

I M SCS

International Mediterranean Society for Computer Simulation

I_M_SCS Manifesto



The decision to create the I_M_SCS (*International Mediterranean Society for Computer Simulation*), in order to establish a Modeling & Simulation (M&S) reference, must be supported by rationale that justifies the institution of a Mediterranean network.

Our proposal is based on the current situation in the Mediterranean and takes into account feedback, indications as well as requests from the scientific simulation community. We consider it our duty to present the potential of simulation in this area and to promote the I_M_SCS proposal.

This initiative is motivated by the need to guarantee that an extended scientific community, such as the Mediterranean Cultural area (South Europe, South America, North Africa), could be properly represented and active at an international level. This will help to avoid any unbalanced clustering and concentration of the activities that extend over a much wider context into some restricted areas.

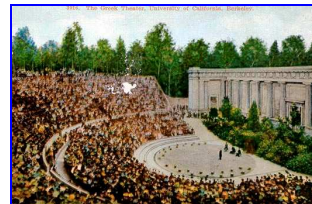
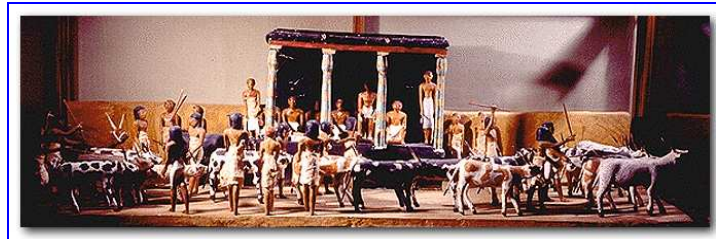
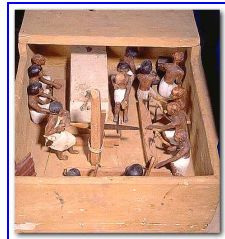
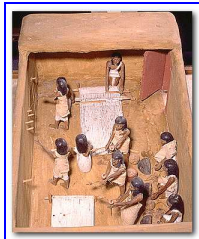
The role of Mediterranean Cultural Countries in the simulation research and development sector must be defined along with actions needed to ensure that the I_M_SCS remains a permanent institution and not just a temporary initiative.

In effect, modern computer simulation has been developed mainly in the Anglo-Saxon environment, and therefore we also want to contribute to the definition and development of modern M&S.

Over the last ten years Mediterranean Simulation Excellence Centers have been developing innovative projects, acting as major contributors in the worldwide scenario.

International events in these areas were a real success as they attracted the world community through the presentation of extensive and outstanding regional activities while proposing new developments.

Based on such considerations, we want to overcome the vagueness of the current panorama, where everything is defined as useful and correct, while in reality no new projects or long-term strategies are focusing on our geographical areas.



Our feeling is based on the awareness of our current expertise and cultural roots, in which sites, times and historical events are combined in a complex matrix worthy of further analysis: historical Mediterranean episodes are sometimes more famous for their cultural impact than the events themselves, and evidence has shown that simulation issues were being addressed even in the ancient past.

Some examples of "Ancient Simulation Signals" appeared in the Mediterranean cultural framework of past centuries. In Egypt, the pharaoh's "Carpenter Workshop", "Weaver Workshop", "Counting The Cattle" and "Fishing with Nets" from Meketre's tomb, as well as the famous "Nubian Archers" from Mesehti's tomb are real examples of "Simulation Ante Litteram", already in 2100 B.C.

1800 years later, Aristotle defined the "Aristotelian Coreia" in the Tragedy, creating rules and regulations to construct a representational model to generate effective "imitations" of reality.

During the reign of the Roman Empire, complete naval battles with special ships sailing in an enormous pool were "simulated" in the Circus Maximus.

In ancient times, specific events were reproduced to understand, communicate and divulge needs related to the culture; for many centuries such desires were a crucial, as well as complex, problem that had to be solved to study and analyze phenomena affecting reality. In the past, we have seen "reality as infinite will": the natural epilogue of this path is to convert the opportunities of scientific research into facts.

Today the simulation of complex systems is a reality: there are numerous experts in this field and modeling applications involving large communities are growing. This period represents the end of an age that could be called "Simulation as an unorthodox solution", while we are facing a new challenge that could be summarized as "Simulation as the proper solution to real problems". With this approach, new duties and goals must be defined for the scientific and professional environments.

In addition to these issues, the need to promote simulation becomes more structured and strategic and must be addressed by new approaches and in new structures.

Simulation sciences play a central role in supporting the development of our countries, and not just as scientific research.

Based on these considerations, our role must be reinforced to define our territorial presence and to properly represent a significant part of the simulation community: this is our goal.

Today we have reached a critical point for guaranteeing that each active part of the community has a delegation to support simulation development and to create new networking and positive globalization services. These are the two underlying aspects of the I_M_SCS initiative.

Based on our proposal we want to guarantee the greatest visibility for those actions that were excessively neglected with respect to their real value and the overall evolution of the situation. This goal will be pursued at all I_M_SCS levels, focusing on common activities during a yearly General Meeting called the International Mediterranean Modeling Multiconference (I3M).

I3M is the best way to voice different ideas through an agglomeration of different I_M_SCS scientific areas and contributions.

The different simulation players operating in the M&S community, who often cooperate and compete based on their different positions, must recognize that I_M_SCS is a reference point for simulation.

In order to guarantee success, the approaches that tend to make the different scientific positions more homogeneous must disappear: the added value related to the in-depth information provided by multidisciplinary and different approaches must be achieved. Such a process creates new spaces and areas where new dimensions and opportunities can be explored.

Obviously, I_M_SCS' mission provides a model, introducing new goals to be considered and examined by all the simulation players interested in such an initiative.

The critical point is to guarantee that everyone has the chance to present and support concepts and ideas: The I3M Conference is focusing on this target.

The I3M initiative is the main tool for enhancing the value of our skills and expertise to effectively promote the innovative aspects and scientific contributions related to our proposal.

In effect, the experience, know-how, skills, research and traditions of the I_M_SCS mission promoters are an objective reality.

The challenges to be faced over the next years require prompt and qualified actions that need to begin right now. Thus, cooperative and promotional activities must be implemented to create a new point of reference in the Mediterranean Cultural Area, located in Southern Europe, Nord Africa and South America.

I_M_SCS will be that new reference and the simulation community and SCS are expected to recognize its role and mission based on a common exchange of goals and motivations.

The traditional opportunity for sharing ideas and experiences must be recreated in order to analyze important events and new technologies. I_M_SCS' contribution must be actively present during international debates.

We expect components and supporters, based on I_M_SCS characteristics, to create a new fundamental virtual forum for those involved in regional and worldwide simulation activities.

The goal of the I_M_SCS Manifesto is to promote discussion among all simulationists, who are actively playing different roles in M&S, in order to transform intuitions and expectations into reality.

Based on such an approach, we will focus our scientific and cultural activities on making I_M_SCS a reference for simulation science that is ready, willing and able to deal with the international scenario and to collect and distribute contributions and reactions.