

# International Society on MCDM

## E- News

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Issue 03/1, December 2003

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

*Valerie Belton, President of the MCDM Society*

We hope that you have all had a rewarding year and have gleaned lots of new and interesting ideas from conferences attended and conversations with colleagues. As we in the north shiver through winter (thinking enviously of colleagues enjoying their summer in the southern hemisphere) we can start to dream of reunions in the sun next year – at the EURO Conference in Greece in July, at our own MCDM Conference in Whistler, Vancouver, in August, and the many other opportunities to meet and discuss multicriteria matters.

We wish you all a very happy Christmas-time, a relaxing holiday and a fruitful year ahead.

### General News

#### Looking for an Editor

We are still looking for editors, both for the electronic Newsletter and for WorldScan. If you would welcome the opportunity to exercise your journalistic talent please get in touch.

### Future Conferences, Meetings and Call for Papers

#### Call for Papers - 17th International MCDM Conference, 2004 Vancouver, Canada, August 6-11, 2004

As you are already aware, the **next MCDM Conference** will be hosted by Bill Wedley at Simon Fraser University in Vancouver. Full details on the conference can be found on the website at: <http://www.bus.sfu.ca/events/mcdm>.

***The deadline for submission of abstracts is 15 January 2004 – so if you haven't submitted yours already now is the time to start thinking about it!***

In addition to submitting a paper yourself, please think about what else you can do to support or promote the conference. For example: can you send a notice about the conference to a specialist mail-list? Can you encourage someone new to participate? Can you raise sponsorship? Can you write an article in a newsletter?

#### Call for Papers - 6th Multi-Objective Programming and Goal Programming

MOPGP'04 will held in the attractive city of Hammamet, Tunisia from 14-16 April, 2004. The

Conference is a forum within which researchers and practitioners, from different disciplines but common interest is in multi-objective analysis, can meet and learn from each other about the recent development in MOP. Details can be found at <http://www.cck.rnu.tn/mopgp04>

The deadline for submission of abstracts is 15 December, 2003.

## **Call for Papers - Multiple Objectives Discrete and Combinatorial Optimization (Special Issue of the Annals of Operations Research)**

Edited by Ehrgott, Figueira and Gandibleux (deadline: Dec. 31, 2003). See details at: <http://www.inescc.fe.uc.pt/~ewgmcda/CallforPapers.html>

## **59th Meeting of the EWG-MCDA, Brest, France, 28-30 April 2004. Theme: "Applications in Banking, Finance and Insurance"**

Organised by Jean-Pierre Barthelemy, Phillippe Lenca and Herve le Borgne. Further information can be found at: <http://www-iasc.enst-bretagne.fr/mcda59/>

## **Conference Reports**

Even though there has not been an MCDM Conference in 2003, there has been much activity within other conferences and working groups. The following is just what we know about ... there must be much more. If you have been at a conference with a significant MCDA component, let us know about it and we'll pass on the news next time.

The **EURO/INFORMS Joint International Conference** held in Istanbul, Turkey (6-10 July, 2003) attracted a large contingent of multi-criteria people amongst the 1500 delegates, presenting in 2 streams and covering a wide range of topics. Related streams in group decision and negotiation, performance measurement, and other areas meant that we were constantly having to choose between several interesting papers – we never made it into the outdoor swimming pool all week!

The **Eighth International Summer School on Multicriteria Decision Aid** was held at GERAD, Montreal, Québec, Canada (26 May - 6 June 2003). Its theme was "Sustainable resources management and concertation: processes and tools".

This event, organized by Jean-Philippe Waub, attracted over 20 "students" who learned from 13 international experts on MCDM. They all look as if they were enjoying themselves in the photographs we've seen.

The **Second International Conference on Evolutionary Multi-Criterion Optimization (EMO 2003)** - Faro, Portugal (8-11 April, 2003) was a successful event, attracting 95 delegates, which tried to forge links with MCDM. Pekka Korhonen (Helsinki School of Economics, Finland) was a keynote speaker and Valerie Belton (Univ. of Strathclyde, Scotland) and Andrzej Jaszkiwicz (Poznan Univ. of Technology, Poland) presented Tutorial Papers. Xavier Gandibleux completed an MCDM quartet.

The **European Working Group on MCDA** met in Viterbo, Italy, for its **57<sup>th</sup> Meeting**, in March, with the theme "MCDA and economical evaluation of environmental goods", and its organiser was A. Scarelli, (University of Tuscia). It met again in October, in Moscow for the 58<sup>th</sup> meeting, organised by Alexey Petrovsky. The theme was "MCDA and Verbal Decision Analysis" (In Memoriam of Oleg I. Larichev).

## Departed Friends

### Oleg Larichev

It was with great sadness that we received the news about the death of Oleg Larichev in January this year. An active member of the MCDM Society, and an outstanding researcher, he has developed an important branch in our field, integrating MCDM with behavioural decision making.

### Freerk Lootsma

Several months later, in May this year, it was with equal shock and sadness that we heard of the sudden death of Freerk Lootsma. Freerk was also an active member of the MCDM community who contributed significantly to the professional development of the field.

Both Oleg and Freerk will be sadly missed by the MCDM community and once again we would like to record our sympathy to their families and friends.

## Useful Information on MCDM

### New Books on MCDM

- **Evolutionary Multi-Criterion Optimization**, by Carlos Fonseca, Peter Fleming, Eckart Zitzler, Kalyanmoy Deb, and Lothar Thiele (eds) – Proceedings of the Second International Conference on EMO 2003 (Springer, Berlin, 2003)
- **Multi-objective Programming and Goal Programming: Theory and Applications** (Advances in Soft Computing S.) by T. Tanaka (Ed.) (Springer Verlag, 2003)
- **Multicriteria Analysis in Engineering: Using the PSI Method with MOVI 1.0**, by Roman B. Statnikov and Joseph B. Matusov (Kluwer Academic Publishers, 2002)
- **Multi-objective Forest Planning (Managing Forest Ecosystems)** by T. Pukkala (Kluwer Academic Publishers, 2002)
- **Evolutionary Algorithms for Single and Multicriteria Design Optimization** (Studies in Fuzziness and Soft Computing) by A. Osyczka (Physica-Verlag, 2001)
- **Multiobjective Optimisation: Principles and Case Studies** by Yann Collette & Patrick Siarry (Springer, 2003)

(Apologies to any author whose book we may have inadvertently omitted. Please contact us at [G.Montibeller@kingston.ac.uk](mailto:G.Montibeller@kingston.ac.uk) about new book releases.)

### Other Sources of Information

- Kaisa Miettinen's website has several interesting links with Operational Research and Multi-Criteria websites (scientific societies, journals, conferences, etc.). See at: <http://www.mit.jyu.fi/miettine/lista.html>
- The website of the EURO Working Group on Multicriteria Decision Aiding has lots of useful information on multi-criteria. See at: <http://www.inescc.pt/~ewgmcda/index.html>
- Vincent Mousseau's database of research publications on MCDA has more than 2400 records, and it is a good source of information. See at: <http://www.lamsade.dauphine.fr/mcda/biblio/>

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