

## Contents

1. December Meeting
2. Chairman's Christmas Message
3. Report on Recent Advances
4. Job Opportunity
5. Web Pages of Interest
6. What Else is on
7. Committee Members for 2011/12
8. Meeting Schedule

## December Committee Meeting

Date: Wednesday, 7 December  
Time: 6:00pm  
Place: Black Ruby, 344 Rathdowne St.  
Carlton North 3054 VIC

## Chairman's Christmas Message

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. The conference had a well-developed scientific programme having over sixty streams running in 21 parallel sessions over four full days. Our keynote speakers including Professor Sir James Mirrlees, Professor Daniel Ralph and Dr Brenda Dietrich provided stimulus to the conference. The social events and the day long excursions in middle of the conference to Sovereign Hill & Ballarat Wildlife Park and Healesville Sanctuary provided opportunities in connecting delegates. 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 LOC 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.

Given that we are very much into the festive season, it is appropriate to reflect on the past year of the ASOR Melbourne Chapter. The chapter has seen a good growth in membership and has had monthly talks on almost each occasion. Over the past two years, the initiative of interstate video links with the University of Newcastle and the ANU has worked well. Attendance at these talks did improve slightly

this year but could be lifted further. We look forward to other members giving talks on fresh fields in the year ahead. It is appropriate to thank RMIT University for their continued and making the AGR facilities available for the ASOR monthly meetings. I also would like to thank Prof Andrew Eberhard for his continued expert assistance at these meetings.

The student conference and Recent Advances were again held together 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 Prof 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.

Challenges which remain for the chapter include lifting student participation, more membership participation in ASOR business including the chapter committee, hopefully more enthusiast young faces. It is a suitable time for me to thank all the committee for their support and work during the past year making the local OR scene more lively.

On behalf of the committee I wish all members a safe and enjoyable festive season and look forward to meeting you in the year ahead at our various functions.

Best Wishes

Baikunth Nath  
Chair, ASOR Melbourne Chapter,  
President ASOR

## Recent Advances, Nov 16<sup>th</sup> 2011

With 12 excellent papers recent advances proved to be an informative and enjoyable day. The student papers were of a very high standard and after much deliberation the judges decided to award two prizes, to Andrey Kostenko and Sebastian Ruther. We congratulate the two of them on excellent presentations.

With 20 registrants in Melbourne and a similar number at Newcastle it was a well attended event and much discussion followed the papers. The AGR's behaved themselves so all attendees could be involved in all papers.

For those who missed the event the abstracts are still available on the web:  
<http://www.asor.org.au/melbourne/program.html>

The Australian Organisation for Quality typically has forums on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of each month. For the latest information – <http://www.aovqvic.org.au>

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## Job Opportunity

Lecturer (Level B/C/D, Operations Research / Stochastic Modelling at University of Technology, Sydney. More Details here:  
[http://www.jobs.uts.edu.au/job/job\\_details.cfm?id=691959&from](http://www.jobs.uts.edu.au/job/job_details.cfm?id=691959&from)

## 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

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## Web Pages of Interest

We are affiliated with FASTS through AMSC  
To keep abreast of FASTS activities consult : [www.usyd.edu.au/fast](http://www.usyd.edu.au/fast)s

ASOR National: [www.asor.org.au](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://groups.google.com.au/group/melbourne-asor-chapter>

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## What Else is On Victorian Statisticians

The Statistics Society of Australia (in Victoria), typically has meetings on every 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the Month starting March 22, 2011.

For latest information check at:  
<http://www.statsoc.org.au/vic-branch-meetings.htm>

The AOQ (Vic)

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## Committee Membership for 20011/12

**Chair - Baikunth Nath** 8344 1400  
email: [baikunth@unimelb.edu.au](mailto:baikunth@unimelb.edu.au)  
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**Treasurer - Paul Lochert** 9802 4628  
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**Vacant**

**Ex-Officio – Patrick Tobin** 9953 3199  
email: [Patrick.Tobin@acu.edu.au](mailto:Patrick.Tobin@acu.edu.au)

Committee meetings are generally held the third Wednesday of each month, immediately prior to the general lecture meeting.

Where: RMIT Access Grid Room. Building 8, Level 9, Room 66

[\(Google maps\)](#)

Time: 4pm – 6pm

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## Meeting Schedule and Location

In general, meetings are held the third Wednesday of each month.

Where: RMIT Access Grid Room. Building 8, Level 9, Room 66

[\(Google maps\)](#)

Time: 6pm – 7pm

Meetings:  
TBA

**The AUSTRALIAN SOCIETY for  
OPERATIONS RESEARCH Inc.  
MELBOURNE CHAPTER**

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**Print Post Approved - Publication No.  
PP325032/00019**