

asor news

October 2010

The AUSTRALIAN SOCIETY for OPERATIONS RESEARCH Inc.
MELBOURNE CHAPTER

GPO Box 1048, Melbourne, Vic 3001

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AMSI Industry Internships

Speaker : Dr Thomas Montague
Date : Wedn, 20 October 2010,
Location: RMIT Access Grid Room
8.9.66, Swanston St Melbourne.
Time: 6.00pm.

Abstract: The AMSI industry internship program is now in its forth year of operation. This presentation will cover the goals, history recent developments of the program and provide examples of the interesting problems addressed by interns, academic mentors and their industry partners. It will also include an overview as to how to take advantage of this opportunity.

Bio: After working as a biologist at Monash University on seabird ecology Tom completed his D.Phil in the Wildlife Conservation research Unit at Oxford University in 1993. He then worked as an ecologist for Landcare Research in New Zealand before returning to Australia and taking up a position as a science advisor to the Victorian government in 2002. It was around this time he realized how much industry and Australians need to improve their understanding of mathematical sciences if we were to build our industrial capability. His current job as industry marketing manager at AMSI is all about building the capabilities of business, industry and government and AMSI.

From the Editor

Apologies for not sending a newsletter in September; I have been out of the country.

Changes are afoot! I have set up a Google Group at: <http://groups.google.com.au/group/melbourne-asor-chapter>. Please become a member (I believe that you will need to have a Google account but you can use any email address in your member profile). The other option that I considered was Meetup Group, which I feel has a nicer interface but is not free. So, Google it is.

Right now the group is completely open; anyone may join. I have set up the group so that members may post. The group also provides an interface for discussions, so please feel free to post. For now I will post Newsletters to the Google Group; we will start using the Google Site presently: <https://sites.google.com/site/melbourneasorchapter/>.

Why use a Google Group (or any social networking site)?

1. I hope that the discussions functionality will encourage members to share ideas more frequently and freely.
2. Absolutely any member can post notification about an upcoming event, conference, call for papers, etc.. I hope that this will increase participation in ASOR and related activities.
3. I hope that use of social networking will increase student membership and involvement.
4. Easier dissemination of information from the committee.

Please feel free to add to this list on the Group site ☺ Also, please post suggestions for content (or email to me).

Kind Regards, Bonnie

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>

Melbourne Users of R Network

Sister to the Sydney Users of R Forum (SURF) and organised by Dr. Eugene Dubossarsky, the R User Groups bring together the R community and provide an opportunity for sharing of ideas. Monthly meetings are available remotely via dimdim.

Check out the Melbourne Meetup group:

<http://www.meetup.com/MelbURN-Melbourne-Users-of-R-Network/>; links to the Sydney, Brisbane and Canberra groups are provided

Conferences

IFORS 2011

World OR : Global Economy and Sustainable Environment

Recent natural catastrophes and man-made crises have underscored the inter-connectedness of our world. Any upheaval leads to momentous reverberations across the globe with impacts well into the future. Now more than ever, Operational Research is of strategic importance to address problems critical to the economy and the environment. Academics and practitioners are invited to share their knowledge, experience and insights on theory, methodology and application of operational research to issues of vital concern to the global community.

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 ITORE; as such, they will not publish the same until and unless they receive permission to do so by the ITORE 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:
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E-mail: subhash.datta@gmail.com or
sdatta@imi.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/](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 URLs:

- <http://www.asor.org.au/publication/page.php?page=1>
- <http://groups.google.com.au/group/melbourn-e-asor-chapter>

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