INFORMS Purdue Chapter maintained its considerable and successful events during Spring 2016 semester. This semester we had a total number of eight events. The events included research seminars, career and professional seminars, social dinners, and an industrial tour. All of our events had an amazing turnout, especially career-related seminars and social dinners.

The academic board has done an excellent job during this semester holding several research seminars, career and professional seminars. We had two research seminars joint with Transportation Research Group from the School of Civil Engineering as two new events and new collaboration. We also had two Career Development seminars from CCO to enhance students’ preparedness for future professional life.

After our successful industry visit to Niagara Bottling in October 2015, we continued our industry tours, this semester to Voestalpine Rotec, Lafayette, IN. Student members participated in this event and we had an exciting visit to this highly automated company.

The communication board has done an excellent job during this semester keeping the website updated so that everyone can go online and be informed of our news and latest events any time. Also, 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.

Our collaboration with other organizations was awesome. We collaborated with other organizations such as Transportation Research Group from Civil Engineering to hold joint seminars. We present our special thanks to their board! We also had a big joint pizza event with HFES and Mars Society to extend our relation with more students from other organizations. Our social events gave us the opportunity to interact in an informal environment with colleges interested in OR/MS and other areas.

As another achievement, our chapter participated in the DOW big data Challenge again this year and achieved the second and third places in this competition. INFORMS-Purdue Chapter has always been among the winners of this competition. Congratulations to the winners!

Next semester, we will continue with our weekly seminars and INFORMS hangouts and social events. 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. Harsha Honnappa, and the executive board for their great work and effort to make all these possible.

We wish you all the best summer and hope to see you in Fall 2016 semester!

Best regards,
Mohammad Moshref-Javadi
President, moshref@purdue.edu
Seminar Series: Spring 16 in Review

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

Dr. Anaggha Mukhopadhyay is a Career Services Consultant in the Center for Career Opportunities at Purdue University. She gave a talk on student engagement in career growth and providing career development services primarily focused to international students.

Dr. Kari Watkins is an Assistant Professor in Civil and Environmental Engineering at Georgia Tech. Her teaching and research interests include multi-modal transportation planning, the use of technology in transportation, traveler information, and complete streets design.

Ram M. Pendyala is the Frederick R. Dickerson Chair and Professor of Transportation Systems in the School of Civil and Environmental Engineering at Georgia Tech. He gave a talk on the way in which we currently choose to move around cities causes congestion, pollution, inequities, accidents in society.

Dr. Tim Luzader is the Director of Center for Career Opportunities at Purdue University. Dr. Luzader specializes in career counseling job search-related programing and professional association. He gave a talk on salary negotiation.

We sincerely thank all the speakers who provided interesting and valuable presentations, and the students who attended the seminars to share their ideas for...
News and Awards

Students from the INFORMS student chapters of different universities compete in the Dow Big Data Challenge each year. In 2016, two teams from Purdue University achieved podium finish: 2nd and 3rd prize.

3rd Prize

Yuvaraj Pazhamalai - ypazhama@purdue.edu
Adithya Vivekan - avivekan@purdue.edu
Murugappan Senthilnathan - msenthil@purdue.edu

2nd Prize

Ellen Wongso - ewongso@purdue.edu
Arfinandi Ferialdy - aferiald@purdue.edu
Zijian He - he216@purdue.edu

On behalf of INFORMS chapter Purdue, we would like to congratulate the winners and hope to continue the good performance of School of Industrial Engineering students in DOW Big Data Challenge. We would also like to thank DOW Chemicals and INFORMS Chapter at Texas A&M for successful organization of the competition.
Continuing the trend of organizing industry tours every semester, we went to Voestalpine Rotec, Lafayette for the Spring 2016 semester. Voestalpine Rotec Inc. is the market leader in fixed-length tube manufacturing for the automotive industry. In addition, it also produces highly complex steel and aluminum parts for safety and comfort solutions. The tour started with a demonstration of the Lean Manufacturing journey of the company, their passion for being environmentally friendly and commitment to safety and quality. As a part of the production facility we saw “Cut to Length” machines, followed by the safety systems area where components for seat belt pre-tensioners are built. The last area consisted of machines that build chambers to store the gas used to inflate Airbags. We were also shown spin forming machines retrofitted with high energy induction heating devices. Parts from these machines go into Mercedes-Benz and the 3 Tesla models. 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.
The Purdue University INFORMS student chapter also organized social events to promote interaction between the members. A joint dinner event was held in collaboration with the Human Factors and Ergonomics Society (HFES) group and MARS society at Mad Mushrooms. Many students attended the event which helped in boosting the social interaction and cultural mingling of the members having diverse backgrounds. The event also served as a platform for a lot of new student participants to meet each other and make new friends while enjoying nice food.
**Officer Spotlight: Qing Ye**

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

*What is your INFORMS position?*
Vice President of Communication

*What do you do for your position?*
My responsibilities include updating and managing the information content and organization of the website.

*What have you liked about INFORMS?*
Research and career seminars, social interaction and working with a great team!

*What was a highlight during the Spring semester for you?*
The career seminar by Dr. Tim Luzader and Dow Big Data Challenge 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 am interested in utilizing data mining techniques in healthcare area. Currently, I am studying key factors and patterns in consumer choice in high-deductible health insurance plans.

*What are you favorite foods and movies?*
My favorite food is Seafood and my favorite movie is The Lord of the Rings series.

*Any special INFORMS memories?*
The career seminar by Dr. Tim Luzader was a great one. I learned a lot about how to offer comparison and salary negotiation.
In case you missed it

Discussion on internship and job search

Seminar by Dr. Tim Luzader on offer evaluation and negotiation

Group photo with INFORMS members and faculties

Upcoming Events

Our next event will be Call-out in September, 2016.

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).