

# ORGANIZATIONAL SYSTEMS RESEARCH ASSOCIATION

ADVANCING RESEARCH IN INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES, LEARNING, AND PERFORMANCE

PRE-CONFERENCE / 25<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY SPECIAL EDITION

## Extended Deadline: November 30!

You Still Have Time to Submit a Proposal for Our 25<sup>th</sup> Conference!  
*Please join us for this very special celebration.*

### Conference Moved from New Orleans to Oklahoma City

*Virginia Hemby, OSRA President*

Over the past several weeks, we have seen images of destruction and devastation wrought by Hurricane Katrina along the Mississippi Gulf Coast and in New Orleans. Most recently, we have witnessed again the furor of Mother Nature in the form of Hurricane Rita as it roared ashore in Louisiana and Texas. Even the most stoic among us has been moved at the plight of our fellow Americans. As we watch these valiant survivors struggle to pick up the pieces of their lives, we realize how fortunate we are to have a roof over our heads, clothing for our bodies, food and water for our families, and the comfort of the everyday, mundane tasks we perform. I find myself many times reciting an anonymous poem that includes the line, "Oh, God, forgive me when I whine; I'm blest indeed; the world is mine."



Because of the damage in New Orleans, the Federation of Business Disciplines has moved its 2006 conference to a new location—Oklahoma City, OK. As OSRA continues in its second year of trial linkage with the Federation of Business Disciplines, we will be holding our annual conference in Oklahoma City. The conference will continue with its original dates of March 1 through 4, 2006. However, the deadline for submission of proposals for the OSRA Conference has been extended to November 30, 2005.

Please take this opportunity to prepare your proposal and submit it. If you have questions regarding submissions, please visit [www.osra.org/guidelines.pdf](http://www.osra.org/guidelines.pdf) to obtain a copy of the OSRA Submission Instructions. Proposals may be submitted for research in progress, panel discussions, seminars, workshops, and/or refereed track research findings. ALL authors of accepted proposals must register for the OSRA conference and be OSRA members in good standing.

Remember that OSRA is celebrating its 25th anniversary in 2006, and we have many reasons to celebrate this milestone. Oklahoma City is a new venue for OSRA, so come and join the silver anniversary celebration. We have much for which to be thankful. Join your friends and colleagues and let's revisit the past, enjoy the present, and plan for the future of the Organizational Systems Research Association. Without your participation and support, the continuity of this organization beyond its 25th anniversary may be a dream that is never fulfilled.

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## OSRA Conference: March 1-4, 2006

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## Proposal Categories for a Variety of Presentations

*Kelly Wilkinson*  
Conference Coordinator

Your opportunities to participate in the 2006 OSRA Research Conference celebrating the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the organization include more than just a research paper. See if you can find a submission area that fits you.

**Research in Progress** is one type of presentation you can give in Oklahoma City. Presenting research in progress allows you to explore the ideas and suggestions given to you by experienced researchers. This can add so much to a research project. It may also expand your research in ways that you have not thought.

The most common submission is the refereed track **research findings**. Submit the full paper for consideration of the research award. This is a great opportunity to circulate your research and to receive feedback that could expand your research topic.

Do you have an issue to discuss? Develop a **panel discussion**. A panel discussion is a group of experts discussing a central topic. The topic could cover pedagogy issues, curriculum issues, delivery issues, and many other topics. Panel discussion can be effective in exploring different points of view of a topic.

**Seminars/workshops** can be used to showcase a particular computer program, research technique, teaching style, or other topics that can be demonstrated. OSRA members are involved in many innovative situations that would be of interest to other members. The blend of online education and technology content presents challenges to all us, share your way of handling those challenges.

Think of ways that you can share what you know and what you can do. Your presentation will benefit you and your OSRA colleagues. Submit your papers to bewilkin@isugw.indstate.edu.

Submission guidelines are summarized on page 4 of this special edition newsletter. For a complete copy of the OSRA submission guidelines, go to ...

[www.osra.org/guidelines.pdf](http://www.osra.org/guidelines.pdf)

## Message from the Federation of Business Disciplines Program Chair

*Wolfgang Hinck*  
FBD General Program Chair

Oklahoma City is a fantastic location! Its entertainment district Bricktown, only a block away from our conference hotel, consists of more than 50 restaurants and nightclubs. Sit down and listen to live music, or just stroll along the beautiful canal. Bricktown is a very safe, energizing place, and if you walk too far, you can always take a water taxi back.

Our conference venue, the Renaissance Hotel, was built from the ground up in 2000 and is a very modern hotel with beautiful rooms at reasonable rates. Our overflow hotel, the Sheraton, is right across the street.

Taken together, our hotel and the location are as good as it gets! Therefore, we would like to encourage you to make every possible effort to participate in our 2006 meeting. Keep the submissions coming! Most associations have extended their deadlines for you and we all expect to see you in Oklahoma City in March! You will not regret your attendance!

Please feel free to contact me or any of the Program Chairs with any questions or concerns at any time.

Email: [whinck@lsus.edu](mailto:whinck@lsus.edu)  
Phone: 318-797-5268  
Web: [www.fbds.org](http://www.fbds.org)



## CALL FOR PRESENTATIONS

**SIEC/ISBE**

*Societe Internationale Pour L'Enseignement  
Commercial International Society  
for Business Education*

**July 23-29, 2006**

78th International Conference  
Torshavn, The Faroe Islands

Use the Pro-Forma Submission Form available from the SIEC-ISBE International website ([www.siec-isbe.org](http://www.siec-isbe.org)) and email the chair of the SIEC-ISBE Pedagogical Committee, Hans-Peter Schoch ([hpschoch@tele2.ch](mailto:hpschoch@tele2.ch)), an electronic copy of your proposal as an attachment by **February 10, 2006**.

# Hello, Oklahoma!



*Kelly Wilkinson*  
Conference Coordinator

It is time to “saddle up” for a fun time in Oklahoma City! This is a modern city with western flair. Oklahoma City offers a variety of activities for everyone’s tastes. You will be pleasantly surprised by the atmosphere that Oklahoma City has to offer.

The cost of transportation from the Will Rogers Airport to the hotel is reasonable. If you take the Airport Express, the cost is \$17 per person, one way, if there is one person traveling to the hotel, \$9 per person, one way, if two people are traveling to the same hotel, and \$7 per person one way, if three or more are traveling to the same hotel. Taxi service costs around \$17 one way to the hotel.

The hotel is only one block from Bricktown. This is an area similar to the San Antonio’s river walk. You can take a water taxi down the Bricktown canal to view the attractions and admire the Bricktown Mosaic Murals. It has an eclectic group of restaurants and nightclubs including Mickey Mantle’s Steakhouse and Toby Keith’s I Love this Bar & Grill.



The National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum preserves the rugged individualism and romantic spirit of the frontier. This popular visitor attraction features a superlative collection of classic and contemporary Western art. Three

new historical galleries include the American Cowboy Gallery, the American Rodeo Gallery, and Prosperity Junction, a re-created authentic western town. Visitors of all ages enjoy an adventure into the Old West at this national memorial to the American cowboy.

The Oklahoma City National Memorial is unique. It is a haven for all those seeking comfort and serenity. It is an enriching educational experience.

These are just a few of the attractions you can visit while you are celebrating OSRA’s 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary. You can link to some of the Oklahoma City’s attractions from the OSRA homepage. Make your plans and reservations to come to Oklahoma City. Oklahoma is an O.K. place to celebrate!

## 2005-2006 Executive Board

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## Tell Us What’s New ...

Position Announcements  
Research Summaries  
Award Recipients  
Curriculum Updates or Changes  
Journal / Conference Call for Papers

Send your newsletter submissions to  
Dr. Lisa E. Gueldenzoph, lguelden@ncat.edu

## From the Executive Director

*Donna R. Everett*

If we have learned one thing this year, it is flexibility. And flexibility generally means change!

Change is in the air! After Hurricane Katrina, FBD and OSRA very quickly regrouped to move their annual conferences from New Orleans to Oklahoma City in March 2006. Submit a paper, participate in a panel, attend the reception for the Past Presidents and Executive Directors, offer to review a paper, and just come! Our members have a lot to offer to each other and to guests who may be attending the conference.

If you haven't renewed your membership, please do so. It's never too late! Come celebrate 25 years of change in OSRA! The conference promises to have a lot to offer—from dynamic sessions to fun-filled evenings. Please support OSRA in its efforts to bring its members the very best conference yet!

## Submission Guidelines

For presentations at the annual OSRA Conference, you first submit an Abstract, which should be a maximum of one page in length and should describe the POTENTIAL IMPACT or INTEREST that the finished manuscript is expected to communicate.

Minor changes are reflected in the OSRA submission guidelines (available at [www.osra.org/guidelines.pdf](http://www.osra.org/guidelines.pdf)). First, all authors of conference presentation proposals and proceedings must be OSRA members in good standing (dues paid). Second, the author (or at least one author in the case of multiple authors) must register for the conference. Finally, only those authors who have registered for the conference will be included in the program and proceedings.

All submissions will be double blind refereed. You will receive an acknowledgment of receipt of your Abstract. Abstracts for accepted presentations will appear in the Conference Proceedings. Submit a full manuscript for awards consideration. Award winners receive a plaque, and the manuscripts may be submitted for publication consideration to the *Information Technology, Learning, and Performance Journal*.



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