



41st Annual Report, 21 March 2012

MELBOURNE CHAPTER

Your Society is as good as the people you elect to serve you.

Membership

The membership of the Chapter as at December 2011 consisted of 41 members, 15 student members, 18 retired members, 3 institutional members and 2 honorary members.

Office Bearers for 2011/12

Chair:	Baikunth Nath
Vice Chair:	Henry Burley
Secretary:	Kaye Marion
Treasurer:	Paul Lochert
Committee:	Red Ceglowski Moshe Sniedovich Simon Dunstall Gaurav Singh Bonnie Douglas

Student Representative: vacant

Ex Officio: Patrick Tobin
Co-opted

The chapter has seen a good growth in membership and has had monthly talks on almost each occasion. For record, I would like to thank RMIT University for their continued support and making the AGR facilities available for the ASOR monthly meetings.

Recent Advances in OR and Student Conference

The student conference and Recent Advances were again held together on 16 November 2011 and had a very successful shared program with the University of Newcastle. It was a full day program with a variety of topics covered. Two student prizes of \$100 each were also awarded. Once again I must thank Natasia Boland and her team from Newcastle, and Kaye Marion and Paul Lochert for their efforts in making this annual event held at RMIT University a delight.

IFORS2011 in Melbourne

The year 2011 has been very eventful for the ASOR and will be remembered in the ASOR chronicle. The 19th Triennial Conference IFORS2011 hosted by the ASOR in Melbourne, 10-15 July 2011, was a big success on all accounts. There were in excess of thousand registered delegates coming from 62 countries, representing all continents. Profit in excess of \$40K was achieved.

The highlights of the conference were the Gala Dinner with four IFORS Presidents (Current and past) being present, and presentation of the ASOR medal to Dr Patrick Tobin for his service to the Society. I must accord my gratitude to the Local Organizing Committee of Patrick Tobin (Chair), Simon Dunstall, John Hearne, Kaye Marion, Paul Lochert and others, and also to the professional organizers at ICMS, Patty D'Cruz and Barrie Markey.

National

At the initiative of Melbourne Chapter the National Council at its meeting on 24 February 2012 has ratified proposed minor amendments and changes to the ASOR Constitution/ By-Laws.

As per the Society's constitution in an effort to align membership fees across all branches/chapters, the Melbourne Chapter has reduced annual membership fees from 2012 onwards to \$45 for corporate member, \$25 for retired members and \$100 for institutional members.

Final word

The challenges that remain for the chapter include lifting student participation, increasing activity in monthly meetings and ensuring more membership participation in ASOR business including the chapter committee. It is a suitable time for me to thank all the committee for their support and work during this past year making the local OR scene more lively.

It has been a privilege to serve this Chapter for the past many years and also as the National President at the time when we hosted the international conference IFORS2011 first time ever in Australia. I shall look back my time with great pride. I had the support of many wonderful colleagues and many fine friends. I believe now is the right time to step aside and allow a new regime to take the Chapter and the ASOR into the future.

I look forward to meeting and interacting with you at our various functions.

Baikunth Nath

Chair,
ASOR Melbourne Chapter