

ATENEO TOPS SIXTH OR QUIZ

The Ateneo de Manila University bagged its third OR Quiz title in the 6th Inter-Collegiate OR Quiz held last February 24 at the National Institute of Geological Science Conference Room in UP Diliman. De La Salle University took its fifth 2nd place finish, while UP Diliman landed on the 3rd place. The champion team, coached by Mr. Juanito Claro Mercado, was composed of Management Engineering students Ramon Chito F. Ramos, Christine Y. Yeh, and Benedict L. Chan.

Selected students from Mapua, UP Los Baños, and the University of Santo Tomas also participated in the contest. The Board of Judges was composed of Dr. Elvie Zamora of the UP Department of Business Administration, Dr. Alexander Hipolito and Dr. Cesar Tapia, both of the UP Math Department. Incidentally, Dr. Zamora is current president of the ORSP Board, while Dr. Hipolito is one of the directors.

First Student Congress on OR/MS Held



The First Student Congress on OR/MS, a joint activity of the ORSP and the Federation of ORSP Student Chapters, took place last February 24 at the Conference Room of the National Institute of Geological Science in UP Diliman. It was attended by 120 students from eight schools, namely, Adamson University, Ateneo de Manila University, Central Colleges of the Philippines, De La Salle University, Mapua Institute of Technology, New Era College, University of Santo Tomas, and UP Los Baños.

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING SET FOR MAY 4

The 1996 ORSP General Membership Meeting will be held on Saturday, May 4 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon at Room 104 of the UP College of Business Administration, Diliman, Quezon City.

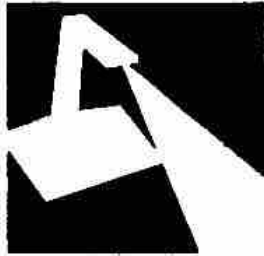
This year's meeting is particularly important because the seven members of the incoming Board will be elected, the Board which will lead the Society in its tenth year anniversary next year.

Two special lectures will highlight the meeting: "An OR/MS Guide to the Internet" by Dr. Alexander Hipolito, and "The Teaching of OR in the Philippines" by Dr. Elvie Zamora. Dr. Hipolito is a new member of the ORSP Board and a sought-after lecturer and consultant in OR and computer technologies. He will give a live demonstration of how OR/MS sites in the Net can be accessed and utilized. Dr. Zamora, on the other hand, is current ORSP president and chairperson of the UP Department of Business Administration.

The outgoing Board, led by president Dr. Zamora and treasurer Mr. Edwin Pineda, will report on the accomplishments and financial activities of the past year.

Two former ORSP officers gave separate lectures. Ms. Nida Africa, former ORSP VP and current president of the East Asia Institute of Computer Technology, discussed possible career opportunities in OR/MS. Mr. Manny Agustin, former ORSP president and current AVP and manager of the OR Department of the San Miguel Brewery Group, discussed how OR is applied in industry, particularly at the SMC.

The congress was organized with the objectives of presenting to the students the business application of OR/MS and inspiring them to enter the field.



ICORMS- ICORD '97

The second International Conference on OR/MS (ICORMS) will be held in Manila in November 1997, practically seven years after the first one was held here in December 1990. As in the first ICORMS, the ORSP will again be behind the 1997 event.

The forthcoming conference will coincide with the International Conference on OR in Development (ICORD), an activity of the International Federation of OR Societies (IFORS). The joint activity will be officially known as ICORMS-ICORD '97, and will carry the theme "OR in Development".

Eight committees have been formed for this major event. The corresponding committee chairs have

also been named:

Solicitation and Finance Speakers	Elvie Zamora, Rey Chang, Elise del Rosario, Roberto Asuncion;
Programming, Venue, Accommodation and Social Activities	Noel Mojica, Edwin Pineda, Eileen Monton;
Technical	Cesar Tapia, Mary Ann Capistrano;
Registration and Crowd Control	Mar Castano, Bong Nuqui;
Convention Kit and Tokens	Samuel Cruz, Maida Tobias;
Invitation, PR, and Communications	Samuel Cruz, Alexander Hipolito, Marilyn Mabini;
Ceremonies	Manny Agustin, Virgilio Conti.

The overall convention chair is Dr. Elvie Zamora. The committee chairs are now seeking volunteers from the ORSP membership.

Elections to ORSP Board

1996 is ORSP Board election year. The following nominations have been received: Dr. Cleta Milagros L. Acebedo (De La Salle University); Dr. Roberto M. Asuncion (Interpharma Holdings and Management Corp.); Prof. Mary Ann Vistro-Capistrano (Ateneo de Manila University); Virgilio C. Conti (RFM Corp.); Samuel B. Cruz (San Miguel Corp.); Dr. Aura Castillo-Matias (National Engineering Center); Edwin S. Pineda (University of Asia and the Pacific); Dr. Cesar G. Tapia (University of the Philippines); Lauro S. de Vera (Philippine Long Distance Telephone Co.); and Dr. Olegario G. Villoria, Jr. (National Center for Transportation Studies).

Seven of the above candidates will be in the next ORSP Board, the one which will lead the Society from 1996 to 1998. The elections will coincide

with the General Membership Meeting on May 4. Members who are unable to attend the meeting are expected to have faxed their accomplished ballots by that time. The official ballots and the list of candidates had earlier been mailed to the members.

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES

Seventh International Symposium on Locational Decisions, June 26 - July 3, 1996, Edmonton, Alberta;

IFORS '96 - XIV World Conference on Operational Research, July 8-12, 1996, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada;

International Conference: Simulation, Gaming, Training, and Business Process Reengineering in Operations, September 19-21, 1996, Riga, Latvia;

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IFORS news

Plans and Programs for Developing Countries

(The following is an excerpt from "Notes from the Coordinator," a column in the January 1996 issue of Direct Connection to Developing Countries - The Newsletter for Operational Research in Developing Countries. Column writer and former ORSP president Ms. Elise del Rosario coordinates the Developing Countries Committee of IFORS. -Ed.)



"The Committee has been very busy planning out activities with the end in mind of furthering the teaching and practice of operations research in developing countries."

Committee Plans and Programs

After a long absence, this newsletter will hope to pick up where we last left off. We would also like to see it signaling that a "direct connection" from you to the Developing Countries Committee is once again available. The Committee has been very busy planning out activities with the end in mind of furthering the teaching and practice of operations research in developing countries. They are:

1. IFORS Prize for OR in Development

The 1996 IFORS Triennial Conference to be held in Vancouver will once again bring to the fore applications of Operations Research in developing countries as they compete for the IFORS Prize for OR in Development (new name for the Third World Prize). Prof. Jonathan Rosenhead of the London School of Economics has agreed to chair this activity.

2. International Conference on Operational Research In Developing Countries.

Talks are ongoing to hold this in conjunction with the International Conference on Operational Research on OR/MS (ICORMS) last held in Manila in 1990. The next ICORMS will be held in 1997. (Proposals for other venues and locations are still open).

The first ICORD, on the other hand, was last held in 1992 in Ahmedabad, India. Being the first ever specialized conference dedicated solely to OR in developing countries, it generated a broad range of insights and proposals that address the various OR practice problems that beset developing countries.

One significant output was the adoption of the IFORS Policy Development on Operational Research which led to several recommendations for future action. It called on IFORS to make a sustained endeavor to use its international status and respect to secure a range of sources to support the development of OR in developing countries.

"This is a preliminary list of programs on which you are welcome to air your opinions or better still volunteer for. Your inputs will be very valuable."

3. Teacher's Workshop

As a step towards this undertaking, the joint ICORD-ICORMS Conference will hopefully feature a Teacher's Workshop concerned with appropriate training for applied OR, with particular emphasis on the developing countries. This workshop will work for the development of teaching methods and approaches designed to hopefully create a new future for applied OR in developing countries. A portion of the tutorials on teaching OR being organized by Steve Powell, Peter Bell and Andres Weintraub for the IFORS Vancouver Conference is being considered at the time this article is being written.

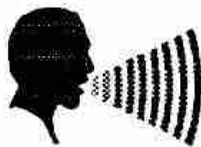
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IFORS news (from p.3)**4. Survey**

An adaptation of the previous OR Education Survey to industry, the DC-OR practice survey will serve to determine the state of OR practice among developing countries. The objective is to identify common problems that would suggest high-impact programs that the committee can undertake within or beyond the next three years.

5. Government Liaison

The challenge of promoting OR usage in the government sector will require a broad range of actions aimed at initiating activities towards the goal of assisting governments, however indirectly, tackle issues of development. State run universities could be made the major contact with the governments, thus facilitating coordination of jobs.

**Announcements**

Please remember to accomplish the Membership Renewal Form which was earlier mailed to you, and send it to the ORSP Secretariat at the SMC OR Department, 40 San Miguel Avenue, Mandaluyong City. Details on the payment of the membership fee are found on the same Form. Members who applied within the last 6 months are not required to pay the fee, however.

The ICORMS-ICORD '97 committees are in need of volunteers. You may inquire from the overall convention chair Dr. Elvie Zamora at tel. no. 928-4572, or at the following email address: elvira@mnl.sequel.net. Take part in the preparations for this very important event. Be a committee member.

We need more newsletter articles. Any significant OR news (local or International), announcements, views, and the like may be sent to Dr. Marilyn Mabini, telefax no. 731-4041, email: mcmabini@ustcc.ust.edu.ph.

6. CEO Programs

As noted by the ORSP survey, there is a lack of awareness among top management in the usefulness of OR as a management tool. In order to increase the awareness of OR by CEOs, this program will seek to acquaint CEOs with OR tools through the implementation of packaged programs by contact persons from member countries. Training materials included in this package may include video tapes, exhibits, presentations of successful OR applications (e.g., past winners of IFORS Prize for OR in Development). This will be sold as a benefit of IFORS membership.

Support may come in the form of materials to be provided at cost or at best free of charge, complete with speakers in the particular field of interest (e.g., banking, manufacturing, utilities).

This is a preliminary list of programs on which you are welcome to air your opinions or better still volunteer for. Your inputs will be very valuable.

Elise A. del Rosario

INTERNATIONAL . . . (from p. 2)

13th International Conference on Multi Criteria Decision-Making, January 6-10, 1997, Cape Town, South Africa;

Conference on Transition to Advanced Market Institutions and Economies: Systems and Operations Research Challenges, June 18-21, 1997, Warsaw, Poland

For particulars, please contact Marilyn Mabini, ORSP Newsletter editor, telefax no. 731-4041; email: mcmabini@ustcc.ust.edu.ph.

ORSP Newsletter

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