Summary and Highlights

INFORMS Purdue Chapter maintained its considerable and successful events during Fall 2015 semester in addition to some new events. We were able to increase the number of members by 28 and now we have more than 130 members.

Our chapter were able to hold a variety of events with a record number of 11 events during the semester. All of our events had an amazing turnout, especially our weekly seminars. The events included several research seminars, career and professional seminars, and social events.

We also collaborated with other organizations and held joint events with IE-GSO on pumpkin carving and academic advising events. We present a special thanks to their board! Our social events gave us the opportunity to interact in an informal environment with colleges interested in OR/MS and other areas. We also had a big joint bowling and pizza event with HFES to extend our relation with more students from other IE disciplines.

From August 2015, we moved to the renovated Grissom Hall. The outside of the building pretty look the same; however the inside is completely renovated and new. There are so many new spaces for our events within a friendly environment.

The communication board has done an excellent job during the last year keeping the website updated so that everyone can go online and be informed of our news and latest events any time. Also, the do not forget to like our page in facebook to know about upcoming and past events as well as photos of the events and job opportunities.

After our successful industry visit to Subaru Indiana Automotive in April 2015, we continued our industry tour, this time to Niagara Bottling, Plainfield, IN. Nineteen students participated in this event and we had an exciting visit to this highly automated company.

The Chapter received the Magna Cum Laude INFORMS award due to excellence of performance during the last year. The award was received at the 2015 INFORMS annual meeting in November 2015 in Philadelphia. Last year our chapter received the Cum Laude award in November 2014 in San Francisco.

The event forecast for the next semester is great. We will continue with our weekly seminars and sporadic INFORMS hangouts and social events. We also plan to continue with the DOW big data challenge. In addition, we will have several social events and joint events with other organizations. Check out our website and Facebook page to get informed.

Last but not least, we would like to thank our sponsor, the School of Industrial Engineering, SOGA, and GSOGA for their support of our activities and we hope that the outcomes of our activities were and will be satisfactory from their perspective. Also, I personally will like to thank our faculty advisor, Dr. Patrick Brunese, and the executive board for their great work and effort to make all this possible.

We wish you all the best for this semester and hope to see you in our events!

Best regards,
Mohammad Moshref-Javadi
President, moshref@purdue.edu
**Seminar Series: Semester in Review**

The INFORMS Student chapter had several research and professional seminars during the last semester.

David Hornthal, a Purdue Alumni has started his own recruiting firm based in Chicago. He gave a talk on “Careers and Job Searching for Industrial Engineers”. The talk catered to all the students in Industrial Engineering for job search with emphasis in the field of data analytics.

Ali Shafaat is a PhD Candidate in Civil Engineering. He presented his research in systems engineering titled “Can System’s Engineering increase complex project’s resilience?”. The panel continued with a variety of questions and discussions.

Sara Shashaani is a PhD candidate in School of Industrial Engineering. She presented her work on simulation optimization titled “ASTRO: Adaptive Sampling Trust-Region Optimization”. The talk focused on adaptive sampling in simulation optimization.

Ravi, Aditya, Varun, and Quanzheng, four IE graduate students shared their experiences on their internship and co-op positions with graduate students. The panel continued with a variety of questions and discussions.

Seokhun Bang is a Master’s student and he presented his research titled “Community detection using efficient modularity optimization method: LabelMOD with singular and multiple layer graphs”.

We sincerely thank all the speakers who provided interesting and valuable presentations, and the students who attended the seminars to share their ideas for
This time we went to Niagara Bottling LLC for the industry tour. This involved traveling to the factory located in Plainfield, IN. Niagara Bottling is the largest family-owned bottled water company in the US and is known for high quality and value priced bottled water. The company gave us a very detailed tour of the state-of-the-art bottle manufacturing and water purification processes that they use. We also got to see working LGV's in the warehouse area. For the future tours we plan to visit a warehouse to get a better understanding of how supply chains are managed by companies like Amazon and FedEx. Through these trips we wish to provide students with hands on experience of industrial processes so that they can gain an overall view of Industrial Engineering and its applications.
INFORMS Social Activities

The Purdue University INFORMS student chapter organized social events to promote interaction between the members. A joint ‘bowling social’ event was held in collaboration with the Human Factors and Ergonomics Society (HFES) group at Purdue Memorial Union Rack and Roll. The event also served as a platform for a lot of new student participants to meet each other and make new friends while enjoying bowling and nice food.

INFORMS student chapter organized a joint fun event with IE-GSO in October on pumpkin carving. Students got together to show their creativity in pumpkin carving. We also enjoyed having popcornts, candies, drinks, and watching movie. Many students attended the event which helped in boosting the social interaction and cultural mingling of the members having diverse backgrounds.
INFORMS Purdue Chapter was awarded the Magna Cum-Laude award by INFORMS for its excellent performance during the last year. The award was received in the 2015 INFORMS annual meeting in Philadelphia, 2 November 2015.

Magna Cum Laude chapter award received in the 2015 INFORMS annual meeting, Philadelphia, PA

Right to left: Mohammad Moshref-Javadi (current President), Jorge Samayoa (former President), KiHyung Kim (former VP of academic affairs)
Officer Spotlight: Haiqing Wu

How long have you been a member of INFORMS?
Nearly a year now as I joined in Spring 2015 as a member.

What is your INFORMS position?
Vice President of Communication

What do you do for your position?
My responsibilities include updating Purdue Informs Website, coordinating and making Flyers for the seminar.

What have you liked about INFORMS?
Academic exposure, social interaction and working with a great team!

What was a highlight during the Fall semester for you?
The joint bowling social at Union Rack & Roll and the seminar by Mr. David Hornthal were great.

How has INFORMS helped your academic or professional advancement?
It has allowed me to meet IE researchers in a professional setting and learn about ongoing research. This is particularly interesting at Purdue IE, thanks our diverse research programs and multi-disciplinary set-up.

What is your research about?
I’m a non-thesis Master’s student, so I don’t a specific research area. However, I still took some projects which are related to operational research and Healthcare delivery system.

What are you favorite foods and movies?
My favorite food is Puppy melt burger and my favorite movie is Star War series.

Any special INFORMS memories?
The seminar by David Hornthal was a great one. I learned a lot about how to search for jobs, especially data analytics.
**In case you missed it**

Panel discussion on internship and co-op

Seminar by David Hornthal on job searching for Industrial Engineers

Group photo with INFORMS members and faculties

**Upcoming Events**

Our next event will be call-out in January 2016. We wish you a happy holiday.

For more information about the seminar series, check out our website (web.ics.purdue.edu/~informs/), Facebook page (facebook.com/INFORMS.Purdue), follow us on Twitter (@INFORMSPurdue).