

SimSummit Notes

Ottawa, summer multi-conference

13 July 2010 Crown Plaza Hotel

9 -12 am

Actions:

- Add Lockheed-Martin to membership
- SimSummit* story 'outreach' beyond community that already knows.

Questions addressed:

A. Is it worth the effort to expand/extend our membership? (to what extent, how, etc.)

B. "Is it worth doing?" - based on history of *SimSummit* to this point, what is the continuing need for *SimSummit* at the National and International level? (context here: generate discussion addressing the question, 'if not *SimSummit*, then what?', such as migration of *SimSummit*'s agenda to another organization/body.)

C. Is there need to review, update, and/or change the existing *SimSummit* topical agenda?

D. What opportunities are there for exerting influence via *SimSummit* on the rate and vector of progress in developing M&S as a discipline?

Highlights of audience comments

SimSummit is the only organization addressing M&S that has a presence at very nearly all M&S oriented workshops and conferences – SCS, SISO, ITEC, etc.

Two items of continuing high interest

Composability

Conceptual modeling

Other comments:

OSTP has M&S on its agenda, but it is a 3rd level sub-objective.

Audience consensus seemed to be that a look at updating *SimSummit* Topical Agenda is worthwhile.

Could we hold a *SimSummit* session at IMSH? At MMVR? At MT3?

A. Is it worth the effort to expand/extend our membership? (to what extent, how, etc.)

Keep existing membership involved and increase organizational optempo; more internal & external comms; use surveys to gain information on now and future M&S issues.

Army – has more and more need for SoS engineering. More members could help visibility at senior levels of Services (with implication that this would apply international also).

(audience cmt: there are some 100 associations, and some 60 groups/centers for M&S. How coordinate among these? *SimSummit* seen as best to do this. Given this, how and who can we motivate to work on growing membership?)

David Gross: should figure out how to motivate funding of a research agenda. Begs the question: how get *SimSummit* to develop a recommended research agenda?

Take advantage of the power of the existing membership. Most recognize that most of energy comes from AEgis/Bill Waite.

Need clearer for goals for membership, and need to make Agenda and activities more visibly international in focus and scope.

Could a lobbying effort be organized? (based on “objectives”). Bill referred folks to an article in *Simulation Magazine* regards *SimSummit* objectives.

Question raised; might need a firewall erected to allow for lobbying. No discussion details.

Relook at mission goals and objectives/roles. How align to the interests of member organizations? (coordination with NTSA mentioned here).

Need to generate agenda items that *SimSummit* can “work”, in conjunction with/on behalf of other sister organizations (e.g., SCS, NTSA. Others?)

keep existing membership involved (meaning, increase organizational tempo) ; more comms; use surveys to gain information on now and future M&S issues.

- Army – more and more need for SoS engineering. More mbrship could help visibility at senior levels of Services.

From Tuncer Oren: 100 assoc, 60 groups and centers of M&S. How coordinate? *SimSummit* is best to coordinate. So, question is, how and who motivate to grow membership?

David Gross → should figure out to motivate funding of a research agenda? [begs the question, how get *SimSummit* to develop a research agenda?].

Severinghaus - suggested getting med/healthcare organizations to sign on as way to broaden membership – Society for Simulation in Healthcare (SSH) is one example.

Take advantage of the power of existing membership (how?).

Clearer goals for the individual membership – to help spread the message. Also, need more international membership.

Could we develop an international lobbying effort*? (based on ‘objectives’, yet to be specified). [Bill reminded everyone to see the article in Simulation Magazine regards objectives].

[* may need a firewalled subset organization for lobbying, due legal form of SimSummit]

Need a re-look at mission goals and objectives/roles. How align to interests of member organizations? (? w/ coordination w/ NTSA).

Need to generate agenda items that *SimSummit* can “work” in conjunction with /on behalf of other sister organizations (SCS, NTSA, others...).

B. “Is it worth doing?” - based on history of *SimSummit* to this point, what is the continuing need for *SimSummit* at the National and International level? (context here: generate discussion addressing the question, ‘if not *SimSummit*, then what?’, such as migration of *SimSummit*’s agenda to another organization/body.)

Simulationist Code of Ethics came out of *SimSummit*

Cyber/Cyber crime & terrorism

Case study cyber/ internet implications for M&S. 5 nations now have cyber-commands. On academic side, NSA/DISA are in business of accrediting (as of about 2002) institutions and giving Cyber scholar sponsorships. (in 2002, ~20 programs; now, about 106 programs).

Implication of now and future cyber environment. << RJS note: see Aug 2010 issue of MIT’s “Technology Review”, for major articles addressing cyber threats and computer security, both from an international perspective. >>

Emerging: sustainable energy infrastructure, including “green” and renewable. Wild cards re development: politics and the media.

Economic implications. In Challenger disaster and in 2008 financial meltdown, M&S was fundamentally part of the problem, but not recognized; and, *SimSummit* did not take advantage of opportunity to push need for discipline in the domain of M&S.

Make cultural outreach an core objective of *SimSummit* - “grow understanding”

Issue of “self-identity”. How articulate our identity and benefits of “being us”. What is our self-image?

What’s needed is a concrete organization to influence and be the belly button for the discipline of M&S. need a place – an organization - to go to, one that holds the high ground on ‘the discipline’. Voice by both Mike McGinnis and David Gross: a National/ International M&S charitable foundation should be the implementation for this ‘high ground’ institution. Mike suggested getting Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation to provided initial funding.

(others? Luce Foundation? Henry Ford Foundation?)

Do we have an international database of organizations “doing” M&S?
Do we need to write a governing mandate? A charter?

Need to align various actions/ decisions to the subsets of the *SimSummit* membership who care.

C. Is there need to review, update, and/or change the existing *SimSummit* topical agenda?

What are the top 1-5 ‘things’ that need to be worked *now*? Audience input:

Relational database of knowledge

Maturity levels of M&S organizations

Influencing M&S research agenda

Self-Identity

Work on strengthening international aspects of *SimSummit*

Identify universities working M&S as a discipline (intent: recognizable as such to outside folks).

Cross-community socialization

Establishing international academic programs pushing inter-disciplinary nature of M&S.

Establish an international non-profit foundation.

D. What opportunities are there for exerting influence via *SimSummit* on the rate and vector of progress in developing M&S as a discipline?

(There have been 24 *SimSummit* transactions over the past 9 years.)

Choose select items/issues to pursue, with respect to the research agenda.

We know that, in some areas, there is not an appreciation of M&S. Pick some of those, ones that we believe ‘matter’, and work outreach there.

NASA STEM place at next I/ITSEC

Time to broaden “ownership” base of the membership.

In moving *SimSummit* to endorse specific items, some members will take exception; so be it.

Consider drafting 5 or 6 task forces, manned by membership, and work those 5 or 6 issues.

Find small scale projects, ones that can be addressed on a relatively short time scale, to show by some product (of the project) the benefits of M&S as a discipline.

M&S BOK Session

A continuing issue – how/why choose a particular classification/categorization of BoK topics?

BoK publications as a relational DB is an analog that aligns to what M&S is → an interdisciplinary enterprise. Draft has 22+ chapters, plus appendices.

Issues resources, and getting beyond progress by institutional interests.

David Gross. On CMSP and BoK relationships

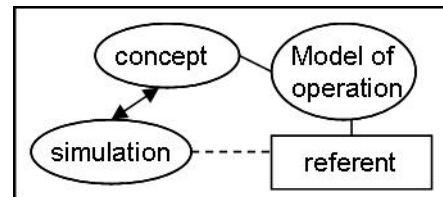
Time to market issue – BoK/CMSP rework has been a long time in coming.

He is effectively ‘book boss’. Lee Lacy is working a relational DB concept

Andreas Tolk

Model of the operation (of the system) vs. conceptual model. His point, many simulations are based on models of the operations of a system and not really based on the operations of the actual system of interest.

We craft M&S standards to serve the “simulation” oval in the diagram. Assertion; there tends to be some degree of mismatch between the simulation and the referent because the conceptual modeling of the system is at least 2 steps away from the actual system (referent).



He also likes to describe M&S folks in terms of a wheel, held by spokes anchored to a hub. The hub represents M&S experts; the spokes represent M&S application experts, and the wheel represents application domain experts.