

EDITORIAL

IFORS is starting its own newsletter! Welcome to this first issue! This first issue includes a message from the IFORS president while it presents a brief outline of all the activities of IFORS with all the different portfolios. The various portfolios are presented with a short bio of the current portfolio holder. We believe you will find this very useful. This newsletter will appear regularly and the aim is to connect with all the IFORS member society members.

Hans W Ittmann
Newsletter Editor

MESSAGE FROM IFORS PRESIDENT, ELISE DEL ROSARIO

But the mandate is intimidating, to say the least. The past IFORS presidents are tough acts to follow. I was initially overwhelmed and for some time, I wondered whether I was equal to the task. But then I looked around, saw the collective brilliance and dedication of the current Administrative Committee (AC), and my doubts were assuaged. I confidently declared, "YES, WE CAN!"

Ladies and gentlemen of the international OR community, I have the honor of presenting to you the AC members who will be serving you from 2007 to 2009. I am justifiably proud to have them on the management team. A short

In various places all over the world, member societies and regional groupings are very actively organizing their respective conferences, publications, and various other initiatives. IFORS exists to serve its stakeholders - THAT'S YOU! - by coordinating and integrating your efforts, providing appropriate resources, creating links and communication avenues, acting as a catalyst for the transfer and dissemination of ideas - all in the spirit of promoting the development of OR methodology and practice worldwide.

I tend to look at the member societies as wonderful and capable musicians, creating good music on their own. Unfortunately, when two or more musicians playing solo get into close proximity, you could have discord. But the potential certainly exists for these 48 "musicians" to come together and create great music together. IFORS is in a capable position to play "conductor" to this "orchestra". But we need, count on, and call for your cooperation and support to produce the harmonious symphony that we all aspire for. And it's a virtuous cycle - your deep wide-spread support gives us the energy and motivation to serve you 110%.

In 2009, when this AC's term ends, IFORS turns 50 years old. This AC will work to see that IFORS reaches its 50th year resplendent in its rich history as well as prepared - and raring - to take on the challenges and the uncertainties of the future. On behalf of the AC, I invite you to help lay the foundation for the well-rehearsed orchestra playing inspired music for the next 50 years!

Wanted: A World-Class ORchestra

As your elected IFORS President for 2007 to 2009, I am presented with the rare opportunity to get to know you better, as well as a mandate to further reinforce the links between your societies and the regional groupings, and between the societies and our global OR community. I am excited at the prospect of getting to know each of the national societies. I'm equally challenged by the mandate of strengthening the professional bonds among societies, regional groupings, and IFORS.

write up on each member is included in this issue, together with the functions that had been assigned to each of them.

For those who have kept track of the IFORS management structure over the years, you will note that we had done a bit of reorganization as far as the committees are concerned. We will continually review how best to organize our efforts as we strive to find ways to be more responsive to the objectives of IFORS and your needs.

WHO DOES WHAT?

(A solution to the Assignment Problem)

IFORS Objectives

The objectives of the Federation shall be to develop operational research as a unified science and to advance it in all the nations of the world. Means to this end shall include:

1. Sponsoring international meetings
2. Providing other means for exchanging information on operational research
3. Encouraging nations to establish operational research societies
4. Supporting standards of competence in operational research
5. Promoting operational research education
6. Promoting the growth of both existing and new fields of operational research.

In pursuit of these objectives, the Administrative Committee of 2007-2009 shall carry out the necessary activities defined in the IFORS Statutes in addition to the following functions:

The President – Elise del Rosario

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will provide general leadership and oversight of the activities of the Federation, in addition to the duties stated in the By Laws. The Immediate Past President – Tom Magnanti (magnanti@mit.edu) shall provide advice, historical context and organizational perspective on decisions and discussions within the AC.

All **AC Members** shall have the function of External Relations. Each AC member is expected to be the “face” of IFORS in or outside their respective regions. In addition, regional VPs are expected to:

- Tap their regional networks and resources that will assist in monitoring planned conferences in their regions;
- Monitor conflicts that may arise from scheduling of conferences way ahead of schedule; and
- Coordinate with conference organizers to contribute an IFORS presence, session or speaker where possible.

VP-at-Large Michel Gendreau

michel.gendreau@cirrelt.ca

Publications – This committee will monitor and coordinate the execution of the ITOR and IAOR long-range plans and programs that have been put in place by the previous AC.

Treasurer Peter Bell

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Apart from his Treasurer function (and until a coordinator can be assigned) will take care of coordinating IFORS programs and participation in Teacher’s Workshops.

ALIO VP Horacio Yanasse

horacio@lac.inpe.br

New Societies within ALIO

This committee will be in charge of

- encouraging the formation of national OR societies and application for IFORS membership, where such societies already exist;
- seeing to it that applications for membership are properly attended to and followed up both from the side of IFORS and the applicant; and
- facilitating the application process in general, e.g., making sure that complete list of requirements are known to the applicant; English translation of the by laws of the national society is available.

Scholarships within ALIO

- Liaising with coordinators of programs involving students and young researchers within the region;

- Ensuring that existing projects (currently the Summer School for Young Scholars or ELAVIO) are properly executed, maintained and continuously improved;
- Develop programs in line with the objective of supporting OR Education; and
- Seeing to it that IFORS participation in these programs are acknowledged and documented

ALIO VP Horacio Yanasse

horacio@lac.inpe.br

VP for ICORD

ICORD V held in India came up initially with a “Notes on the Future Agenda for ICORD” towards a Jamshedpur Declaration on OR for Development. IFORS is looking at coordinating its efforts in line with this and future ICORD meeting outcomes, in line with making it an effective instrument in moving the developing country agenda forward.

The committee will:

- Assist IFORS in identifying projects that will make it effective in contributing to developing countries; and
- Put in place the infrastructure to carry out ICORD as a major and regular meeting in the IFORS calendar.

APORS VP Tatsuo Oyama

oyamat@grips.ac.jp

New Societies within APORS

This committee will be in charge of

- encouraging the formation of national OR societies and application for IFORS membership, where such societies already exist;
- seeing to it that applications for membership are properly attended to and followed up both from the side of IFORS and the applicant; and
- facilitating the application process in general, e.g., making sure that complete list of requirements are known to the applicant; English translation of the by laws of the national society is available.
- Helping Secretary ensure that all requirements are completed at the soonest possible time.

Scholarships within the APORS

- Liaising with coordinators of programs involving students and young researchers within the region;
- Ensuring that existing projects (currently the IFORS-APORS Young Scholars Program) are properly executed, maintained and continuously improved;
- Develop programs in line with the objective of supporting OR Education; and
- Seeing to it that IFORS participation in these programs are acknowledged and documented

EURO VP Raymond Bisdorff

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New Societies within EURO

This committee will be in charge of

- encouraging the formation of national OR societies and application for IFORS membership, where such societies already exist;
- seeing to it that applications for membership are properly attended to and followed up both from the side of IFORS and the applicant; and
- facilitating the application process in general, e.g., making sure that complete list of requirements are known to the applicant; English translation of the by laws of the national society is available.

Scholarships within EURO

- Liaising with coordinators of programs involving students and young researchers within the region;

- Ensuring that existing projects (currently, the IFORS/EURO Exchange of Young Researchers Program (consisting of the EURO Summer/ Winter Institute and the IFORS Institute Exchange Program) are properly executed, maintained and continuously improved;
- Develop programs in line with the objective of supporting OR Education; and
- Seeing to it that IFORS participation in these programs are acknowledged and documented

NORAM VP Mike Trick

trick@cmu.edu

Meetings (Triennial and Special Conferences)

– The Meetings committee is responsible for:

- monitoring preparations for the Triennial Conference and other special conferences;
- reviewing proposals of other organizations to affiliate with their meetings;
- looking for opportunities to co-sponsor meetings of other organizations if doing so will help achieve the objectives of IFORS;
- working closely with regional VPs on potential conflicts in scheduling of meetings; and
- coordinating and managing the IFORS Distinguished Lecturer Program.

NORAM VP Mike Trick

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50th Anniversary and Marketing

– This committee will be responsible for preparing a session/ track/ special activity at the 2008 conference that will focus on IFORS as an organization celebrating 50 years. This will also produce information material about IFORS that could be used by the regional VPs as they attend meetings representing IFORS.

Other committee heads are as follows:

Newsletter Editor Hans Iltmann

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This committee will be responsible for:

- Disseminating information about IFORS, its regional groupings, its activities and the members who make it up;
- Facilitating communication among its members;
- Producing a newsletter on a regular basis; and
- Incorporating the current Developing Countries Newsletter

Website and Web-based Initiatives Head Moshe Sniedovich

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This committee will take charge of:

- Ensuring that the website contains up to date information about the organization, including the Newsletter; and
- Maintaining current IFORS educational outreach projects include the Tutorial, Encyclopedia of OR/MS, and the identification of educational materials on the web

Developing Countries Chair Theo Stewart

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This committee is responsible for the IFORS initiatives in the support of the expansion of OR in developing countries.

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Know Your IFORS Management Team



Elise del Rosario

IFORS President

Elise del Rosario's involvement with IFORS Administrative Committee started when as the IFORS representative of the Philippines, she was tapped to head the Developing Countries Committee, which she chaired for nine years. As its head, she worked on several programs, which pushed the Developing Countries agenda. She was also IFORS Vice President-at-large for 2001-2003.

She spearheaded the formation of the OR national society in the Philippines and was asked to chair international OR conferences held in Manila. As its Manager, the Operations Research Department of San Miguel Corporation garnered the 1992 Operations Research Society of America (ORSA) Prize for outstanding and ongoing use of Operations Research in organizational decision-making.

Upon retirement from the San Miguel Corporation as Vice President in charge of Operations Research, Elise has since gone into consulting – a large part of it, in pro-bono work with the Philippine government, through the Operations Research Society of the Philippines Committee on OR for Public Service (ORSP Corps). Currently, she is the CFO of her family's One Small Step Forward Foundation, dedicated to uplifting Philippine public elementary school education, specifically, in English and Mathematics within the Philippines.

Elise is an alumna of the University of the Philippines, where she obtained her Bachelor of Science in Industrial Engineering and of the Asian Institute of Technology in Thailand from where she earned her degree in Master of Science in Industrial Engineering and Management. She trained at the Stanford Research Institute (SRI) in California as an International Fellow in Physical Distribution and Materials Management. Apart from publishing several papers in OR journals, she has keynoted several national Conferences and has served as editor of various journals.



Theo Stewart

Theo Stewart's activities in IFORS started with his role as programme chair for the 1996 triennial conference in Vancouver. He was then special ITOR editor for the papers arising from the 1999 IFORS conference in Beijing. He became IFORS vice-president for the period 2004-2006, during which time he took up the post a chair of the developing countries committee. He is also African Editor for ITOR.

He has been active in the Operations Research Society of South Africa (ORSSA) in many roles, including president and founding editor of the ORSSA journal ORION. He has also been president of the South African Statistical Association (SASA), and is a fellow of both ORSSA and SASA.

Theo trained originally as a chemical engineer, and spent a number of years in chemical and mining production plants, where his interests in OR first started. In 1971, he took up an OR post at the South African Council for Scientific and Industrial Research, where he also completed graduate studies in OR and decision theory. He was instrumental in setting up a combined division for what at that time was termed operations research and statistics. Since 1984 he has held a chair in statistical sciences at the University of Cape Town, where his primary task has been the development of OR studies.

His primary technical interests are in the field of multiple criteria decision making (and he is current president of the International Society on Multiple Criteria Decision Making), particularly as applied to natural resources planning and developmental issues.

He is a Fellow of the Royal Society of South Africa and of the University of Cape Town.



Hans Ittmann

Hans Ittmann is currently Acting Executive Director of CSIR Built Environment, one of the five operating units of the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) in South Africa. The CSIR is the largest R&D organisation in Africa. Initially trained as a pilot, Hans joined the CSIR in the seventies as an operations researcher. For the last twenty years he has managed an OR group within the CSIR. They have focused on contract R&D and over the years the group has been involved in a wide variety of projects for both the private and public sectors. The group has focused on optimisation, simulation, statistical analysis and also supply chain management. In the latter case Hans was instrumental in publishing the annual South African State of Logistics survey.

He serves on the editorial boards of two journals, was President of the Operations Research Society of South Africa (ORSSA) on two occasions, served the society in other capacities as well and is a Fellow of ORSSA. He has twice been a co-recipient of the annual Tom Rozwadowski award of ORSSA for the best publication.



Raymond Bisdorff

IFORS VP for Association of European Operational Research Societies within IFORS (EURO)

Prof. Dr. Bisdorff is a Full Professor at the University of Luxembourg where currently serves as Coordinator of the Applied Mathematics Unit and Vice President of the Scientific Consulting Commission. He teaches Mathematics for Computer Scientists, Operational Research, and Decision Aid Statistics and Probability. His current research interests are kernels on di-graphs, best choice problematics, decision aid and classification aid methodology

Raymond continues to serve as IFORS VP for EURO from 2005. Apart from this, he was Vice President of the Association of European Operational Research Societies, Administration Board Member of the Belgian OR Society, ORBEL, and Coordination Board Member of the The EURO Working Group on "Human Centered Processes".

He completed his Bachelor's degree in Business Administration at the Université de Liège in 1975, his Master's degree on Methods and Models of Scientific Management (D.E.A./MScBA) at the Université Paris-Dauphine in 1976 and two postdoctoral degrees, the first on Operations Research at the Université Paris-Dauphine in 1981 and the second on Management Sciences (Ph.D.), Université de Liège 2001. Raymond received an Honor diploma from the Hellenic Operational research Society, was a visiting professor at LAMSADE at the University of Paris-Dauphine, an Honorable collaborator of the Institute of Mathematics at the University of Liege in Belgium, and a NATO Graduate Degree Apprentice in Systems Science.



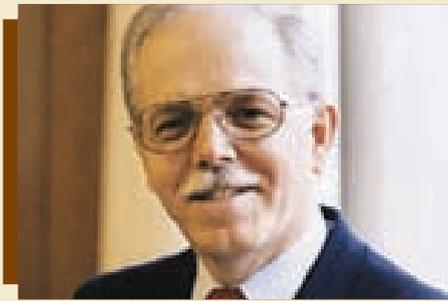
Horacio Hideki Yanasse

IFORS VP for the Association of Latin-Iberoamerican Operational Research Societies within IFORS (ALIO)

Horacio Yanasse currently resides in Brazil and is a researcher at the INPE or the National Space Research Institute. Concurrently, he is the Editor-in-Chief of Pesquisa Operacional, the Brazilian Operations Research Journal.

After completing his BS in Electrical Engineering from ITA (Aeronautic Institute of Technology, Brazil), he acquired his MS in Systems Analysis from INPE (National Space Research Institute). He then proceeded to obtain his doctorate in Operations Research from Massachusetts Institute of Technology. His research interests include combinatorial optimization, cutting and packaging and integer programming.





Thomas Magnanti

Immediate Past President

Prof. Magnanti is the Dean of Engineering and one of the fourteen Institute Professors at MIT. As the Dean, he has focused on educational innovation, industrial and international partnerships, technology-based entrepreneurship, diversity, and innovation in emerging domains such as bioengineering, tiny technologies, information engineering, and engineering systems. He is co-director of Operations Research Center, and Systems Design and Management also at MIT.

Tom was the President of the Operations Research Society of America (ORSA) and of the Institute of Operations Research and Management Sciences (INFORMS) and the Editor-in-Chief of the journal *Operations Research*. He has co-authored two textbooks, *Applied Mathematical Programming and Network Flows: Theory, Algorithms and Applications*, and is the co-editor of two other books. He received his Bachelor's degree in Chemical Engineering from Syracuse University in 1967 and Master's degrees in Statistics and Mathematics from Stanford University in 1969 and 1971 respectively, where he also completed his doctorate in Operations Research in 1972. He received honorary doctorates from Linköping University, the Université de Montréal, and the Université Catholique de Louvain.



Mike Trick

IFORS VP for Association of North American Operations Research Societies (NORAM)

Dr. Trick is a Professor of Operations Research at the Tepper School of Business, Carnegie Mellon University. A researcher and educator in the field of OR, he specializes in computational methods in optimization.

After receiving his doctorate in industrial engineering from Georgia Tech, Dr. Trick embarked on two years of postdoctoral fellowships, first at the Institute for Mathematics and its Applications in Minneapolis, then at the Institut fuer Oekonomie und Operations Research in Bonn, Germany.

He then joined the faculty of the Graduate School of Administration (now the Tepper School of Business) at Carnegie Mellon University. From 1998 through 2005, he was also President of the Carnegie Bosch Institute for Applied Studies in International Management, a research institute specializing in research support, conferences, and executive education on international management issues, and the recipient of the Bosch Professorship from 2003-2005. The students of GSIA awarded him the George Leland Bach Award as the top teacher in the program in 1991 and nominated him for that award again in 1997, 1998 and 2000.

In 1995, he was appointed the founding Editor of INFORMS Online, the electronic information service of the Institute for Operations Research and the Management Sciences, a 14,000 member professional society. In 2002 he was President of that society. Starting 2004, he became Vice-President/North America for the International Federation of Operational Research Societies, an umbrella organization of 46 national operations research societies. He has authored thirty professional publications and is the editor of two volumes of refereed articles.

Mike has consulted extensively with the United States Postal Service on supply chain design, with Major League Baseball and a number of college basketball conferences on scheduling issues, and with companies such as Motorola and Sony on machine scheduling.



Moshe Sniedovich

Committee Chair, Website and Web-based Initiatives

Moshe Sniedovich is a Reader at the University of Melbourne, Department of Mathematics and Statistics, where he has been connected since 1988. Several of his projects include the Worst Case Analysis Campaign, The Joy of Sequential Decision Making and its revision, Dynamic Programming, the Composite Concave Linear Programming book, and the International Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Indices.

He obtained his BSc in Agricultural Engineering in 1968 and completed his graduate program in Civil Engineering in 1972 at the Technion in Israel. He worked as a Planning Engineer in the Ministry of Agriculture in Israel from 1968 to 1972 before commencing his PhD in Water Resources and Systems and Industrial Engineering at the University of Arizona in 1976. He then spent three years in post doctorate studies, one year in Princeton University from 1976 to 1977 and two years at IBM Thomas J Watson Research Centre from 1977 to 1979, before joining the National Research Institute for Mathematical Sciences (NRIMS) in South Africa until 1989.

He has over eighty refereed articles and has been awarded numerous grants for the development of multimedia educational resources for OR/MS that eventually led to the IFORS tutORial project. Moshe has also been very active on the international OR/MS scene. He served as IFORS VP (representing APORS) for six years from 1998 to 2003 and has served in the IFORS Educational Resources Committee.



Michel Gendreau

IFORS VP-at-large

Dr. Michel Gendreau is Professor of Operations Research at Université de Montréal in Canada. He is concurrently Vice-President of the International of the Institute for Operations Research and the Management Sciences (INFORMS).

His current editorships include the Area Editor of "Heuristic Search and Learning" of the INFORMS Journal on Computing and an Associate Editor of Operations Research, Transportation Science, the Journal of Heuristics, RAIRO-Recherche opérationnelle, and the Journal of Scheduling and International Transactions in Operational Research. He is also the co-editor of four books on transportation planning and scheduling. From 2001 to 2006, he was the Editor-in-chief of INFOR, the journal of the Canadian OR Society. He received the Merit Award of the Canadian Operational Research Society in 2001 to recognize his contributions to the development of OR in Canada.

Michel's main research interests deal with the development of exact and approximate optimization methods for transportation and telecommunications network planning problems, some of which have been included in commercially-available software. He has published more than 125 papers on these topics.



Peter Bell

IFORS Treasurer

Prof. Peter Bell has been teaching Management Science at the Richard Ivey School of Business, The University of Western Ontario, since 1977. A past President of IFORS, he also served as President of CORS/SCRO, and Vice-President, International Activities of INFORMS. His company, the Strategic Management Science, Inc. provides consulting services to corporations, hospitals, small businesses, charities, and government agencies.

A year after winning the INFORMS Prize for Teaching the Practice of Management Science in 2005, he was elected Fellow for the Institute for Operations Research and the Management Sciences. In 2007, he was presented the Award of Merit by the Canadian Operational Research Society (CORS/SCRO).

Peter's research program has produced some 50 articles in academic and business journals, 13 books including *Management Science/Operations Research: A Strategic Perspective*, *SouthWestern College Publishing* (1999), and about 100 cases. Currently, he teaches EMBA at Ivey's Toronto and Hong Kong campuses. He has been with Ivey since 1977. His Bachelor's degree was completed, with honors, at Oxford, and his MBA and PhD degrees at the University of Chicago. He was Visiting Fellow at the Warwick Business School, Visiting Professor at London Business School, C-H. Distinguished Lecturer at Wilfrid Laurier University, and Chevron Distinguished Visiting Professor at Simon Fraser University.



Tatsuo Oyama

IFORS VP for the Association of Asia-Pacific Operational Research Societies within IFORS (APORS)

Prof. Tatsuo Oyama is currently Vice President of the National Graduate Institute for Policy Studies (GRIPS) with which he has been associated Professor in 1998, Dean in 2000 and 2003. He is also the Vice President for the Operations Research Society of Japan.

He has also been associated with the Central Research Institute of Electric Power Industry where he was a researcher from 1971 to 1980 and Saitama University, where he served as Dean until 2001. He obtained his Bachelor's and Master's degrees of Science in the University of Tokyo, College of Engineering. He proceeded to earn his PhD from Cornell University, College of Engineering, School of Operations Research and Industrial Engineering (ORIE).

Among his research interests are mathematical model analyses for optimal investment planning in electric power industries, for energy and environmental problems, and for policy evaluation and efficiency analyses in the public sector. He has published many papers in the areas of optimization theory and mathematical programming in such journals as the *Journal of Combinatorial Theory (A)*, *IEEE Transactions on Power Apparatus and Systems*, *Communications of Operations Research*, *Journal of Operations Research of Japan*, *Journal of Civil Engineering Society in Japan*, *OPSEARCH*, *International Transactions in Operational Research*, *Japan Journal of Industrial and Applied Mathematics*, and others. He has also published 9 books in Japanese in the same areas.

