Welcome to a new academic year! It's been a great start for the AISWN College. AISWN has a long-standing tradition of excellence and we are committed to carrying on that tradition. We created history by becoming the 1st AIS College. One of the key virtues of this organization has been the opportunities to support each other, through networking, mentoring peers and others and the zest to volunteer for the events.

This year, we are focusing on increasing the impact of our women's network. We have created a Google group to facilitate interaction among members. Then, because of the strong interest, we are continuing the WN’s mentoring opportunities and are forming additional mentors-mentees pairs. Finally, we have done a great job this year to nominate more women for AIS awards this year. Fingers crossed it translates into more women getting awards!

And of course, whenever the opportunity arises, we want to facilitate interaction in our group. We will have events at upcoming ICIS 2017 and HICCS 2018. Hope to reconnect and meet many more of you at any of our future meetings!
The AISWN Reception at AMCIS 2017 was a success. We had more than 50 members and guests in attendance. The keynote speaker, Nancy Cantor from Cantor Consulting enthralled us with her journey and the work she has been doing with her venture The Dream Factory. It was a very engaging discussion that brought out several flavors of entrepreneurship options for women. The event was followed by time engaging conversation and networking. We had two awesome sponsors who provided the icing on the cake in the form of cheese and fruit platters as well as drinks: thank you Beth Golub from Prospect Press (a woman-owned business) and the Dep. Of Business Information & Technology at the Fogelman College of Business (University of Memphis). See all pictures on Facebook “IS Womens Network”, https://www.facebook.com/groups/101507443234504/)
Administrative Academic Leadership, A Woman’s Perspective: Servant Leadership in a Man’s Domain

For the last 58 months, I have had the opportunity of serving as the Associate Dean for Research and Faculty Development in the Hankamer School of Business at Baylor University. I serve with the dean, two additional associate deans, and seven department chairs on the executive leadership team—all who are men. Admittedly, the current level of diversity has left me feeling isolated at times but with the recent appointment of a woman president to the university, I remain hopeful the diversity of this leadership team will increase in the future. I would like to share several actions that I took to help me be an effective leader in this male-dominated situation.

As my first action, I joined the “Women Administrators in Management Education Affinity” group associated with the AACSB. This group hosts a variety of events and offers additional networking opportunities with other women administrators across the globe. I attend at least one AACSB conference each year as well as leadership training seminars that AACSB offers (e.g., effective leadership, difficult conversations). I also joined the “Texas Women in Higher Education” group and attend their conferences. These events have helped me build my network with local administrators.

A second action was to create a professional network within my university. I worked with the Director for the Academy of Teaching and Learning to create a “Women’s Leadership” group, comprised of individuals from across the university. This group contains women who are department chairs, associate deans, vice provosts and higher. The group meets once a month to discuss a variety of topics ranging from work/life balance to leading with confidence.

My third action has been to try a plethora of presentation approaches for various initiatives I am advocating to the executive committee. Some examples of the approaches I have used include: storytelling, data driven graphical and quantitative displays, props to illustrate a particular mental model, and distributing a research article from a highly respected academic journal.

A final action that I undertook was to be intentional about selecting career mentors as well as psychosocial (i.e., friends, tai chi club) mentors. I have found that developing relationships with mentors (both male and female) in my discipline, college/university as well as outside the university to be very helpful. In essence, think of your mentors as another form of professional network. Be willing to surround yourself with individuals. The sky is the limit; you can be a successful administrator and make a difference whatever your sphere of influence.
~

Cindy Riemenschneider
Baylor University
On behalf of the SIG Social Inclusion (SIGSI) Task Force, we wish to express a sincere THANK YOU to those in the AIS Women’s Network who completed our survey on social inclusion in the AIS. Members of AISWN represent one of the largest AIS communities comprising our survey respondents. Given the tremendous support of the AISWN for our task force, we wanted to share a bit about our goals and progress.

The SIGSI Task Force was charged to accomplish three goals:

1. identify barriers to IS scholars’ full participation in the AIS community
2. develop mechanisms for alerting the AIS to issues that limit people’s participation
3. assist the AIS in developing services and/or policies to promote social inclusion

While you might have noticed the calls to complete our survey related to inclusion in the AIS, we have been performing several other efforts to help us understand barriers to participation. We’re also developing recommendations to AIS Council and the AIS membership-at-large to promote inclusion. Some of our activities include:

- We have examined other professional associations in related fields to identify best practices and benchmark our current diversity and inclusion practices. We identified some lessons learned from these other groups that we can incorporate into efforts to promote inclusion within the AIS.
- The SIGSI Task Force offered a Professional Development Symposium at AMCIS 2017. This enabled AMCIS attendees to learn more about our efforts within our task force as well as share stories or experiences of inclusion or exclusion within AIS. We took notes on the stories shared and concerns expressed to help us as we seek to accomplish our goals.
- We have examined the policies and practices within the AIS to identify areas in which the association has already developed practices to promote diversity and/or inclusion to acknowledge the efforts that have been ongoing to reduce barriers to participate within the AIS community.

Building on this work, we are currently analyzing the results of the survey with the goal of presenting an executive summary report to AIS Council. We also intend to provide a more comprehensive report for the AIS membership regarding our efforts, our findings, and our recommendations. We can’t do this work without AISWN. So thank you, again, for sharing your experiences with us and helping to strengthen the AIS through greater diversity and inclusion.
Achievements

Spring 2017
Shaila Miranda, MIS division, Price College, University of Oklahoma, got promoted to Full Professor and also received the John E. Mertes Presidential Professor Award from the University.

Alexandra Durcikova, MIS division, Price College, University of Oklahoma received the Norman Campus Vice President Research Award for Scholarly Engagement with the Private Sector.

Summer 2017
Sulin Ba, School of Business, University of Connecticut, was appointed Treibick Family Chair for Connecticut Information Technology Institute.

Han-fen Hu, Lee Business School, University of Nevada, Las Vegas was appointed Associate Editor for Information Systems Journal.

Yuqing Ren, Carlson School of Management, University of Minnesota, received the Organization Science Extraordinary Service Award at Academy of Management Conference in August in Atlanta, GA.

Rhonda A. Syler, Walton College of Business, University of Arkansas, was appointed Associate Director of Enterprise Systems for Outreach.

Shalini Kesar, Southern Utah University, received the "2016 Educator Excellence" by the Women Tech Council, Southern Utah as well as the (state_ Carls Perkins Service Award and Service award for the region.

Gondy Leroy, MIS Department, University of Arizona, was promoted to Full professor and won an AHRQ Grant for “Enabling large-scale research on autism spectrum disorders through automated processing of EHR using natural language understanding”.

Fall 2017
Emma Coleman, School of Economic & Business Sciences, University of the Witwatersrand, Johannesburg, was elected secretary of AIS SIG Social Inclusion and received a Faculty Researcher Excellence Award.
Upcoming Events

AISWN at ICIS 2017
Please join the AIS Women's Network for a Breakfast meeting along with networking and other activities on Dec 11, 2017 at 8:30 AM

The Registration Fee is as follows

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<th>Regular - Oct. 5 to Nov. 30</th>
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Please contact dawn.owens@utdallas.edu or visit our website at aiswn.org

AISWN at HICCS 2018
Since several AIS members also attend HICSS, this is a great opportunity to further network with each other.
In January 2018, there will be another HICSS Women’s network event on Thursday January 4, 4.00 -5.30 pm. (http://hicss.hawaii.edu/program-hicss51/women-networking/). This event is currently organized by Cindy Riemenschneider, Gondy Leroy and Nanette Levinson who welcome any and all, and appreciate your input now and for the future.
HICSS attendees are encouraged to join the LinkedIn group “HICSS Women Who Know” to connect, support, and share information (https://www.linkedin.com/groups/13505403).
If you are interested in getting together with other AIS members at HICSS during breakfast, lunch, social event or other times: let’s organize via the listserv or Facebook.

AISWN – Facts and Figures
• The AIS WN has 196 members
• Our Google group is 172 strong (email Gondy to be added).
• Congratulations to the AMCIS organization committee : 16 of the 28 organizers were women. And not in administrative roles. Wow! Keep it up.

Mentoring
We got a great response to our Mentoring Survey. 9 of you indicated that you would like to Mentor someone. Thank you for that. However we still need more mentors. In case you are interested to be one or would like to be a mentee, signup using the link – https://goo.gl/forms/W03ogetO6vLMs0xB3

Connect with us!
AIS Award Nominations

One of many reasons often quoted for the lack of women getting awards is the lack of women in the nomination pool. This has (informally) also been mentioned as a problem with AIS awards.

Time to fix this!

This year, we are happy to report to you that our Award Action Committee was formed. In 2017, this committee took responsibility for encouraging, supporting, and advising the nominations of women for AIS awards. Several women stepped forward with lists of women deserving of a nomination for different awards while others helped prepare the nominations where necessary. We do not have historical numbers on the gender ratio of the nominations pool, but we are pretty confident is has improved in 2017. At the time of this writing, we estimate that a minimum of 26 nominations were submitted for 8 different AIS Awards.

Fingers crossed and good luck to all of you who have been nominated!

AISWN Mentoring – Members’ Voice

We would like to express our gratitude towards the members who took our survey to help us understand your opinions. Based on what we received, here is the snippet -

• Several of you have expressed interest in becoming mentors. A same number have requested mentees.
• The results helped us conclude that a majority of you are looking for career advice from your mentors and want to understand how to navigate through the various career options available.
• Through mentorship you also want to give back to AISWN by being the “help that newer members need”.
• We received a lot of praise for our events and you would like to see more of them as much as possible. Many of you came forward to volunteer as well, for which we are grateful
• For those of you who expressed interest in the Mentoring program - we have created a form to capture more specific details about you – this will help us be effective in the Mentor assignments. You can still complete the mentor profile using the following link - https://goo.gl/forms/W03ogetO6vLMs0xB3

Connect with us!
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Our Sponsors
“We couldn’t have done it without you”

Call for Submissions

We would like to invite all of you to contribute to our next newsletter. Through the newsletter we would like to continue to spread awareness about diversity in the field, share stories of inspiration, and promote diversity. Please consider submitting short articles (up to 400 words).

Please send your submissions and questions to Gondy Leroy (gondyleroy@email.arizona.edu) or Dawn Owens (dawn.owens@utdallas.edu).

Deadline: February 1, 2018

Connect with us!