H. Sprague Ackley  
AIM, Inc. Board of Directors  
Fellow | Honeywell | Lynnwood, Washington

Current position responsibilities?  Technology development in barcode reading, printing, decoding and RFID applications

Best thing about your current position?  The freedom to pursue new ideas

Educational background?  Bowdoin College (BS Physics); Stony Brook University (MS Physics)

First job?  Manufacturing Engineer at Intermec

Who do you consider your professional mentor?  David Allais

Most valuable advice received.  Lots of little successes are great, but you need to accomplish something big.

How do you like to spend your free time?  With my family in the mountains or by the sea

If you could have dinner with 3 people who would you choose?  John Kermode, Douglas Young and Harry Sparkes of Westinghouse - the inventors of barcode in 1929

People would be surprised to know that I … help raise puppies for the organization Guide Dogs for the Blind.

How long have you been a member of AIM?  Since it was founded; Intermec was a charter member

Why did you get involved with AIM?  To help make sure that the growth of the barcode industry is supported with technically rigorous standards

What do you enjoy most serving on the AIM/AIM NA Board?  Learning from my accomplished colleagues

What would you identify as the 2-3 most important responsibilities of a Board member?  Showing up at meetings and putting the benefit of the industry before short term company goals

What do you consider the most valuable aspect of membership in AIM?  Influencing standards

From your perspective, what do you see as:  
the greatest challenges to the AIDC industry on a global basis?  Managing exponentially increasing data

the greatest opportunities for the AIDC industry on a global basis?  Managing exponentially increasing data

the “next big thing” or trend in the AIDC industry?  Serialization

Any special message you would like to share with AIM members?  It is a message passed on to me many times; the most important thing is growing the industry, after which we can all get our share.