/13/2022

Led by Ralph Smith, Chair

Notes by Rebecca Morrison, Secretary (from recording) 4/18/2022

Slides

- Introductions:
 - SIAM staff
 - SIAG officers
 - UQ fellows
 - SIAM UQ 2022 organizing committee and co-chairs
- # of SIAM UQ attendees over time (870 this year, 348 in person)
- SIAM early career prize awarded to Hengyang Gu
- Upcoming meetings: Annual, other SIAM, SIAM career fair next week, Gene Golub summer school (logistical details, deadlines for these)
- SIAM UQ 2024: solicited suggestions for location
- Think about next officers, term ending end of 2022
- Benefits of SIAM membership, student chapters
- Status of SIAG:
 - Overall membership 741 (287 students 39%, 454 non-student 61%)
 - Can increase industry involvement e.g., nuclear engineering, energy sector in general, insurance/finance, automotive, construction industries
 - Government lab connections already quite strong
 - Presence in Europe and Asia pretty strong but can keep growing non-US participants
 - Diversity by gender not great (see open discussion notes), ~75-80% male
 - Diversity by department type okay but could increase stats, physical sciences, biomedical, etc.
- Other business:
 - Increased SIAM collaborations with JMM (Joint Math Meeting) and ISOP (International Society of Pharmacometrics) is great! Let's keep it up
 - Exciting research areas: lots of model discrepancy in real applications, digital twins
 - Currently working on charter renewal, will incorporate suggestions for SIAG from audience and members

Open discussion

- What about student awards, small conference-style papers for students, poster sessions?
 - Could connect with industry for this, e.g., Honda Award for student excellence, but don't need lots of money, the recognition is more important
 - Encourage students to apply for travel awards
 - (Input from Suzanne Weekes—I could not make this out over recording)
- Subcommittees to establish stronger connections with different areas? Healthcare, finance, etc.
- Early Career 2020 Awardee Bjorn Sprungk acknowledged

- Several members alarmed by low numbers of women and statisticians in SIAG (“really striking”)
 - Evolution over time is perhaps getting better in student populations, Tim will check/report back
 - Could SIAM/SIAG do traveling road show of senior women to promote SIAM and recruit?
 - Expose UQ to undergrads? High school students?
 - What about explicitly assigning a diversity chair? This is already done at SIAM level, but not SIAG
 - Organize events to grow and retain diverse demographics and those who are not naturally attending existing events, need to increase comfort level, need to connect women across all levels (senior to grad students)
 - Importance of direct contact (e.g., go to lunch) with mentor (informal)/senior women who set an example and encourage younger women
- Pandemic and its uncertainty affect everyone!
 - Surprising that little discussion about UQ with all the uncertainty we all face today in daily lives
 - We could use this to start connecting with/educating larger and more diverse demographic

Thank you for discussion and conference organization, these suggestions will help us plan the next 10 years, conclusion.