Special Receptions

Welcome Reception

Sunday, November 5
7:30pm-9:00pm
8:15pm-8:45pm-Performance by the Tamburitzans Convention Center Spirit of Pittsburgh Ballroom

Wear badge for admission. INFORMS and the Pittsburgh Organizing Committee welcome you to the 2006 Annual Meeting with an evening of fellowship and fun. The Duquesne University Tamburitzans, America’s longest-running multicultural song and dance company, will showcase the traditional music and dance of Eastern Europe and neighboring folk cultures. Brilliant costumes, colorful tunes and spectacular dancing will be brought to you by this talented company of young people, all full-time students at Duquesne. The Welcome Reception is the perfect venue to meet with colleagues, visit the exhibits and enjoy some great food. You'll receive a ticket for one complimentary beer or wine when you enter the Ballroom. Soft drinks and water are complimentary, with a cash bar available for other beverages.

Your meeting registration fee covers admission to this reception. If your guest would like to accompany you, a guest registration must be purchased (guests will receive a special badge). The $65 guest fee includes the Welcome Reception on Monday, Tuesday reception at PNC Park, and continental breakfasts (at the Westin Hotel) Sunday-Tuesday.

General Reception
INFORMS Awards Ceremony at The Carnegie Museums
Monday, November 6
General Reception, 7:30pm-9:30pm
Awards Ceremony & Dessert Reception, 8:30pm-9:45pm

Wear badge for admission. See important bus information below.

The General Reception and the INFORMS Awards Ceremony will both be held at The Carnegie Museums. You are cordially invited to attend one or both of these events. The General Reception runs from 7:30 to 9:30pm. The Awards Ceremony is scheduled from 8:30 to 9:15pm, followed by a dessert reception from 9:15 to 9:45pm.

General Reception
Sponsored by RAND, PPG and CombineNet.
7:30pm-9:30pm

It’s two fabulous museums in one — the Carnegie Museum of Natural History and the Carnegie Museum of Art — and the entire expansive building of exhibits is open to INFORMS attendees for this exclusive engagement. You’ll see everything from dinosaurs to Amazon fish, Mayan culture, Post-Impressionist paintings and mid-nineteenth century American art. The Hall of Architecture contains the largest collection of plaster casts of architectural masterpieces in the U.S., and the marble Hall of Sculpture replicates the interior of the Parthenon.

We’ll be serving great food and drink throughout the evening, along with some wonderful entertainment. Watch — and listen — for performances by students from Carnegie Mellon School of Music, who will provide musical vignettes scattered throughout the halls and exhibits.

You’ll receive a ticket for one complimentary beer or wine when you enter the Museum. Soft drinks and water are complimentary, with a cash bar available for other beverages.

INFORMS Awards Ceremony and Dessert Reception
Sponsored by IBM Center for Business Optimization.
Ceremony 8:30pm-9:15pm, Music Hall
Dessert Reception 9:15pm-9:45pm, Music Hall Foyer

The INFORMS Board of Directors invites you to honor and celebrate the achievements of our colleagues at the annual Awards Ceremony, held this year at a new time and fabulous new location, the grand Music Hall of the Carnegie Museums. The society’s most prestigious awards will be bestowed during the ceremony, including the von Neumann Theory Prize, the Lanchester Prize, INFORMS Prize for Teaching of Practice, Philip McCord Morse Lectureship Award, INFORMS Prize, George Kimball Medal, Expository Writing Prize, INFORMS President’s Award, and the Border Scholarships for Health Care and Military Applications. In addition, the winners of two student paper awards will be announced — the Nicholson Student Paper Competition and the Dantzig Dissertation Awards. Following the ceremony, we invite you to congratulate the awardees during a special dessert reception.

Wear badge for admission. Your meeting registration fee covers admission to the General Reception and Awards Ceremony. If your guest would like to accompany you, a guest registration must be purchased (guests will receive a special badge). The $65 guest fee includes the Welcome Reception on Sunday, Tuesday reception at PNC Park, and continental breakfasts (at the Westin Hotel) Sunday-Tuesday.

Bus Information
Departure
Buses will leave the Convention Center (street level, 10th Street, see page 42 for location) beginning at 7:00pm, with the last bus departing for the museums at 8:00pm. The drive to the Museums is approximately 20-30 minutes. The INFORMS hotel shuttles will continue operating between the hotels and the Convention Center until 7:30pm. If you are at one of the hotels, you can take the hotel shuttle to the Convention Center and transfer to the Museum bus there.

Return
For the return trip, buses will begin departing from the Museums at 8:30pm, with the last bus leaving the Museums at 10:00pm. The return buses will drop people at the following locations: (1) Convention Center (for Westin and Marriott Courtyard); (2) Omni; (3) Doubletree; (4) Marriott City Center; (5) Hilton. If you are staying at a hotel not in the INFORMS block, you should go to the hotel closest to your destination and walk or take a cab from there.
TUESDAY RECEPTION AT PNC PARK

Sponsored by SmartOps.

7:30pm-9:30pm
Wear badge for admission. See important bus information below.

We're going to take you out to the ballpark for tonight's fun and casual reception. Dubbed “The Best Ballpark in America” by ESPN, PNC Park is a great spot for a party! You'll have a bird's-eye view of the ball field, a great venue to relax with friends, and the opportunity to sample from our menu of casual supper food. You'll receive 2 tickets for complimentary beer or wine when you arrive. Soft drinks and water are complimentary, with a cash bar available for other beverages.

Then listen (and maybe even dance!) to the high-energy sounds of John McDonald and The Mango Men. The premier party band in Pittsburgh, the group features Caribbean-flavored music drenched in reggae, salsa, Cajun and island rhythms, with a repertoire of Jimmy Buffett and Bob Marley tunes, plus everything from the Beatles to Sting/Police and UB40. The band has appeared in concert with Red Hot Chile Peppers, Michael McDonald, Smokey Robinson, and the Beach Boys. Don't miss this fabulous evening.

Wear badge for admission. Your meeting registration fee covers admission to the Tuesday Reception. If your guest would like to accompany you, a guest registration must be purchased (guests will receive a special badge). The $65 guest fee includes the Sunday Welcome Reception, General Reception on Monday, and continental breakfasts (at the Westin Hotel) Sunday-Tuesday.

BUS INFORMATION
Tuesday Reception

Departure
Buses will depart on a continuous basis between 6:45pm and 7:45pm from the following locations: (1) Convention Center, street level (for Westin and Marriott Courtyard); (2) Omni; (3) Doubletree; (4) Marriott City Center; (5) Hilton. Note that for this party buses will be leaving directly from the INFORMS hotels, as well as from the Convention Center.

Return
Buses will begin departing from PNC at 8:00pm, with the last bus leaving the Park at 9:45pm. The return buses will drop people at the following locations: (1) Convention Center (for Westin and Marriott Courtyard); (2) Omni; (3) Doubletree; (4) Marriott City Center; (5) Hilton. If you are staying at a hotel not in the INFORMS block, you should go to the hotel closest to your destination and walk or take a cab from there.
Networking & Social Events

Saturday, November 4
INFORMS Membership Meeting & Reception
5:00pm-6:00pm
Westin – Allegheny I, Level 3
The INFORMS Board of Directors encourages all members to bring their opinions and suggestions to this annual membership meeting. Current business and future directions for INFORMS are on the agenda. Wine and cheese will be served.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 5
Breakfast for New Members & First-Time Attendees
7:00am-8:00am (Ticket Required)
Westin – Allegheny I & II, Level 3
The INFORMS Membership and Meetings Committees will host this breakfast to welcome and orient people who are new to INFORMS and the meeting. Representatives from a number of INFORMS subdivisions will be on hand to provide information about their member services. Continental breakfast will be served. New members and first-time attendees will receive a ticket for the breakfast with their registration materials.

Junior Faculty Interest Group Luncheon
11:30am-1:00pm
Westin – Allegheny I, Level 3
$15 – A limited number of tickets will be available on-site. Go to the INFORMS registration desk for information on availability. All junior faculty are invited to participate. This event gives junior faculty in engineering and business schools the opportunity to discuss career development and exchange ideas. A buffet lunch will be served. Luncheon and JFIG paper competition are sponsored by Northwestern University, Department of Industrial Engineering and Management Sciences; University of Maryland, Robert H. Smith School of Business; University of Texas at Dallas, School of Management; and Princeton University, Department of Operations Research and Financial Engineering.

INFORMS Online Reception
6:00pm-7:00pm
Westin – Butler, Level 2
Meet INFORMS Online staff and volunteers. Celebrate with the retiring editor in chief. Tour INFORMS Online. Give us your feedback. Find out how you can help out. Or just enjoy the society and refreshments.

Minority Issues Forum Reception
8:00pm-9:00pm
Westin – Westmoreland East, Level 2
Come meet old friends and make new ones while talking about minority issues and other intellectual issues and opportunities. Also, enjoy poster presentations from minority doctoral students from different departments from across the United States. Sponsored by Texas A&M University, Industrial Engineering Department; Northwestern University, Department of Industrial Engineering and Management Sciences; Cornell University, Department of Operations Research and Industrial Engineering; and University of Chicago, Graduate School of Business.

CPMS Isolated Practitioner Workshop & Reception
6:15pm-7:15pm
Convention Center – Room 325
CPMS, The Practice Section of INFORMS, sponsors this workshop on topics of interest to isolated practitioners, the “Lone Rangers” of OR/MS. The 23rd workshop in this series will address timely issues that affect the isolated practitioner community. All are welcome to participate in the workshop, discussion and reception. Wine and cheese will be served.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 7
Women in OR/MS Forum Business Meeting & Luncheon
12:30pm-1:30pm
Westin – Allegheny I, Level 3
All those interested in issues related to women professionals in OR/MS are invited to join us for lively conversation at our business meeting. The second annual Award for the Advancement of Women in OR/MS will be presented. Sponsored by SAS Institute; Texas A&M University, Industrial and Systems Engineering Department; ILOG, Inc.; Arizona State University, Department of Industrial Engineering; Pennsylvania State University, Smeal College of Business; and Washington University at St. Louis, John M. Olin School of Business.

Student Reception
8:00pm-10:00pm
Westin – Allegheny II, Level 3
All students registered for the meeting are encouraged to attend this special reception for an opportunity to socialize and network with other students in your own field as well as those with different specialties and interests. Sponsored by IBM Research.

Academic/Practitioner Interface Luncheon
12:30pm-1:30pm
Westin – Allegheny II, Level 3
$20 – Ticket required - sign up at the INFORMS registration desk. Don’t miss this opportunity to network with colleagues, both in the practice and academic arenas. Members of the INFORMS Roundtable will facilitate roundtable discussions focusing on academic-practitioner collaboration during this sit-down luncheon. The event is organized and sponsored by the INFORMS Roundtable, an INFORMS subdivision whose purpose is to promote OR/MS excellence in practice. Sponsored by the INFORMS Roundtable.

Monday, November 6
COIN-OR Members & Users Meeting & Bag Lunch
12:15pm-1:15pm
Convention Center – Room 307
Anyone interested in open-source software tools, open standards, and data and model repositories for OR is encouraged to attend the members and users meeting of the Computational Infrastructure for OR (COIN-OR). Bring your own lunch and your ideas. The agenda for the meeting is posted on http://www.coin-or.org/events/informs06.html