

OBITUARY



Prof. M C Puri (1939-2005)

In the last issue, we reported a sad news of a terrorist attack during the conference dinner of the Indian OR society which was being held at the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, India.

In this attack Prof. M. C. Puri, a well-known OR scientist, was killed. This has come as a shock to the whole scientific community and specially the OR and optimization community in India. Professor Puri and several other delegates were going toward the lawn of the conference dinner of the Annual conference of the Indian OR Society. When they were attacked Professor Puri helped others to lie down fast and thus saving their lives while giving up his own.

Professor M.C. Puri was born on 15th August, 1939 in Delhi. He completed his B.Sc (Hons.) Mathematics in 1960 from Hansraj College, University of Delhi, followed by M.Sc. Mathematics in 1962 with first position in the University of Delhi. Professor Puri subsequently obtained a doctorate degree in Operations Research in 1972 from Delhi University under the guidance of Professor Kanti Swarup.

Professor Puri served at Hansraj College till 1984 and he was also engaged in post graduate teaching at University of Delhi. He then joined the Indian institute of Technology, Delhi where he served till 2004. He was appointed as Emeritus Fellow of IITD from July 1, 2002 to June 30, 2004.

Professor Puri was engaged in multifarious academic activities during his career. As a guide, he supervised thirteen Ph.D. theses,

nine M.Phil dissertations, six M.Tech. projects and eleven M.Sc. projects. He also authored many research articles in various journals of international repute. He has widely published in the main stream OR literature.

He was a life member of the Operational Research Society of India (ORSI) and a member of Working Group of Generalized Convexity and Monotonicity (WGGCM) comprising of members from forty four countries with an interest in generalizations of the classical concept of a convex function and monotonicity and its role in areas such as mathematical programming, management science, engineering, applied mathematics and statistics. Prof Puri was one of the founder members of the Mathematical Programming Group, (MPG) started by retired Professor R.N. Kaul, Department of Mathematics, University of Delhi in 1972.

Professor Puri was a gem of a human being, and was deeply respected and loved by everyone who interacted with him. He was a very humble and modest person who always loved and encouraged his colleagues and students (who were very dear to him) to perform their best in every field, especially in the field of academics.

The sudden demise of Professor Puri is a great loss not only to his family, students and colleagues but also to the entire Operations Research Community of India and abroad. For further on Prof. Puri, visit <http://www.mcpuri.com/>

CALL FOR PAPERS

2006 DEFENCE OPERATIONS RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM

Australian Defence Force Academy, Canberra, ACT

26 - 28 September 2006

Our theme is "Solving the problem right," building upon the "Solving the Right Problem" theme of DORS 2005. A subtext to the theme is "Supporting the Capability Lifecycle". Within the Australian Defence Organisation this lifecycle is articulated as "Needs - Requirements - Acquisition - In-service - Disposal". At each of these phases the customer and the methodology may change, furthermore the problem complexity may increase or decrease. DORS 2006 aims to explore these ideas further.

DORS 2006 is seeking papers from all areas related to the applications of OR techniques to solving defence problems and the introduction of new techniques for military OR. The DORS 2006 Committee wish to encourage papers indicating the actual or potential means by which Operations Research can be used under the theme "Solving the problem right". Case studies describing experiences and lessons learned are particularly welcome.

Presentations can be at RESTRICTED level. The classification of the abstracts and the presentations will need to be provided. Presenters will have 20 minutes in which to introduce their key points. DORS 2006 will also include a poster session to provide poster presentations and a technology

demonstration session to facilitate practical demonstration of tools, simulations etc.

Submissions should consist of an extended abstract detailing the contents of the intended methods of presentation (oral, poster, or demonstration). All submissions should be made electronically if possible, in MS Word or Adobe Acrobat format, to Dr Andrew Au (email: andrew.au@dsto.defence.gov.au). Further details will soon be available at the DORS 2006 website where a template for submission can be found.

Important Dates

- 28 July 2006 - Abstract submission deadline
- 11 August 2006 - Notification of acceptance
- 8 September 2006 - Presentation submission deadline
- 26 - 28 September 2006 - DORS 2006

For information regarding DORS 2006, please contact Mr Jamie Watson. (email: Jamie.watson3@defence.gov.au, phone: (02) 6265 1528)

Forthcoming Conferences

EUROPT: EURO Working Group on Continuous Optimization
<http://www.iam.metu.edu.tr/EUROPT/>

The goal of EUROPT is to promote and to facilitate communication links among European (and other) researchers working in areas of continuous optimization. EUROPT was established with numerous founding members at a satellite meeting of the *EURO XVII Conference* in Budapest, July 16-19, 2000.

ISS2006: The International Symposium on Scheduling 2006
July 18-20, 2006, Tokyo, Japan
Homepage:
<http://www.se.uec.ac.jp/iss2006/index.html>

INFORMS Teaching of Management Science Workshop 2006, July 13-16 San Francisco State University,
<http://www.informs.org/Edu/TMSWorkshop/TMS05/index.htm>

ICOQM-VII: Seventh International Conference on Operations and Quantitative Management
Jaipur, The Pink City of India
August 3 -5, 2006

Conference Web site:
www.aims-international.org/icoqm7

DEA Conference, Bath, UK
September 2006

The 48th Annual Conference of Operational Research Society will be held at Bath, UK, in September 2006. Bath is one of the great European cities and a UNESCO World Heritage Site, offering an extraordinary historical perspective and world famous architecture.

Paper submission:
http://www.orsoc.org.uk/conference/papersubmission/conference_submit.asp?cid=7

Further information:
<http://www.DEAzone.com/DEAatOR48/index2.htm>

ICNAAM 2006: International Conference of Numerical Analysis And Applied Mathematics 2006,
Hotel Belvedere Imperial, Hersonnisos, Crete, Greece,
15-19 September 2006.
URL address: <http://www.icnaam.org/>

IEEE/SSSM'06: IEEE International Conference on Service Systems and Service Management, Troyes, FRANCE, October 25-27, 2006.
<http://www.utt.fr/ieee-sssm06/>

ICAIET-2006: 3rd International Conference on Artificial Intelligence in Engineering and Technology,
Kota Kinabalu, Sabah, Malaysia on 22-24 November 2006
<http://kinabalu.ums.edu.my/icaiet>

CIMCA2006: International Conference on Computational Intelligence for Modelling, Control and Automation
28 November to 1 December 2006
Sydney, Australia
<http://www.ise.canberra.edu.au/conferences/cimca06/>

INFORMS Future Meetings:

INFORMS International Hong Kong 2006, Sheraton Hong Kong Hotel & Towers, Hong Kong, China, June 25-28, 2006

INFORMS Annual Meeting 2006, Pittsburgh Convention Center and Westin Convention Center Hotel, Pittsburgh, PA, November 5-8, 2006

INFORMS Practice Conference, Spring 2007, Dates & location to be announced

INFORMS International Puerto Rico 2007, Westin Rio Mar Beach Resort & Spa, Rio Grande, Puerto Rico, July 8-11, 2007

INFORMS Annual Meeting 2007, Washington State Convention & Trade Center and Sheraton Seattle, Seattle, WA, November 4-7, 2007

ASOR Executives and Representatives for 2006-2007

The election of office bearers and members of the national council and ASOR representatives for the term 2006-2007 were held on 1st September 2005 during the national council meeting (by telephone hook-up). The list of elected persons is reported below for ASOR members.

Office Bearers and Members of the National Council

- President: Baikunth Nath
- Vice President Administration: Santosh Kumar
- Vice President Education: Moshe Sneidovich
- Treasurer: Kaye Marion
- Bulletin Editor: Ruhul Sarker

ASOR Representatives:

- APORS – Erhan Kozan, with Dudley Foster as alternate
- IFORS – Charles Pearce
- AMSC – Paul Gaertner
- FASTS – Paul Gaertner
- Public Officer – Phil Kilby

Other positions

- APJOR Associate-editors – Santosh Kumar, Erhan Kozan, Charles Pearce
- International Abstracts – Erhan Kozan
- APORS nominated V/P IFORS – Moshe Sneidovich