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## EDITORIAL

Welcome to the April 2012 issue of the M&S Magazine. This spring issue is the second one after we inherited the editor roles from Prof. Lou Birta whose his effort revived this magazine from the long cease of publication in Jan. 2010 with the magazine's renovated first issue. Since we inherited the editor role, we aim to recruit and disperse new advances, findings, and opinions on the issues of the modeling and simulation community. We have been successful in delivering the recent issues with contributions from North America, Europe and Asia. Having said that, we need more contributions from general audience of this magazine to make this magazine indeed the venue to communicate our members' thoughts on our field.

We are glad to report that the last conference of SCS, SpringSim 2012, was quite a success with a good organization. Many of our readers gathered at the conference, and we had interesting discussions in the field of modeling and simulation. Additionally, keynote speeches were interesting. I recall two particular speeches: one by Dr. Roger Smith at Florida Hospital Nicholson Center, and the other by Prof. Michelle Addington at Yale University. The speech by Dr. Smith was an intrigue story that interweaves the research and the application of M&S to medical, military, and intelligence areas. Prof. Addington showed an interesting research on urban planning and building architectures, which inspired the growth of the SimAUD community in SCS. Another success at Spring2012 is the growth of the TMS/DEVS track. This time, the traditional DEVS track outreached to the other areas of M&S field by including the contributions on the general theories in M&S, not just the articles related to DEVS.

The theme of this issue is "making M&S more relevant." This theme is intentionally broad to include contributions from various perspectives. From this theme, we recruited five interesting articles representing regional M&S issues, recent development in M&S methodology, and opinions on key characteristic of being a scholar. The below is an introduction of the five presented articles on this issue of SCS M&S Magazine.

The first article from Collins presents an intriguing controversy between the general operations research and the M&S communities. Particularly, the controversy arises when the two communities respectively champions 1) 80% solution from the analytical optimization approach and 2) large-scale simulations from the M&S approach to solve problems from customers.

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## ARTICLES IN THIS ISSUE

**A FAREWELL MESSAGE FROM THE IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT**

**WHICH IS WORSE: LARGE-SCALE SIMULATIONS OR THE 80% SOLUTION?**

**AGENT-BASED MODELING OF NETIZEN GROUPS IN CHINESE INTERNET EVENTS**

**REDUCING COMPLEXITY WITH EVOLUTIONARY DATA FARMING**

**WHAT ARE THE CHARACTERISTICS OF A SCHOLAR?**

**SIMULATION FOR EDUCATION IN BUSINESS DECISION-MAKING**

