2010 was an important transitional year for the Society for Information Management. As a result, SIM is starting this new year on firmer financial footing and with stronger connections to our members, chapters, and partners. After two financially devastating years in 2008 and 2009, in 2010 SIM exceeded revenue expectations by 4.4% for APC and RLF, and SIMposium contributed almost $80,000 more than planned. At the same time, we reduced SIM expenses 6% below plan across the organization. Compared to 2008 and 2009 when SIM lost almost $350,000 annually, we made a profit of more than $300,000 in 2010.

We have also motivated more cross-chapter collaboration with the Members in Transition Program, SIM Connect, marketing and membership committees, chapter meetings with chapter reps, and bi-monthly chapter leader meetings with the SIM Management Council.

Mary Sumner, our SIM leader of academic programs, co-chaired a successful ICIS conference in December, which was preceded by an Academic Workshop sponsored by SIM. Over 60 people attended the workshop program on the topic of CIO Roles for a Digital World.

Today, teams across SIM are building a speaker repository, developing playbooks for chapters from golf tournaments to community service projects, and working on a number of initiatives.

We have committed to a number of objectives under three major goals in 2011: (1) Deliver services efficiently and effectively; (2) Serve our members; and (3) Shape the future.

As part of shaping the future of our SIM relationship with the academic community, our priorities in 2011 include building stronger linkages, promoting mutual understanding, and increasing relevant research. A stated SIM objective is to find ways to increase collaboration between the academic and CIO communities to produce more research relevant to practitioners. We urge all MISQE readers and SIM members to help us achieve that objective.

The March 2011 issue of MISQE includes four interesting and useful papers for the practicing CIO or other IT manager. All are essential reading for any struggling CIO to understand the evolving role of the CIO in this rapidly changing world economy and the emerging technologies that change the way we live and interact.

The first paper is an HP Analytics case that won the SIM Best Paper award for 2010. It provides useful information for any organization attempting to create a knowledge-based culture.

There are two articles on CIO roles. One is written by authors from the U.K. and the other by researchers from Clemson University in South Carolina. The senior author on the Clemson research, Varun Grover, is also one of the editors accepting papers for the December 2011 special issue of MISQE on CIO roles for a digital world, which was the topic for the SIM Academic Workshop last December. Both articles provide frameworks for thinking about multiple CIO roles and the contextual issues that influence the roles.

In addition to the three research papers, this issue includes an informative report on IT performance metrics and value, based on a study originally funded and supported by SIM APC. One of the co-authors, Saby Mitra, was a speaker at a SIMposium breakout in Atlanta.

What should you be looking for on the SIM horizon? One is SIMposium 2011 in Orlando. The planning and program development teams working on this event to be held November 13–15 are convinced that it will be the best in recent memory. Find out more about it at: www.simposium2011.com. We also look forward to another Chapter Summit. This one will be hosted by the DFW Chapter and Texas Health at the Dallas-Arlington Hilton, April 28-30.

Feel free to share your thoughts on how we can encourage more academic research of interest to CIO readers and increase practitioner interest in MISQE. If you are not already a member of SIM, please join today and help us on this exciting journey.

Wendell Jones (wjones@simnet.org)
SIM Chief Executive