

POMS 2015 Relevance Semi-Plenary Session

College of Service Operations

Friday, May 8, 2015, 1:30PM – 3:00PM

The Grass on the Other Side - How is it Being a Mathematician in Industry?

Venue: Columbia 5-8

Moderator: Joy Field (Boston College)

Speaker: Vaidyanathan Ramaswami, VP Strategy & Research, Color EyeQ, Inc., NJ, USA

Title: The Grass on the Other Side - How Is It Being a Mathematician in Industry?

Abstract: They say the grass is always greener on the other side. Is it? Do the statisticians and mathematicians in industry really get a chance to think and innovate, or do they just have to turn the crank endlessly? Are you given things to do, and if not how do you find interesting things to do? What really are the trade-offs between academia and industry? Is there something one can do to prepare for a career in industry? The questions are endless. The speaker will recount some of the ways he has managed to apply probabilistic models in the real world (while generating interesting academic type research as well) in a way that will shed some light on some of the above questions. The examples will show that not only does Service Operations stand to benefit through introduction of quantitative methods, but that today new businesses are built on data analytics and algorithms. Being in industry is a fun ride, but you need to buckle yourself up well.

Vaidyanathan Ramaswami is a mathematician by training with primary degrees in Statistics and Operations Research. He is viewed as a major contributor to the field of algorithmic methods in applied probability. His publications include many novel algorithms, some of which bear his name. Dr. Ramaswami's patents in the area of telecommunications include some related to voice call recording and content distribution over the internet. A work of his related to congestion resulted in five patents and has been considered life-saving. He obtained a Masters degree in Statistics in India and then a Ph.D in Operations Research from Purdue University. After teaching for several years at Drexel University, Philadelphia, he moved on to a long career in industry in Bell Labs, Bell Communications Research, AT&T Labs, and Color EyeQ Inc. At Bell Communications Research, he rose to the highest technical level in the company and was named Chief Scientist. Currently, he serves as Vice President for Strategy and Research for Color EyeQ.



POMS 2015 Relevance Semi-Plenary Session

College of Healthcare Operations

Friday, May 8, 2015, 3:15PM – 4:45PM

Hospital Payment Trends and Alignment with Quality Care

Venue: Columbia 5-8

Moderator(s): David Dobrzykowski (Rutgers University) and Linda LaGanga (Mental Health Center of Denver)

Speakers:

1. Priya Bathija – Senior Associate Director, Policy at the American Hospital Association.
2. Akin Demehin – Senior Associate Director, Policy at the American Hospital Association.

Title: Hospital Payment Trends and Alignment with Quality Care

Abstract: This session examines payment and quality trends affecting hospital operations such as Accountable Care Organizations, bundled payments and site neutral proposals as well as quality measurement and pay-for-performance programs enacted by the Affordable Care Act such as value-based purchasing, readmissions and hospital-acquired conditions.

Priya Bathija is a Senior Associate Director, Policy at the American Hospital Association. In this role, she supports AHA's policy development and advocacy efforts related to inpatient hospital payment and rural hospital issues. She also serves as the AHA liaison to MedPAC. Prior to joining AHA, Priya practiced health care law and served as Hospital Counsel for MedStar Georgetown University Hospital in Washington, DC and Associate General Counsel at ProMedica Health System in Toledo, Ohio. Priya earned a Masters of Hospital Administration from the University of Michigan. She also holds a Juris Doctor and a Bachelors of Science and Business Administration in finance and economics from The Ohio State University.



Akin Demehin is a senior associate director for policy at the American Hospital Association (AHA) in Washington, D.C., where he supports the AHA's policy development and advocacy efforts related to quality and patient safety. Akin specifically focuses on policies governing the development, adoption and implementation of quality measures in national reporting and pay-for-performance programs for hospitals and other health care providers. Before joining the AHA, Akin was the administrative director for performance measures at the National Quality Forum (NQF). Prior to NQF, Akin was the administrative director of the Edward P. Lawrence Center for Quality and Safety (CQS) at the Massachusetts General Hospital (MGH) in Boston, MA. Akin earned a Master of Public Health degree with a concentration in health policy and administration from Yale University, and a Bachelor of Arts cum laude in history and science from Harvard College.



POMS 2015 Semi-Plenary Session

College of Humanitarian Operations & Crisis management

Friday, May 8, 2015, 5:00PM – 6:30PM

Preventing, Preparing for, and Responding to Disasters

Venue: Columbia 5-8

Speaker: Trevor Rikken, Vice President, American Red Cross

Abstract: The speaker will share insights from a comprehensive organizational assessment of all ARC preparedness, response, and recovery programs, which resulted in revamped processes to improve service delivery in disasters small and large. There will be time for Q&A.



Trevor Rikken Biography:

Trevor has been with the Red Cross for more than 8 years and has worked in Mass Care and as the Senior Director of Direct Services before he was promoted to the Vice President of Disaster Operations and Logistics in 2012. As an outcome of Disaster Reengineering, Trevor is the Vice President of Disaster Operations & Logistics where he oversees staffing, logistics, operations and information management and situational awareness. He is also responsible for planning, implementing and managing scalable relief operations to meet the direct needs of disaster clients for all domestic events, including those in the U.S. Territories of Guam, the United States Virgin Islands and American Samoa as well as the Commonwealths of Puerto Rico and the Northern Marianna Islands.

Prior to coming to Red Cross, Trevor served in the Peace Corps in Morocco from 1998 – 2000 where he developed local agricultural cooperatives. He has served as the national coordinator for congressional involvement for Habitat for Humanity International. He has also served in leadership positions with community based organizations in both Illinois and the Washington, DC metro area focused on literacy, crime prevention, poverty reduction, education and emergency planning for public school districts. Trevor earned his B.S. in Political Science from the University of Illinois and a Masters in Public Policy and Nonprofit Management from Georgetown University. Trevor participated in the sixth cohort in the National Preparedness Leadership Initiative at Harvard University.

Trevor grew up in the small town of Chrisman, Illinois. He now lives with his wife, Christine, in Alexandria. He is an avid photographer and enjoys boating on the Potomac River.