



Welcome to ISECON/CONISAR 2008 Phoenix

Aloha Friends and Colleagues,

We are excited to be in Phoenix this year. We are excited that with tight travel budgets so many of you our colleagues were able to make it out to Arizona. We are excited to be starting up a new parallel conference, CONISAR, to go hand in hand with ISECON into the future.

EDSIG is all about helping educators improve their skills and advance their careers. For many of us, ISECON and now CONISAR is a place to recharge our batteries and get some new insights into the way things could be.

On behalf of EDSIG and the EDSIG board of directors, I especially thank Kevin Jetton, the most energetic guy I know, for taking responsibility as general chair of ISECON 2008. Kevin also serves as president of FITE, the Foundation for Information Technology Education, which is the parent organization under which ISECON has been sponsored for 25-plus years. This year Kevin lined up for us the trip to Rawhide. This represents a new venture for us, trying to have an extracurricular fun and productive bonding experience among the conference attendees. Assuming we get good feedback, we plan to do more fun things in future years.

I also thank Dr. Alan Peslak for being the inaugural chair of CONISAR, helping it launch properly. Alan also serves as program chair for ISECON and CONISAR, handling the scheduling of papers, workshops, panels, seminars, and talks. He and his assistants and session chairs will keep things running smoothly during the conferences.

Dr. Tom Janicki has sustained the papers submission and review process, including developing and operating the software that organizes the efforts of myriad reviewers and editorial board members. Tom is hard-working and deliberate and cares very deeply about the success or our shared educational mission. Tom is also associate editor of ISEDJ, our conference journal.

We have been assisted by numerous other volunteers that somehow help to make each year's conference better than the last. Watch out or you might be recruited to help us next year.

Any conference is a huge undertaking. By far the largest effort comes from the **individual authors** of the papers and presentations. Without papers, there is no conference. As an EDSIG community, we are glad for your participation and constantly impressed (almost amazed) at the breadth and depth of the knowledge that is shared.

We hope you will join us for ISECON/CONISAR 2009 in Washington, DC! The **EDSIG** Board and the **FITE** Board have each discussed and reviewed the ISECON plans, and many of those board members are working in the background to make sure the conference is a success.

There are many more people to acknowledge and thank. You will see their names throughout the conference. As you see them, please join me in saying Thanks for making ISECON/CONISAR a great event year after year. And THANK YOU for being here yourself to make everything worthwhile. Have a great conference!

Don Colton, BYU Hawaii
EDSIG President, 2008