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NISS Affiliates NISS/SAMSI University Affiliates

JSM 2003 Meeting, August 3, 2003, San Francisco

SUMMARY

1 Attendees

David Banks (Duke), James Berger (SAMSI), Somesh Chattopadhyay (Florida State), Kevin Coakley (NIST), Stephen Cohen (BLS), Lawrence Cox (NCHS), Nanxiang Ge (Aventis), Thomas Gerig (NISS), Nicholas Hengartner (Los Alamos), Mark Kaiser (Iowa State), Alan Karr (NISS), Jon Kettenring (Telcordia), James Landwehr (Avaya), Stephen Marron (SAMSI), Gary McDonald (NISS), Vijay Nair (Michigan), Sastry Pantula (North Carolina State), Charles Perry (NASS), Jeffrey Robinson (GM), Robert Rodriguez (SAS), James Rosenberger (Penn State), William Schucany (SMU), Marilyn Seastrom (NCES), David Siegmund (Stanford), Douglas Simpson (Illinois), Richard Smith (North Carolina), Keith Soper (Merck), Paul Speckman (Missouri), Dalene Stangl (Duke), Leland Wilkinson (SPSS), Shiyong Wu (RTI), Stanley Young (NISS)

2 Program

Following introductions of all attendees, NISS and SAMSI leadership reviewed the current status of the Affiliates programs, NISS plans for 2003-04 and SAMSI plans for 2003-04:

- Karr summarized current program thrusts (research, education & information dissemination, professional development and networking & affiliate support), affiliates program events in 2002-03, recent events at NISS with impact on affiliates, and plans for 2003-04, including growth and diversification, expanded and improved events, increased co-sponsorship of other events (especially at EURANDOM), and potential new initiatives (see below).
- Gerig, McDonald and Young described additional plans for 2003-04, including growing the Affiliates Program (both industrial and university affiliates, especially departments with applied mathematics interests), testbed data sets for the SAMSI program on data mining, model validation and integrated data sets available to affiliates, and expanded bioinformatics activities.

- Berger reviewed events during SAMSI's inaugural year, the nature of SAMSI programs, and opportunities for (especially, affiliate) participation in SAMSI programs. Berger, Karr and Marron described SAMSI programs for 2003–04, on Network Modeling for the Internet, Data Mining and Machine Learning, and Multiscale Modeling and Control Design. Berger discussed SAMSI programs planned for 2004–05 and contemplated for later years, and outlined the opportunity for affiliates to propose and lead programs.
- Karr discussed results of the 2003 Affiliates Survey, which showed strong interest in multiple forms of information dissemination, improved “packaging” of Technology Days (including day-before tutorials, strong introductions, written summaries, and Web-available copies of presentations), Technology Days focusing on theory and methodology, and (but unevenly) shared postdocs.

Copies of the Karr and Berger presentations are available on the affiliates web site, at www.niss.org/affiliates/jsmmeeting20030803/summary.html.

3 New Initiatives

Karr concluded the meeting by listing planned, possible and intriguing but problematic initiatives for the affiliates program:

Planned: Links from the NISS web site to affiliates' Web sites, a consolidated technical report series, Technology Day improvements (see above), and an Annual Affiliates Problem Day, to be held the day before (next year, on March 4, 2004) the March planning meeting (March 5, 2004), at which (initially) corporate, government and national lab affiliates would present (in some depth—1/2 hour) problems on which they wish collaboration, and all affiliates would be able to form alliances to pursue the problems.

Potential: Technology Days on statistical software, data fusion, anomalies in large data streams and detection of bioterrorism, as well as on theory and methodology.

Intriguing but problematic: Faculty and problem databases, affiliates data sets, and a broader program of shared postdoctoral appointments.