

Here are some of my memories and recollections (and I have more...but that would make this recap way too long!):

Ore organized an exciting Sunday evening reception at the Beechmont Tavern across the street from the entrance to Iona College. What a lively atmosphere – especially among the patrons of the establishment watching the football game. Everyone was happy that New York won the game!

It was good to see familiar faces again. Kosin, one of my recent grads, was thrilled to meet Frank and others with a Taiwan connection. I think Frank ordered the most food – but it seems to me he shared everything he ordered with those sitting around his table. (Hint: sit close to Frank at a restaurant!)

Monday was a beautiful midsummer New York day – hot and humid. We didn't expect that in September! The conference was officially opened by Shoshana, Ore, Richard Highfield - the Interim Dean of the LaPenta School of Business, our CEO Trevor, and our President Pascal.

And then we went right into paper presentations – with a lot of focus on the topics of Data Analytics and Cyber Security. What a strong set of papers that were presented at the conference – thanks Heechang for serving as program chair and putting together a wonderful program.

Sarah from Fidelity was our Monday luncheon keynote speaker on the Future of Machine Learning.

We had guests from many different places – including Diana's son, Rene, from Holland (or should I say Netherlands?! Check out the YouTube link below to understand the difference – or come to our next year's conference in the Netherlands!)

An afternoon/evening discussion centered on how to encourage CIIMA contributions – over drinks. (But Jim, in his hotel room, came up with similar suggestions in a less exciting environment!) Don't forget to revise your paper based on the feedback you received and submit your paper to CIIMA (The Communications of the International Information Management Association). Ramesh and Heechang (thanks, Heechang, for letting us twist your arm a bit to join the editorial staff of CIIMA!) are waiting to receive your papers and send them out for further reviews and hopefully you will soon see your paper published in CIIMA!

Several of us got a tour of the new business building being constructed on the Iona campus – hopefully home of one of our future conferences! (I do like New York!)

Monday night we celebrated IIMA's 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary and reminisced. Trevor shared memories of Tapie's heart and goal for the organization. Jake, Pascal, Ramesh and others remembered how Tapie found them and recruited them to become involved with the IIMA – and the deep impact Tapie had on their lives. He is missed...

We had a slide show listing each of the 30 conferences – the city and the host. Memories included mushroom facials, passing by Clinton's house in Chicago, Chinatown in New York with Warren, the royal treatment received during the conference in China, the night walk in Utrecht, boat rides and dinners, ...

Trevor brought spinners with the IIMA logo – a cool way to keep in shape!

We had ordered 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary luggage tags (designed by Shoshana's daughter) – but the package from the manufacturer contained luggage tags for the “Pug Dog Club of America”. That was good for a laugh! (A day later our 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary luggage tags arrived after all!)

During Tuesday's lunch we heard from the CIO of a hospital on “AI-BI-CI When the Machine Takes Over?” (Thanks, Shoshana, for finding keynote speakers to opened up new horizons for us!)

Shoshana was welcomed as the newest member of the "Fellows of the IIMA".  
Congratulations, Shoshana!

This was followed by a lively panel discussion organized by Alison where she had invited five individuals working in the area of business analytics and we got to hear what their organizations are currently doing, along with their perspective on future trends in this area of business analytics. Thanks, Alison!

Late Tuesday afternoon the bus arrived to take us to the New York Harbor for our conference dinner and a cruise of the New York Harbor (even Shoshana's parents joined us!) It was a beautiful evening - great weather, opportunity for lots of conversation, good food and we got to see some of the beautiful sights of New York – it nearly seemed we could touch the Statue of Liberty,...

Wednesday we ended with a business meeting where our President Pascal handed the gavel over to Ian, our in-coming president.

Late breaking news: Vera Azubuike, from Nigeria, who has attended several of our conferences, and our first IIMA scholarship recipient, completed her Master in Public Procurement Management for Sustainable Development at the University of Turin.

Rene gave us a wonderful history class of the many Dutch influences and connections in New York. I've got a copy of his PowerPoint presentation – we'll get it posted on our website.

And then he invited us to next year's conference in Utrecht, The Netherlands. We even got a taste since Rene brought some Stroopwafels and Gouda cheese! Thanks, Rene!

Here's a link from Pascal [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eE\\_IUPInEuc](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eE_IUPInEuc) providing a great introduction to the Netherlands (vs Holland).

Thanks Diana, Pascal and Rene for being willing to host us next year. The call for papers will be on our website shortly. ([iima.org](http://iima.org))

Thanks again, to our Iona colleagues for all your work in hosting us this year for a most successful conference. And special thanks for significant donations from the following universities:

- Quinnipiac University (thanks, Ramesh!)
- Fairfield University (thanks, James)
- Central Connecticut State University (thanks, Chris)

- California State University San Bernardino (thanks, Jake, Frank)
- Iona College (thanks Shoshana, Ore, Heechang, Alison)

See you all next year, **October 19-21, 2020**, at the University of Applied Sciences, Utrecht, The Netherlands! (and maybe in Seattle in 2021?!)

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