

asor news

January - March 2010

The AUSTRALIAN SOCIETY for OPERATIONS RESEARCH Inc.
MELBOURNE CHAPTER

GPO Box 1048, Melbourne, Vic 3001

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Vale Dr Nicholas Boisleux Beaumont

11 October 1943 - 7 February 2010



Nick Beaumont died at Monash Medical Centre on Sunday 7 February 2010, after collapsing at Monash University. He is survived by his wife Carole and son Adrian.

Nick, born in New Zealand, made many

friends and contacts over the years in operations research circles. He began work in Australia teaching mathematics at the then Gordon Institute. A few years later he took a new direction, working in industry and major commercial companies as a systems analyst. This is where his interest in operations research, and mathematical programming in particular, was ignited through consulting. It was here that he formed ideas for streamlining the branch and bound algorithm for integer programming problems with alternative constraints.

Keen to explore the theoretical underpinnings of his work, Nick was drawn back to academia where he completed a PhD at Monash University. His doctoral research led to a publication in the European Journal of Operational Research, and a life-long interest in OR. He held a series of tertiary teaching and research appointments in Melbourne. He was appointed to the Department of Management at Monash University, where his interests spanned such

diverse areas as information systems, systems analysis, information management, statistics, operations research, manufacturing management, technology management, e-commerce and outsourcing.

Nick provided his academic expertise beyond the confines of academia in a number of interesting areas. He participated in industry conferences and seminars on outsourcing. He also contributed to debates in mainstream media (including the Age newspaper and on ABC television). His commentary was sought on off-shoring and fibre-to-the-home cabling across Australia.

Nick had the capacity to bring his technical expertise to bear in his wider life and passions. This is well-illustrated by his 2009 publication in the Journal of the Operations Research Society where he used dynamic programming to resolve a debate about certain strategies in contract bridge tournaments.

Those of us who were privileged to know Nick will remember him as a man of diverse interests and great intellect, with a wry sense of humour, sharp wits and a love of a good debate. He will be greatly missed.

Ralph Snyder
Monash University

From the Editor

It is with great sadness that we have reported the death of Nick Beaumont – one of the stalwarts of ASOR in Melbourne. Our condolences are extended to Carole and Adrian.

A reminder about ASOR (Melbourne Chapter)'s AGM next Wednesday, 17th March in the RMIT Access Grid Room 8.9.66 at 5:30 pm. This will be followed at 6:00 pm by Tracey Giles of the Hunter Valley Coal Chain Logistics Group (Abstract to follow).

Remember that you need to be a member in order to vote or to stand for the Committee.

Harry

What Else is On

Victorian Statisticians

The Statistics Society of Australia (in Victoria), typically has meetings on every 3rd Tuesday of the Month starting in March 2010.

For latest information check at:

<http://www.statsoc.org.au/vic-branch-meetings.htm>

The AOQ (Vic)

The Australian Organisation for Quality typically has forums on the 3rd Thursday of each month. The next forum is scheduled for March 2010.

For the latest information – <http://www.aoqvic.org.au>

Conferences

Victorian Mathematics and Statistics Students' Conference.

Friday, 2nd July, 2010
Department of Mathematics and Statistics
University of Melbourne
Parkville, Victoria

More information at

<http://www.2010vmssc.ms.unimelb.edu.au/>.

IFORS 2011

World OR : Global Economy and Sustainable Environment

The conference will be held at the new Melbourne Convention Melbourne, Australia from the 10th to the 15th July 2011 and will bring operational researchers from around the globe together.

A full and diverse program is being organised is being organised. See

www.ifors2011.org/highlights.asp for more details or contact the Conference Organising Committee.

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Invitation and Call for Papers

IFORS Prize for OR in Development

IFORS is pleased to announce that the Prize will be awarded during the 19th Triennial conference on "Global Economy and Sustainable Environment" to be held in Melbourne, Australia from 10-15 July 2011.

- Awarded at the close of the IFORS Triennial Conference and carries with it a grand prize of US\$ 4,000.00 and a runner-up prize of US\$ 2,000.00
- The prized papers are automatically considered for publication in the IFORS Publication, International Transactions in Operational Research (ITOR). Publication is contingent upon the usual refereeing process. Authors of these papers agree that the first right to publish their papers lies with ITOR; as such, they will not publish the same until and unless they receive permission to do so by the ITOR editor.

Important details about the competition follow;

Topic of paper

- The paper describes a practical OR application in a developing country, conducted to assist a specific organization in its decision-making process with regard to education, health, water, technology, resource use (physical or financial), infrastructure, agricultural/industrialization, environmental sustainability with original features in methodology or implementation for development in developing countries. The idea is to optimize the development with the constraints and limited resources.
- The paper includes some description of the application's social context and its impact on the decision making process or on the organization for which it was conducted. Where appropriate, the relevance of the country's state of development to the study is addressed. A stress on developmental issues will be an important factor in the judging, Papers of a purely technical nature, or those which have no

relevance in the developmental context, will not be considered.

Judging Criteria

- Qualifying papers will be evaluated on the following criteria: problem definition, creativity and appropriateness of approach, MS/OR content, stress on developmental issues, innovative methodology, impact of the study, paper organization and structure and quality of written and (if selected as finalist) oral presentation.

Other Information

Principal authors and presenters of any nationality are welcome. If selected to be among the finalists, the entry should be presented by one of the principal authors during the IFORS Triennial Conference to be held in Melbourne, Australia from 10-15 July 2011.

Finalist registration fees will be sponsored by IFORS. For finalists who are nationals of developing countries, a grant for living expenses may be requested but cannot be guaranteed.

Authors are strongly encouraged to submit their contributions using the submission site <http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/itQr>, indicating in their cover letters that they are intended for this competition.

Other inquiries should be sent directly to:

Dr. Subhash Datta (Prize Chair) Director, Jaipuria Institute of Management 1, Bambala Institutional Area, Pratap Nagar, Jaipur - 302033, India

E-mail: subhash.datta@gmail.com or sdatta@iimi.acin .

Last date of submission of the full paper: December 30, 2010. Date of communication for finalists: March 31, 2011. Date of presentations: July 10, 2011.

Web Pages of Interest

We are affiliated with FASTS through AMSC
To keep abreast of FASTS activities
consult : <http://www.usyd.edu.au/fast/>

ASOR National: <http://www.asor.org.au/>
Melbourne Chapter
<http://www.asor.ms.unimelb.edu.au/melbourne>

The new website for ASOR - Sydney is:
<http://www.asor-sydney.asn.au/>

NZ OR Society <http://www.orsnz.org.nz/>

ORS (UK): <http://www.orsoc.org.uk/>

INFORMS (US): <http://www.informs.org/>

IFORS: <http://www.ifors.org>

For the latest International news, conference and jobs details see:

<http://www.ifors.org/panorama/index.html>

tutor: <http://www.tutor.ms.unimelb.edu.au>

CSIRO's Double Helix Club <http://www.csiro.au/>

The electronic version of the ASOR Bulletin is now available for download at the following URL:

<http://www.asor.org.au/publication/page.php?page=1>

Committee Membership for 2009/10

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