Committees - Join One. Demonstrate Your Leadership

In order to provide consistent supervision for its operations, the Board of Directors has established a number of standing committees. Some examples are:

- Audit
- Awards
- Communities of Practice (CoPs)
- Education and Professional Development
- Ethics
- Heritage
- Management
- Nominating
- Prize
- Publications
- Special Meetings
- Special Sessions
- Strategic Planning
- Symposium
- Working Group/Composite Group

Serving as a member on one of these committees is a great way to get involved with MORS for the first time.

Audit Committee
MORS is required to file several official reports, financial and otherwise (delineate?) and have those reports independently audited. MORS uses a combination of internal and external audits to ensure sound management and accurate reporting. Each provides advantages and disadvantages- external audits provide an independent review and financial accounting that internal audits cannot, while internal audits have greater ability to delve deeply into processes and management controls, with auditors that better understand MORS. The MORS Audit Committee seeks to leverage the strengths of each, conducting audits and supporting contracted external auditors.

Awards Committee
MORS annually presents awards in direct support of the Society's purpose to enhance the quality and effectiveness of national security analysis (the advancement and application of the interdisciplinary field of Operations Research to National Security issues) through the recognition of outstanding individuals in the profession and the accomplishment of outstanding work by individuals and teams. The Awards Committee will evaluate each candidate nominated for an award and recommend to the Executive Council the name of the person to be presented the Vance R. Wanner Memorial Award, the Clayton J. Thomas Award, the John K. Walker, Jr. Award, and the Wayne P. Hughes, Jr. Award on behalf of the Society. For information on each of these awards, please see the MORS Recognize Excellence page at http://www.mors.org/recognize_excellence/default.aspx.

Communities of Practice (CoPs) Committee
In general, an attendee at an annual symposium can brief their completed work, while an attendee at a special meeting can meet to work for a couple of days on an analytical issue determined by the MORS Leadership. What if someone would like to meet more frequently to share information and work on projects in their area of expertise? As a result of these needs, MORS created Communities of Practice (COPs) to keep the discussions and networking going all year long. The CoP Committee validates the need for new COPs, ensures continued growth and viability of existing COPs, and terminates COPs that are no longer value added.

Education and Professional Development
The Education and Professional Development (EPD) Committee monitors and reports to the Board of Directors on educational and professional developments affecting national security operations research and recommend related actions to be taken by the Society. Members of this committee provide support to the MORS Student Chapters, as necessary; plan, coordinate and conduct the annual Education Colloquium; assist the Tutorials and Junior/Senior
Analyst Coordinators for the annual symposium; create and implement a mentorship program for the Society; and
develop training, as requested.

**Ethics Committee**
The committee reviews issues related to the ethics and professional practices of the Society as directed by the
President. The committee reviews complaints of unprofessional or unethical behavior related to Society business
brought against any member of the Board of Directors, employee of the Society, or other individual acting on behalf of
the Society. Make recommendations to the President on the disposition of such complaints. The committee also
reviews the Society’s Code of Conduct for Directors and Employees and the Aspirational Code for continued
relevance and recommends changes as appropriate.

**Heritage Committee**
The mission of the Heritage Committee is to collect and preserve the historical legacy of the Society and to promote
programs that encourage a better understanding of the development of military operations research. The committee’s
purpose is to record the significant activities, preserve the society’s oral, written and multi-media products and garner
the historical intellectual property of the profession of military OR. The committee is designed to perform limited
research, gather noteworthy documentation, conduct oral histories, establish repositories for heritage items and solicit
from the membership contributions of writings, journals, and annual reports.

**Management Committee**
The Management Committee supervises the financial, legal and business affairs of the society.

**Membership Committee**
The Membership Committee supervises membership matters and conducts the annual membership survey.

**Nominating Committee**
The Nominating Committee provides the Board of Directors with a list of qualified nominees for election to the
positions of President-Elect, Vice President for Finance and Management, Vice President for Meeting Operations,
Vice President for Member and Society Services, and Secretary of the Society.

**Prize Committee**
The Prize Committee evaluates the available work of all eligible contenders for a given prize to be awarded on behalf
of the Society. MORS offers two prizes for best papers -- the Richard H. Barchi Prize and the Rist Prize. The Barchi
Prize is awarded to the best paper from the entire previous symposium, while the Rist Prize is awarded to the best
paper in national security operations research submitted in response for a call for papers. The Prize Committee can
always use extra sets of eyes to review the nominated papers.

**Publication Committee**
The Publications Committee recommends activities to the Board of Directors with respect to operations research
oriented publications. These publications include the *MOR* journal articles and *PHALANX* articles.

**Special Meeting Committee**
In addition to the MORS Symposium, the Society conducts special meetings to address significant and complex
problems. For these issue-specific workshops and mini-symposia, MORS defines the problem in advance with a
concept paper which eventually turns into a document entitled "Terms of Reference (TOR)." Participants with specific
interest and expertise collaboratively share information about the problem, discuss issues in depth and work together
to produce useful results. Arrangements and products for each meeting are tailored to best accomplish its specific
purpose. The number of attendees may range from a dozen to over 300. Since the first MORS Workshop in January
1985, MORS has held two to five special meetings each year.

As with the annual symposium, a good place to get involved for the first time with special meetings is as a working
group co-chair. The duties of the co-chair include assisting the working group chair in the preparation of the agenda
and invitation lists, as well as performing other duties as may be delegated by the chair.

**Special Sessions Committee**
The committee coordinates the special sessions at the annual symposium. Special sessions consist of formally
prepared papers or panels centered on a theme approved by the Board of Directors. On this committee, besides
assisting the Special Session Committee Chair communicating with the speakers, you can develop the hot topic
sessions, coordinate with the MORS Sponsor offices for their sessions, work with the EPD Committee for the Junior / Senior Analyst session, work with the Prize Committee Chair for the Prize Paper session, and work with the Heritage Committee for the Heritage session – to ensure all paperwork is completed and received and to assist with the respective pre- and actual symposium activities.

**Strategic Planning Committee**

The Strategic Planning Committee coordinates with the MORS Sponsors and their representatives to understand and record strategic interests and objectives for national security operations research analysts. It develops, updates, and reviews periodically a strategic appraisal of the MORS organizational capability to meet military decision makers’ needs and goals. The committee develops or updates annually a five-year strategic plan for MORS. It works with the MORS Board of Directors, committees and working groups to ensure that strategic interests are being met through meetings, colloquia, publications, and other information distribution. Reviews products annually based on the five-year strategic plan. The Committee Chair briefs incoming and current Executive Council on strategic issues and directions for MORS.

**Symposium Committee**

The principal product of the Military Operations Research Society is the MORS Symposium (MORSS). MORSS is classified, normally three days in duration, and recent attendance has been by over 1000 persons representing all military services (uniformed and civilian), government agencies, contractors and academic institutions. MORSS typically includes concurrent general and working group sessions and tutorials. If you are interested in getting involved with MORSS but not with the working groups, you can volunteer to work on the Program Staff to assist with the Plenary session, Tutorials / Short Course, Information Technology, Security, VIP Program, or Demonstrations / Poster Teams.

The plenary session consists of a keynote presentation and the MORS annual membership meeting. Working with the Tutorials Lead, you can assist soliciting tutorials and short courses. Working with the IT Team, you can help ensure all IT needs are covered. Working with the Security Team, you can help ensure guards and other security needs. Working with the VIP program team, you can lend a hand assuring all VIPs are identified, have received and completed all necessary paperwork, are assisted with pre-symposium coordination, and are assisted with all procedures, including registration, at the symposium. You can also assist the respective coordinators in solicitation of demonstrations and posters, as well as facilitate in the coordination and set-up in their assigned locations.

**Working Group/Composite Group Committee**

In the annual symposium, there are more than 30 working groups, typically having 15 to 35 members that provide for informal discussion and debate on specific issues, methods and applications of operations research. The “backbone” of MORSS is these working groups. MORS is always soliciting volunteers to be a part of this “backbone.” What part? A good place to get involved for the first time is as a working group co-chair. The duties of the co-chair include assisting the working group chair in the preparation of the agenda and invitation lists, as well as performing other duties as may be delegated by the chair.

There are also six composite groups you can volunteer to help. These composite groups consist of two or more working groups that are joined for a common thread of interest, and usually meet for a single session during a symposium. By volunteering here, you can help the Composite Group Chair solicit papers and coordinate the presentations during these sessions.