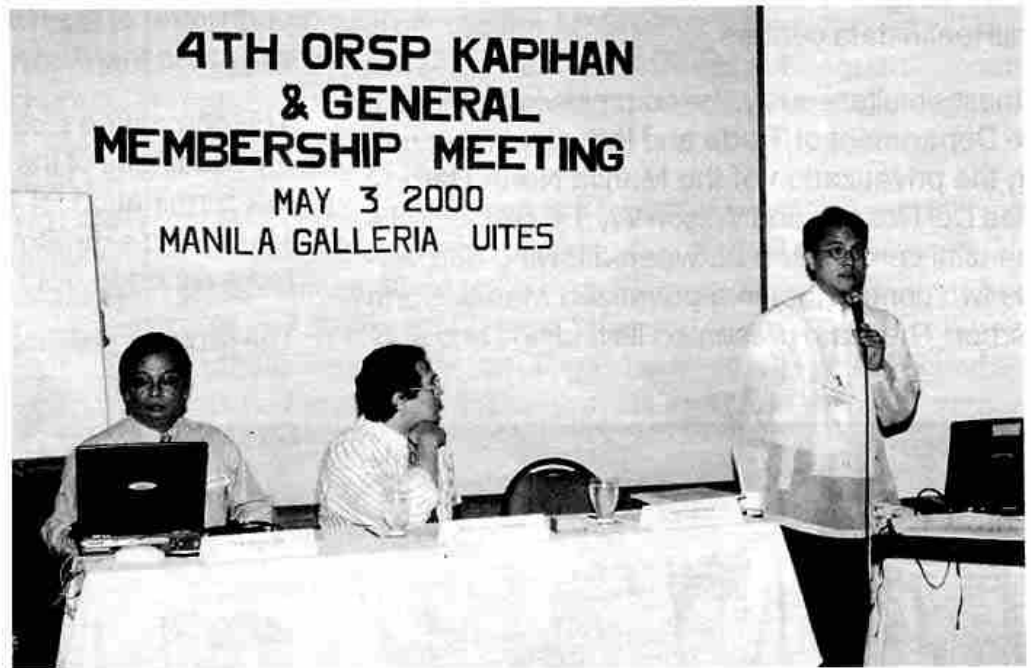# Beng Hui Heads New Board

We have a new and bigger Board of Directors.

In its General Membership meeting last May 3 at the Galleria Suites, the ORSP voted to increase the number of Board members from 7 to 9 to address the society's growing activities. The body subsequently elected the new Board who will serve from 2000 to 2002. Newly-installed directors are outgoing President Wilson Wy Tiu, Leo Villarosa of M-Stone, Juanito Claro Mercado of Skycable, Emmanuel Macalalag of San Miguel, Ruby Henson of Holy Angel University, Anna Bella Manalang of De La Salle, Vicente Reventar III of Software Ventures, Rizaldy Capulong of SSS, and Dennis Beng Hui of De La Salle.

The Gen-Meet also featured lectures by Reventar, Capulong, and former ORSP Director Edwin Pineda of the UAP. Reventar and Capulong talked about OR applications in financial investments and the SSS, respectively, while Pineda spoke on "OR and Ethics in the Capital Market".

4TH ORSP KAPIHAN & GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING
MAY 3 2000
MANILA GALLERIA UITES

Rizaldy Capulong presents at the 2000 GenMeet, as fellow speakers Vic Reventar and Edwin Pineda listen.

The new Board, in its first meeting, elected Beng Hui as President. Mercado remains Vice President while Villarosa and Capulong are Treasurer and Secretary, respectively. Officer positions are effective for one year, after which the Board elects a new set. The Board is now planning the new officers' induction ceremonies.

Dennis Beng Hui

ORSP Corps Takes Off !

The third OR Kapihan held on November 24 at SMC's Executive Dining Room saw the birth of the ORSP Committee on OR for Public Service, or the ORSP Corps. At the meeting, ORSP Corps Chair Elise del Rosario warned that the new committee may become ORSP Corpse if members do not put in the energy needed to sustain its mission.

ORSP COMMITTEE on OR for PUBLIC SERVICE

Its first six months show, however, that ORSP Corps is far from this danger. More work than was forecast was accomplished faster than planned. Soon after its launch, ORSP Corps worked on several MOA drafts with various government agencies. Initially, it monitored and reviewed a project by graduating Ateneo students which sought to recommend best locations for PhilHealth data centers.

Almost simultaneously, the committee worked with the Department of Trade and Industry in evaluating the privatization of the Manila North Harbor. Elise Del Rosario and Wilson Wy Tiu conducted a financial comparison between allowing one versus two contractors in a privatized Manila North Harbor. The team presented its findings and sub-

mitted its report to the Philippine Ports Authority Board composed of NEDA Sec. Felipe Medalla, DOTC Sec. Vicente Rivera Jr, and PPA GM Juan Pena, among others. A second presentation was made to DTI Sec. Manuel Roxas III who, in a succeeding press conference, mentioned the results of the study as "coming from the operations research advisory group." A full-page newspaper open letter of the Coalition of Ports Modernization also cited the study.

The committee's second major project evaluated the readiness of the Bureau of Customs in view of the termination of SGS services by the end of March. Elise del Rosario and JC Mercado submitted a report to both DTI and BOC on this output.

The group is presently involved as a study group of the Economic Mobilization Group, which provides inputs to the Economic Coordination Council. This engagement reviews BOC processes in the light of private sector concerns on the impact of World Trade Organization (WTO) agreements which have rendered pre-shipment inspections (PSIs) unnecessary. The study aims to provide constructive suggestions to optimize BOC processes, considering the the gap left by SGS's exit. Del Rosario, Mercado, and incoming ORSP President Dennis Beng Hui are in this project team.

DTI Usec Ernesto Ordonez attended the last ORSP GenMeet to express his appreciation for the ORSP-Corps' efforts Here, NCC Dir-Gen Seneres, JC Mercado, Elise del Rosario, and Wilson Wy Tiu pose with Usec Ordonez.

ORSP Corps ... (Cont)

Other projects are just awaiting the go-signal. A study that validates national productivity indices for the NEDA, commissioned by Sec. Medalla, is being looked at by a project team led by Beng Manalang. Two separate MOUs are waiting to be signed with DOLE and the Bureau of Immigration and Deportation (BID). In these projects, ORSP hopes to help in the delivery of services to the citizenry. Problems that ORSP will help answer, for instance, are the location of the Public Employment Service Offices (PESOs) for DOLE, and speeding up visa issuance at the BID.

With so much happening in this front, ORSP hopes to fulfill soon its vision for a major OR role in nation building.

ORSP Launches New Website

ORSP's new website, put up through the efforts of JC Mercado, is now ready for access at **http://www.orsp.org.ph**. It features the society's Vision and Mission, a write-up on the ORSP-Corps, current board members, and an online membership form that is automatically submitted to the ORSP Secretariat. The site will soon include ORSP's schedule of activities, a page for student chapters, and links to other OR sites of interest. Among plans being drawn are the Newsletter section and a utility to allow members to update their personal info online. ORSP Board Member

www.orsp.org.ph

Rizaldy Capulong has graciously accepted the role of webmaster for the site.

The site was formally launched during the General Membership meeting on May 3. Comments and suggestions will be greatly appreciated at orsp-webmaster@skyinet.net

ORSP Asked to Host 2006 APORS Conference

In its meeting during the 5th Asia Pacific Operations Research Societies (APORS) conference in Singapore, the APORS Council gave initial approval to ORSP's hosting of the 2006 7th APORS Conference in Manila. The decision will be confirmed when the council meets during the next APORS Conference in India in December 2003. As host of the 2006 event, the ORSP was offered the APORS Vice Presidency for 2001-2003 by the council. The ORSP Board subsequently nominated Dr. Emmanuel Macalalag, who represented the society in the Singapore meeting, to the APORS position.

The APORS Conference is a triennial event that attracts OR specialists in the Asia Pacific region as well as renowned OR personalities worldwide. The Singapore APORS 2000 last July 5-7 featured plenary talks by experts like Toshihide Ibaraki, Stavros Zenios, Ric Rosenthal, Seigfried Schaible, Moshe Sniedovich, Bruce Craven, and M.J.D. Powell, among others.

JC Mercado to Attend ORSJ Conference

The ORSP Board has chosen JC Mercado to represent the Philippines in the Fall Annual Conference of the OR Society of Japan (ORSJ). Mercado will present a paper entitled "Network Design for a Multi-POP ISP" at the conference to be held at the Tokyo Institute of Technology on September 27-28, 2000. Mercado's travel, conference, and hotel expenses will be covered by ORSJ. He may also visit some universities or institutes before or after the conference.

Since 1998, ORSJ has been soliciting nominations from APORS countries for young (under 40) OR researchers to attend its annual conference. ORSJ has expressed plans to continue this activity for several years more. Those interested for future nominations may e-mail Noli Macalalag thru the ORSP Secretariat.

UP-Diliman Wins 10th OR Quiz

University of the Philippines-Diliman won the 2000 Inter-University OR Quiz held at the National Computer Center (NCC) last March 11. Ateneo de Manila University and De La Salle University took second and third places, respectively.

This year's quiz, ORSP's tenth, was co-sponsored by AMA College through the efforts of Ms. Aileen Zalameda of AMA's ORSP chapter. Top schools from Metro Manila, including Adamson University, AMA Computer College, Ateneo, De La Salle, Mapua Institute of Technology, UP-Diliman, and University of Santo Tomas, continued their participation in the exciting event.

NCC Director-General Ike Seneres later awarded the winners' prizes at the ORSP General Membership Meeting.

After 13 years ... ORSP Finds A Permanent Home

February 1, 2000 marks a significant milestone in ORSP history. Exactly 13 years after the ratification of its Constitution, ORSP found a permanent home at the ground floor of the National Computer Center at UP Diliman along C. P. Garcia Avenue. This was made possible by the generous offer of National Computer Center Director General Ike Seneres, through representations by ORSP Treasurer Leo Villarosa, past president Wilson Wy Tiu and ORSP Corps Chair Elise del Rosario. In the past, ORSP office was located where the current ORSP President was. Thus, it had been housed at the NCC (when Bill Torres was President), San Miguel, PLDT, and UP.

For his part, DG Seneres sees the physical presence of the ORSP at NCC as an opportunity to tap OR talent towards NCC's goal of using IT to propel development in the new millennium. He also hopes that ORSP will assist in giving substance to Executive Order 165 which directs the formulation of an Institutional Strengthening and Streamlining program for the Executive Branch. He is looking at ORSP participation in the Presidential Committee on Effective Governance composed of the Executive Secretary, Secretary of Budget and Management, NEDA Director General, Chairman of the Civil Service Commission, Secretary of Finance, Presidential Management Staff.
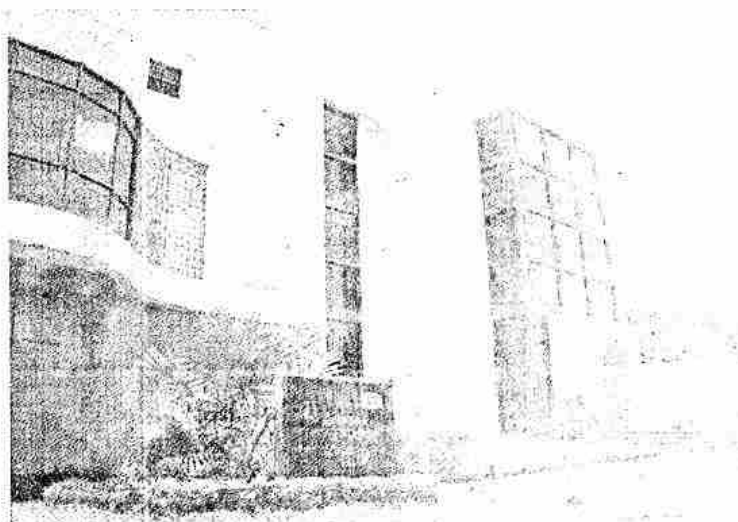
NCC has allowed ORSP use of three tables, two computer chairs and a filing cabinet, apart from the fax, phone line and e-mail facilities. A PC and printer were donated by SMC through its Senior VP Bert Manlapit. Elise del Rosario also donated a computer chair and two desk sets, while Leo Villarosa provided the telephone handset being used in the office.

For inquiries, or if you just wish to visit, here's our new address:

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UP Diliman, Quezon City 1101
E-mail: orsp@ncc.gov. or
orsp@yahoo.com

Telephone: (632) 920-0101
loc153
Fax: (632) 920-7444

ORSP's new home - the NCC Building along CP Garcia Avenue, UP-Diliman