Modeling & Simulation Coalition Focuses on Growth

The National Modeling & Simulation Coalition (NMSC), a cross-discipline organization of stakeholders in the Modeling and Simulation (M&S) industry, held its Annual Meeting July 9, 2014 at the Hilton Crystal City in Arlington, Virginia. The theme of the meeting - "Building the Coalition" – was explored throughout the day’s events by a highly-engaged group of professionals from industry, government, the military, and academia.

Dr. Barry W. Johnson, Senior Associate Dean, School of Engineering and Applied Science, University of Virginia, gave a compelling presentation on the Commonwealth Center for Advanced Manufacturing – a public/private partnership of technology companies and universities conducting collaborative applied research in a new high-tech facility. State and Federal funding played key roles in the project - a tremendous example of coalition-building.

This was followed by a panel session, “NMSC Outreach Activities: Working Together for the Common Good,” which featured presentations from - and an interactive discussion among - senior representatives from various Modeling & Simulation organizations: ACM/SIGSIM, INFORMS/I-SIM, SCS, SISO, MORS and AME. (See below for explanation of acronyms.) Discussion revolved around coalition-building and ways in which these organizations can work together to achieve common goals. Various topics were explored, including: the lack of a scientifically literate workforce; innovations in manufacturing; Research & Development; interoperability and standards; and expanding the Coalition internationally.

Glenn Marshall, Chair of the Manufacturing As a Desirable Career initiative for the Association for Manufacturing Excellence, was especially excited by discussions about the future of high-tech manufacturing in the U.S.A. He noted that “for advanced manufacturing to be successful in the 21st century, businesses need to use modeling and simulation systems and best practices to help make "Made in America" a reality.”

The afternoon portion featured an overview of NMSC’s recent activities (including reports from the five NMSC Standing Committees), followed by lively Working Group sessions addressing major issues facing the M&S industry and the Coalition: 1) National M&S Research Agenda; 2) NAICS Codes for Modeling & Simulation; and 3) Public Awareness & Education.
Dr. Richard Fujimoto, Regents’ Professor at the Georgia Institute of Technology and Chair of the NMSC Policy Committee, noted that “the NMSC is still in a nascent stage. I and the other leaders of the coalition were very pleased by the energy and enthusiasm of the participants. We look forward to working more closely with representatives from many different groups as the coalition continues to grow and evolve.”

The presentations from the event can be accessed via: www.trainingsystems.org/events.

About the NMSC:

The NMSC is the only national organization representing M&S across all domains and disciplines including health care, manufacturing, industrial development, energy, transportation, education, homeland security, defense and others. The coalition was formed in 2012 by a committed network of individuals, corporations, national and international associations, academic and research institutions, governmental organizations, and organizations supporting the government – all using M&S technologies to further advance their domains and disciplines.

Please direct any questions about the event or the NMSC to:

Patrick T. Rowe
Director of Membership
NTSA & NMSC
(703)247-9471
prowe@ndia.org
www.trainingsystems.org
www.iitsec.org