Call for Proposals

Journal of Defense Modeling and Simulation: Applications, Methodology, Technology (JDMS)

Special Issue: Operation Assessment: Fundamentals and Best Practices to Create a Baseline for Assessors (J18-1)

Guest Editors
Dr. Lyn Arnhart, US Army, Retired
LTC Marv King, US Army, Training and Doctrine Command Analysis Center

Introduction
Across the past decade, there has been a growing emphasis on campaign analysis and assessment. In the interests of campaign design, efficiency and demonstrating progress, leadership routinely asks: How are we doing? What is the risk? What can we do better? What do we need? And when will we achieve our objective? Analysts struggle to answer these questions. Following the demise of Effects Based Operations, insufficient definitive and integrated doctrine hamper efforts. Limited education and no dedicated training on designing and conducting assessments further compound the problem. Analysts and assessors have virtually no experience with what “right looks like” with respect to assessments; neither does leadership. It’s time to change the status quo.

There are a number of grass roots opportunities to move the community of assessors (a.k.a. “The Shrewdness”) forward. These activities include efforts to improve doctrine, education and training but center on a growing group of government and military professionals engaged in dialogue sharing experience, practice, and theory. To continue to expand the discussion and share knowledge, we are putting together a special issue of JDMS focused on operation assessment and are seeking proposals for articles.

Possible topics for authors to consider include:

- Theoretical foundations for assessments
- Application of evaluation theory to operation assessment
- System analysis of operation assessment
- Assessment lexicon, taxonomy, and ontology
- Barriers to good assessments
- Potential techniques for using improving assessment
- Analysis of known related approaches and methods
- Considerations for integrating multiple levels of assessments
- Applying Theory of Change to contingency operations and campaign plans
- Integrating intelligence assessment into operation assessment
- Facilitating assessments that do not demonstrate progress
- Better means of defining standards based bins
- Gap and risk assessment
- How to nest assessments between echelons
- Conflation of operations, progress, gaps and risk
- Development of assessment frameworks
- How to make assessments more usable to leadership
- Development of a core assessments process
Papers submitted should not be concurrently under review at another conference, journal, or similar venue.

**Instructions for Proposal Submission**

Authors are requested to submit abstracts of 200-400 words outlining their proposed article(s) by June 30th, 2018. The editorial staff will respond by 6 July with a determination on articles to be considered for selection for inclusion in the special issue. Submit proposals to 215LynBarn@gmail.com and marvking3@gmail.com. Upon acceptance of the proposal, authors will need to follow JDMS author guidelines.

**Instructions for Manuscript Preparation**

For manuscript formatting and other guidelines, please visit the Author Guidelines for JDMS.

Note: Manuscripts must not have been previously published or be submitted for publication elsewhere. Each submitted manuscript must include title, names, authors’ affiliations, postal and e-mail addresses, and a list of keywords. For multiple author submission, please identify the corresponding author.

**Due Dates**

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**Submissions for full paper review**

All manuscripts must be submitted electronically through the paper submission system to the JDMS Manuscript Submission System. In the title page, author(s) must specifically mark that the paper is intended for this special issue as follows: "Submission for the Special Issue of JDMS: Operation Assessment. Please follow the guidelines for submission on the Manuscript Central site.

**Final paper submissions**

Each final submission must be prepared based on the JDMS journal requirements (see the Author Guidelines for JDMS page).

**Guest Editors:**

Colonel Lynette M. B. Arnhart, PhD, U.S. Army, retired, is the former division chief for analysis, assessments, and requirements at U.S. Central Command and was responsible for developing and establishing the command’s quarterly assessment of the Coalition Military
Campaign Plan to Defeat ISIS and for conducting and continuous improvement of the Annual Theater Campaign Plan and Annual Joint Assessments. Arnhart served as a field artillery officer at the battery, battalion, and brigade level. Later she served as a commander in the Adjutant General’s Corps, then as an operations research analyst. She has significant experience at the Headquarters, Army, and combatant command level, and she has conducted and led analysis of all types—strategic assessments, human capital, weapon-system effectiveness, modeling and simulation, programming and budgeting, and decision analysis. She earned a BS from the United States Military Academy, an MS from the Colorado School of Mines, and a PhD in operations research from George Mason University.

**Lieutenant Colonel Marvin King, PhD, U.S. Army**, is a directorate senior military analyst at the Training and Doctrine Command Analysis Center. He is the former assessments, analysis, and studies branch chief for the Africa Command J-8, responsible for quarterly and annual strategic assessments, analytic support of the Integrated Priority List and Program Budget Review issues, sponsored studies, and wargaming from 2015–2017. Working at the Center for Army Analysis, he deployed as an ORSA in Iraq and Afghanistan, and developed quantitative wargame methods that were used to conduct analysis for those theaters. He possesses a BS in electrical engineering from the United States Military Academy, an MS in engineering management from the University of Missouri–Rolla, an MS in mineral and energy economics from the Colorado School of Mines, and a PhD in operations research from the Colorado School of Mines.

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