How to Run a Successful INFORMS Student Chapter

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Outline

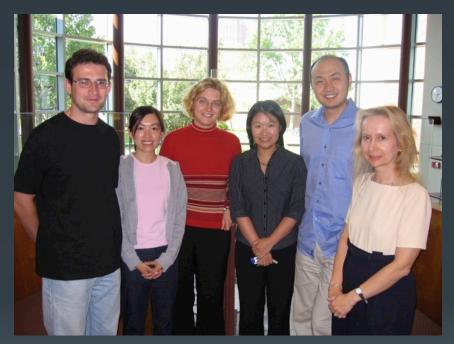
- History of our Chapter
- Activities
- Treasury and Sustainability
- Outreach and Recruitment
- Resources

UMass INFORMS Student Chapter History

History

Our History

- Established in September, 2004
- Why INFORMS
 STUDENT
 CHAPTER???



The founding members!

Our History

- Members: averaged 100 students from all over campus, both undergraduate and graduate levels.
- Activities range from...

...purely fun (e.g. bowling & ping - pong tournament)



...to extremely full (e.g. end of the semester party)



...to seriously academic (e.g. the Speaker Series)



on average 10 times per semester.

Social and Academic Event Programming

Activities

Event Programming

- Social Activities
 - Club Meetings/Celebrations
 - Social Outings
- Academic Activities
 - Academic Outings
 - Speaker Series

Social Activities

- Club Meetings/Celebrations
 - Election Meeting (every Fall)
 - End of Semester Parties

Fall 2010 Election Meeting



Spring 2011 End of Semester Party



Social Activities

- Social Outings
 - Ping Pong Tournament
 - Bowling Nights
 - Golf Outings

Annual Ping Pong Tournament



Bowling Night



Academic Activities

Academic Outings

Speaker Series

Academic Activities

- Academic Outings
 - Boston INFORMS Chapter Meeting
 - ISO New England Tour (Spring 2008)
 - Savage Arms Factories and Supply
 Chain Department (Fall 2005)

Boston INFORMS Chapter Meeting



Academic Activities

- Speaker Series
 - Lecture Series
 - "Meet the Executive"

The Speaker Series!

- Total of 84 sessions from the beginning
- Leading scholars and business practitioners
 - from all over the world!!!
- Topics range from day-to-day
 sciences, to practices in businesses
 to very advanced theoretical
 - discussions

The Speaker Series!

The Highlights!!





...and lots more!!!

Best Practices For Funding Your Student Chapter

Treasury and Sustainability

Student Chapter Best Practices: Treasury

- Check "Calendar of Activities"
- Assess your sources of income
- Utilize historical data
- Plan Accordingly
- Always keep track of costs

Sources of Funding

- Try to create various sources of income for your student chapter:
 - Faculty Advisor's Funds
 - ✓ Department
 - ✓ INFORMS Seed Money
 - Graduate Students Senate
 - ✓ Ad-hoc Money

Sustainability of Student Chapter

- Role of Faculty Advisor
- Outreach to students across the campus
- Documentation of tasks
- Getting new students involved

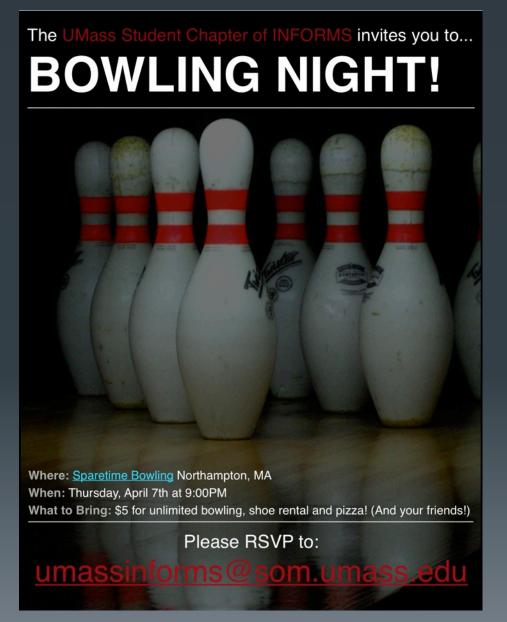
Email and Social Media

Outreach and Recruitment

Outreach and Recruitment

- Marketing and Branding
- Social Media
 - Facebook
 - Twitter
 - LinkedIn
- Email
- Club Fairs

Marketing and Branding



Marketing and Branding



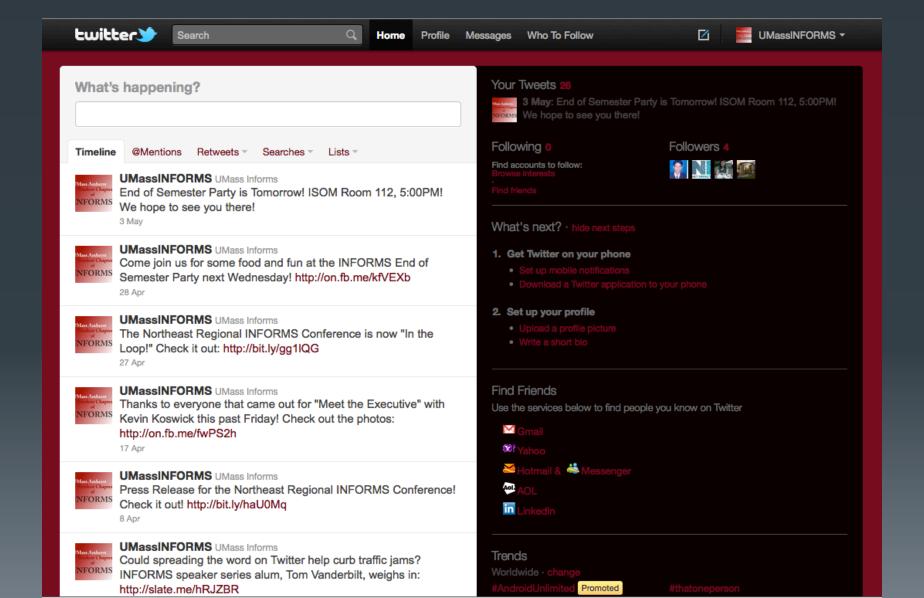
Marketing and Branding



Facebook



Twitter



Club Fairs



Informational Resources and Best Practices

Resources

INFORMS Resources

- Chapter Relations Coordinator
- Practical tips for improving the student chapter
- The handbook providing guidance on what it takes to be a student chapter officer
- Activity report form
- Connection to other student chapters

Practical Tips

- Find a good advisor
- Build a team of volunteers
- Adapt the amount of your activities to the size of your student chapter
- Generate funds for the chapter

Suggestions on Potential Activities

- Organize student seminars
- Organize faculty research presentations
- Organize speaker seminar series
- Organize field trips
- Invite alumni to speak

INFORMS Speaker Program

The INFORMS Speakers Program is designed to provide access to excellent speakers who are experts in operations research and the management sciences.

Tips on Organizing a Successful Speaker Series

Nagurney (2010)

- It is important to send out the invitations to potential speakers in advance
- Post the information on the talks in advance and advertise them heavily
- One chapter officer will help in the logistics of making the travel arrangements for each speaker in order to make for a fluid and comfortable visit
- The students follow up with official thank you letters, copies of which also go to the speaker's supervisors

http://annanagurney.blogspot.com/2010/04/tips-on-organizing-successful-speaker.html

INFORMS Student Awards

- Judith Liebman Award
- George E. Nicholson Student Best Paper Award
- Sections and societies sponsored student paper awards