

# International Society on MCDM

## E- News



Issue 02/1, December 2002

<http://www.terry.uga.edu/mcdm>

Welcome to the 1<sup>st</sup> E-Newsletter of the International Society on MCDM. We would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a happy and peaceful time at Christmas and an enjoyable and rewarding New Year.

*Valerie Belton, President of the MCDM Society*

### Newsletters – Past and Future

Firstly, I am sure that all Society members would wish to join the Executive Committee in recording an enormous "Thank You" to Ralph Steuer for many years of hard work editing and distributing MCDM WorldScan. Ralph indicated earlier in the year that he felt the time for him to give up editing WorldScan had arrived.

WorldScan is a key means through which members of the Society can keep in touch with each other and happenings in the MCDM world. We are extremely grateful to Ralph for the energy and enthusiasm he brought to this, and to the Terry College of Business, University of Georgia (USA), for their financial support, which together have made this possible and successful.

Whilst we are delighted to welcome you to the first E-Newsletter, we would like to make it clear that it has not been decided that it should replace WorldScan – this is a matter for the Society's members to discuss. Clearly there is a multiple criteria decision to be made. Should we go electronic? Retain the printed WorldScan? Try to operate both? What are your views? Please email them to [val@mansci.strath.ac.uk](mailto:val@mansci.strath.ac.uk).

Whatever form the newsletter, or newsletters, take for the future – we need an Editor, or two! Is there any budding or suppressed editorial talent amongst our members? If you would welcome the opportunity to exercise your journalistic talent, please get in touch.

We plan to send out a short E-Newsletter 2 or 3 times a year (or more often if we receive more news). Please let us know of any newsworthy items.

### Conferences – Future and Past

#### Future MCDM Conferences

The **next MCDM Conference** will be hosted in summer (northern hemisphere) 2004, by Bill Wedley at Simon Fraser University in Vancouver. The exact venue and dates are currently being finalized – we will email this information to everyone early in the New Year.

We are also in the process of discussion with Kostas Zopounidis of the Technical University of Crete in Chania, with a view to their hosting the conference there in the **summer of 2006**.

## First MCDM Winter Conference, February 2002 – Semmering, Austria

Firstly, another big "Thank You" – this time to Rudolf Vetschera and Mikulas Luptacik for an MCDM "1<sup>st</sup>" – the organization of a very enjoyable and successful Winter Conference held in Semmering earlier this year. Unfortunately (or fortunately, depending on your perspective) it was not as wintry as it might have been – nevertheless, many of the 99 delegates from 31 countries found somewhere to ski and the rest of us enjoyed the views, the food and the sauna! Lapland next time?

Those of you who were not at the Conference may not yet know of the honours which were bestowed. Professor Jaap Spronk was awarded the **MCDM Gold Medal** and Professor Masatoshi Sakawa was awarded the **Georg Cantor Award**.

Congratulations to both Jaap and Masatoshi!

The **Wiley Prize** for the best application paper presented at the conference was hotly contested and the judges faced a very difficult decision. Finally it was decided that two awards should be made, to Matthias Ehrgott (New Zealand) and to Ali Sharifi (The Netherlands) and his co-authors W. H. van den Toorn, A. Rico and M. Emmanuel.

These four papers (the medallists and the prize winners) will be published as a special issue of the Journal of Multicriteria Decision Analysis.

Three **special issues of journals** are to be published from selected papers presented during the conference:

- On **Group Decision and Negotiation Support and Applications** at CEJOR (Central European Journal of Operations Research) – guest editors: Gregory Kersten and Rudolf Vetschera.
- On **Methodological Foundations of MCDM** at EJOR (European Journal of Operational Research) – guest editors: Wlodzimierz Ogryczak and Rudolf Vetschera.
- On **Applications of MCDM** at JMCDM (Journal of Multi-Criteria Decision Analysis) – guest editors: Matthias Ehrgott and Mikulas Luptacik.

Finally, a list of participants and details about the conference is at: <http://orgwww.bwl.univie.ac.at/mcdm2002>

## Other Meetings Next Year

- **Second International Conference on Evolutionary Multi-Criterion Optimization (EMO 2003)** – Faro, Portugal, 8-11 April, 2003. See details at: <http://conferences.ptrede.com/emo03/main.py/index>
- **EURO/INFORMS Joint International Conference**, Istanbul, Turkey, 6-10 July, 2003. The deadline for submitting abstract is January 15. See details at: <http://www.istanbul2003.org/>

The European Special Interest Group on Multicriteria Analysis (ESIGMA) is organizing a cluster of sessions culminating in an oriented discussion session on Integrated MCDA in Practice. Contact Theo Stewart ([tjstew@stats.uct.ac.za](mailto:tjstew@stats.uct.ac.za)) for more information, particularly if you would still like to participate in this session.

- **57<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Euro Working Group on MCDA**, Viterbo, Italy, March 27-28, 2003. Theme: "MCDA and economical evaluation of environment". Organizer: A. Scarelli ([scarelli@unitus.it](mailto:scarelli@unitus.it))
- The **Eight International Summer School on Multicriteria Decision Aid** will be held at GERAD, Montreal, Québec, Canada, 22 May - 6 June 2003. Contact: Jean-Philippe Waub, GERAD ([waaub.jp@uqam.ca](mailto:waaub.jp@uqam.ca)).

## Executive Committee

### Election - Results

Four new members of the Executive Committee were elected this year. The electronic voting had 9 candidates, and every member of the Society could make their choice in the website designed for the election.

There were 376 valid votes, which elected: Jyrki Wallenius (211 votes), Carlos Romero (196), Joao Climaco (150), and Matthias Ehrgott (142). Welcome on board! Thanks for the other candidates and for those that voted.

Full information on the Executive Committee can be found on the Society website [www.terry.uga.edu/mcdm](http://www.terry.uga.edu/mcdm)

## Useful Information on MCDM

### New Books on MCDM (published in 2002)

- **Aiding Decisions with Multiple Criteria: Essays in Honor of Bernard Roy**, by Denis Bouyssou, Eric Jacquet-Lagrèze, Patrice Perny, Roman Slowinski, Daniel Vanderpooten, Philippe Vincke (eds) -, (Kluwer Academic Press)
- **Evolutionary Algorithms for Solving Multi-Objective Problems**, by Carlos A. Coello Coello, David A. Van Veldhuizen, Gary B. Lamont (Kluwer Academic Press).
- **Multicriteria Decision Aid Classification Methods**, by M. Doumpos, C. Zopounidis (Kluwer Academic Press)
- **Fuzzy Reasoning in Decision Making and Optimization**, by Carlsson, C.; Fuller, R. (Springer)
- **Multiobjective Optimisation and Control**, by G.P. Liu, J.B. Yang, J.F. Whidborne (Research Studies Press)
- **Multiple Criteria Decision Analysis: An Integrated Approach**, by V. Belton, T. J. Stewart (Kluwer Academic Press)
- **Multiple Criteria Optimization: State of the Art Annotated Bibliographic Survey** by M. Ehrgott and X. Gandibleux (Editors) (Kluwer Academic Press)
- **Multicriteria Scheduling Theory, Models and Algorithms**, by Vincent T'kindt, Jean-Charles Billaut (Springer)
- **Optimisation multiobjective**, by Yann Collete, Patrick Siarry (Eyrolles)
- **PROMETHEE-GAIA. Une méthodologie d'aide à la décision en présence de critères multiples**, by Jean-Pierre Brans, Bertrand Mareschal (Editions Ellipses)

(Apologies to any authors whose book we may have inadvertently omitted)

### Other Sources of Information

- A database on MCDM references has been developed by Vincent Mousseau. With 2400 bibtex entries it is a good source for research (at <http://www.lamsade.dauphine.fr/mcda/biblio/> ).
- The latest Newsletter of the Euro Working Group on MCDA is full of interesting information, including a debate about Robustness Analysis by Bernard Roy and Jonathan Rosenhead. It can be download at: <http://www.inescc.pt/~ewgmcda/Newsletter.html>.

This E-Newsletter was compiled by Valerie Belton and Gilberto Montibeller