

## 2007-2008 EXECUTIVE BOARD

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## NOTES FROM THE KNOBS AREA OF KENTUCKY

*Donna R. Everett, Executive Director*



Greetings once again from the beautiful, warm knobs of Kentucky!

I hope your summer was restful and that your new school year is off to an exciting start!

Congratulations to the new Executive Board members who took office in June 2007. Already, they have made several landmark decisions that will affect its members and strengthen the OSRA organization. Here are just two of the items that the Board has made happen:

- ◆ The 28<sup>th</sup> OSRA Research Conference will be held at the University of South Carolina on February 28 and 29, 2008, in Columbia, SC. The Call for Papers is available on the web site ([www.osra.org](http://www.osra.org)). The deadline for submitting proposals to Robert Brookshire, Call for Papers coordinator ([brookshire@sc.edu](mailto:brookshire@sc.edu)), is on or before **October 1, 2007**. For best paper consideration, the full manuscript should be submitted to him by **October 1, 2007**, also.
- ◆ OSRA is now a special interest group of the Association for Information Systems (AIS SIGOSRA), with a special emphasis on filling the needed niche in end-user information systems and knowledge management. Its mission is to promote research and application of information technology in the end-user environment to support work processes, improve employee performance, and enhance overall organizational effectiveness. AIS sponsors two conferences—AMCIS (the Americas conference); and ICIS (the international conference). The Board voted to become a strong part of the ICIS conference. The 2008 ICIS conference will be held in Paris, France, in December 2008.

These are very exciting changes for OSRA and offer the opportunity to broaden our membership base and expand our own research opportunities. Please let me know if I can assist you in any way.

### NEWSLETTER SUBMISSIONS REQUESTED!

*Please send conference announcements, call for papers, job vacancies, and other items of interest to the OSRA membership to Inge Klopping at [ikloppi@bgsu.edu](mailto:ikloppi@bgsu.edu)*

## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

*Roger Yin, OSRA President*



How was your summer? I hope everything is going well for you.

The OSRA Executive Board is pleased to announce that OSRA has officially become a Special Interest Group (SIG) of the Association for Information Systems. OSRA has a proud 25-year history of serving the needs of professionals in the field of end-user and organizational information systems and education. As the IS field continues to evolve, we believe that affiliation with AIS will greatly strengthen OSRA to fulfill its mission and provide continued leadership in promoting research, education, and professional practice in end-user systems.

As many OSRA members are aware, the organization has been considering affiliation with a larger IS/Business/Research organization for a number of years. For the past three years, OSRA has been affiliating on a trial basis with the Federation of Business Disciplines (FBD) and the past three conferences in Dallas, Oklahoma City, and San Diego have been held in conjunction with FBD. At the same time, the Board has continued to consider other alternatives for affiliation. After carefully assessing all the alternatives and considering FBD's decision not to expand its regional focus, the Board made the decision that affiliation with AIS ? Association of Information Systems ([www.aisnet.org](http://www.aisnet.org)) would be most consistent with OSRA's mission, would best position OSRA to serve the field, and offer the greatest value for members. What this means has the following implications:

OSRA can continue to build upon its strengths in end-user information systems and let the larger umbrella organization handle the logistics side of operating the conferences (i.e., ICIS or AMCIS with OSRA pre-conference sessions and OSRA-sponsored activities), etc.

The convergence of various aspects of information technology in human societies is evident. Through the new relationship, the OSRA Board members felt that the results will be mutually beneficial to both OSRA and AIS organizations and their members.

The continuous updates and improvements of OSRA's OEIS model curriculum may better integrate with the IS 2002 model curriculum to form a comprehensive template for all IS/IT curricular design and redesign efforts.

While OSRA strives to sustain as a leading organization in end user information systems, we particularly need your support and involvement in three areas: (1) spread the words of our new SIG affiliation with AIS to recruit more members; (2) contribute to our fine ITLPJ journal as an author or reviewer; (3) share your research and best practice outcomes at our annual meetings (see CFP elsewhere in this Newsletter). In addition, our OEIS Model Curriculum is going through its mid-life stage of a 6-year life cycle. Before we conduct a full review of the curricular model tentatively in 2010, we must together look into meaningful assessment of existing courses to assure our students are adequately prepared as IT professionals for tomorrow's global economy.

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## USC is BOILING with Ideas

*Lynn Bacon Keane, VP Research*

The faculty members of Technology Support and Training Management at the University of South Carolina have started a voluntary research writing support group, affectionately called BOIL (Bastion of Intelligence Lab) to share and support each other's research efforts. One of the main purposes of the BOIL agreed upon by members at their first lunch meeting was to prod one another to make consistent progress toward research goals. To that end members will "weigh in" at the beginning of meetings with the completion of a research-related task or objective set at the end of the previous meeting.

The format is informal and open. The BOIL will meet every two weeks for a brown bag lunch. Initially two members each week will share their research agenda touching upon specific timelines and objectives. As the BOIL progresses, members expect the structure, process, and membership to evolve and grow. The potential for collaboration is high. Already members are seeing the possibilities for collaborative research projects.

Once the BOIL has had a chance to develop a practice, the members plan on sharing their progress with other faculty or research groups. BOIL members include OSRA board members and TSTM faculty members, Bob

Brookshire, Lynn Bacon Keane, and Dan Norris and TSTM faculty members, Peter Cardon, John Gerdes, and Karen Patten.

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## **OSRA at University of South Carolina in February 2008**

The Technology Support and Training Management Program at the University of South Carolina is pleased to host the February 2008 OSRA research conference. Housed in the College of Hospitality, Retail, and Sport Management, the TSTM Program offers a Bachelor of Science program based on the OSRA curriculum, plus bachelor and master's degrees in business education. The University of South Carolina web site provides the following background information on the in the institution:

- The University of South Carolina is home to more than 200 years of history and tradition, rising from a single building in 1805 on what would become the heart of the campus, the Horseshoe. The 11 buildings that now make up the Horseshoe frame a lush lawn that is an irresistible gathering place.
- The University is expanding west toward the Congaree River in support of its research initiatives in nanotechnology, health sciences, Future Fuels™, the environment, and information and knowledge technologies. Three separate sites, each specializing in its own research area, will comprise this new innovation district, called Innovista. It will initially cover 500,000 square feet spread over about six city blocks but is projected to grow to five million square feet, mixing University and private research buildings, parking garages, and commercial and residential units around a public plaza called Foundation Square. By creating space for residences, retail, restaurants, and recreation that will complement the research, Innovista will be a place to live, learn, and work.
- The Columbia campus has more than 350 degree programs through its 14 degree-granting colleges and schools.
- Students have been awarded more than \$9.9 million for national scholarships and fellowships since 1994.
- Faculty generated \$185 million in funding for research, outreach, and training programs in fiscal year 2006-2007.
- The Inn at USC will be the conference site, located just off the history Horseshoe area. The Inn provides 117 guestrooms, including 28 two-room king suites and 3 deluxe suites with fireplaces. Each guestroom is equipped with complimentary broadband Internet access.

During the conference, attendees will have the opportunity to lunch at McCutchen House. The McCutchen House is the home of the Culinary Institute at USC and is operated by the College of Hospitality, Retail, and Sport Management. Students in the School of Hotel, Restaurant, and Tourism Management serve and cook in the facility. The McCutchen House was built in 1813 on the Horseshoe as the second faculty residence on the South Carolina College campus.

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## **OSRA 2008 Conference**

### **End-User Information Systems and Knowledge Management**

Plan now to attend the February 2008 OSRA research conference in Columbia, South Carolina. The conference will be held at the Inn at USC on the beautiful campus of the University of South Carolina. The theme of the conference is "End-User Information Systems and Knowledge Management," though papers on any topic relevant to the OSRA mission are welcome. The conference dates are February 28 and 29, 2008.

The Columbia Convention and Visitors' Bureau lists the following top ten reasons to visit Columbia:

1. Southern Hospitality. One visit to the area and you'll discover a special feeling of grace and charm. This southern hospitality is our way of life.
2. Affordability. Not only is Columbia full of hospitality, it's also full of things to see and do at a price you can afford. A trip to our area is easy on the wallet while appetizing to the mind and body.
3. Dining and Nightlife. You'd need a month to enjoy all of the dining and nightlife hotspots found in Columbia's thriving specialty districts!
4. Did someone say Shopping? Columbia's specialty districts carry everything from exclusive labels to one-of-a-kind creations. Whether you're on a college budget or ready to spend a small fortune on your wardrobe, Columbia's unique shops and boutiques have what you're looking for.
5. Parks, Gardens and Outdoors. Did you know Columbia is home to a National Park? Congaree National Park hosts a wide array of animal and plant life such as the 'old growth' forest, drawing international visitors eager to walk among the ancient redwoods...Columbia is proud to have three rivers flowing throughout our region, perfect for canoeing or kayaking, or leisurely strolls riverside on our extensive Greenways.
6. Columbia Museum of Art. The Museum is South Carolina's premier international art museum with

extraordinary collections of European and American fine and decorative art that span centuries...

7. Riverbanks Zoo and Botanical Garden and the EdVenture Children's Museum. Riverbanks Zoo and Garden is home to more than 2,000 animals that represent over 350 species from around the world. Our zoo is one of the top rated in the country. EdVenture Children's Museum is the largest children's museum in the South...
8. Performing Arts and Culture. Enjoy the arts scene capital city style! On almost any night in the region, visitors and residents can enjoy a musical, ballet or theatrical performance...There's something for all ages...performances range from traditional to contemporary.
9. Rich in History. Although Columbia is in a renaissance period with growth and development

flourishing, our history still remains alive within the city through the preservation of our past. Historical buildings and markers are carefully interwoven throughout the city blending the old with the new.

10. Our Festivals and Parades. ...There's one thing to know about Columbians and that is our residents love to have a good time by celebrating our emerging cultures. Year round Columbia hosts numerous parades and festival. Our Greek Festival, Jubilee Festival of African Americans, and our St. Patty's Day parade are just a few.

Visit <http://www.columbiacvb.com/> for more information about Columbia.



## 2008 OSRA Conference University of South Carolina Columbia, SC February 28 and 29



***Plan now to attend the 2008 OSRA research conference***

***End-User Information Systems & Knowledge Management***

Most knowledge management in organizations takes place within the context of end-user information systems. For the 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Research Conference, the Organizational System Research Association (OSRA) invites papers, panels, and speakers to address the interplay of these two dimensions of information systems. Proposals for research papers or panels in other areas of information systems are also welcome. Potential topics include, but are not limited to,

- Knowledge management--models for delivery, design, and implementation
- End-user information systems in organizations
- IT and organizational end-user information systems (OEIS) curricular design, development, and assessment
- Information technologies in hospitality and tourism
- Distance learning technologies and applications
- Mobile computing and the knowledge economy
- Issues and impact of enterprise information assurance and security
- Qualitative and ethnographic IT research strategies/methodologies

The conference will be held at the Inn at USC on the beautiful campus of the University of South Carolina. Both refereed and non-refereed presentations are sought.

Please submit your proposal electronically to Robert Brookshire, Call for Papers Coordinator (brookshire@sc.edu) on or before **October 1, 2007**. For papers to appear in the proceedings, all authors must register for the conference.

For consideration for the best paper award, submit the full manuscript by **October 1, 2007**. See the submission guidelines at <http://www.osra.org> for more details.

OSRA has recently become a special interest group of the Association for Information Systems with a special emphasis on end-user information systems and knowledge management. Its mission is to promote research and application of information technology in the end-user environment to support work processes, improve employee performance, and enhance overall organizational effectiveness.

Look for more information and the registration form on OSRA's web site soon: [www.osra.org](http://www.osra.org).

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### APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Job Title: \_\_\_\_\_

School/Firm: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Business Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Internet \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Preference (circle one)                      Work      Home

**Which of the following best describes your situation? (Please check one)**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Individual Membership:** \$55.00. Individual involved in office systems as an educator, manager, consultant, practitioner or one who has an interest in the results of organizational systems research.

\_\_\_\_\_ **Corporate Membership:** \$300.00. Corporations interested in cooperating in the application of research, sharing the results of such research or sponsoring same. Membership includes all individual membership benefits plus one paid attendance at the annual research conference.

\_\_\_\_\_ **Student Chapter Membership:** \$55.00. An educational and research association whose mission shall be to get individuals involved in the organizational systems major.

\_\_\_\_\_ **Retired Membership:** \$35.00. Must have been a former OSRA member.

\_\_\_\_\_ **Student Membership:** \$35.00. Student concentrating in organizational systems or a related discipline. Faculty signature required:

\_\_\_\_\_ Faculty Member

\_\_\_\_\_ Institution

**Enclose a check (U.S. funds only) payable to OSRA and mail to:**

Dr. Donna R. Everett, Executive Director  
 Organizational Systems Research Association  
 Morehead State University  
 150 University Blvd., Box 2478  
 Department of Information Systems  
 Morehead, KY 40351-1689

Phone: (606) 783-2718  
 Fax: (606) 783-5025  
 d.everett@moreheadstate.edu  
 Web Site: www.osra.org

\_\_\_\_\_ Check enclosed

Note type of membership:

\_\_\_\_\_ \$55.00 Individual

\_\_\_\_\_ \$55.00 Student Chapter

\_\_\_\_\_ \$35.00 Retired

\_\_\_\_\_ \$300.00 Corporate

\_\_\_\_\_ \$35.00 Student