



## MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD AT ELEPHANT HILLS RESORT ON 20 SEPTEMBER 2012

### **Present:**

Please see attached attendance register.

### **Apologies:**

Marthi Harmse, Stephan Visagie, Isabelle Nieuwoudt, Louis Danhauser, Hennie Kruger, Danie Lötter, Jim Cochran, Margarete Bester, Francois Bester and Theo Stewart.

### **1. WELCOME**

The president, Dave Evans, welcomed everyone present.

### **2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: 27 SEPTEMBER 2010**

The minutes were considered read and were approved.

Proposer: Elias Willemse                      Seconder: Hans Ittmann

### **3. MATTERS ARISING**

Elias Munapo brought up the question of forming a chapter in Limpopo. 'Maseka Lesoana responded that Limpopo was not ready to become a chapter yet.

### **4. PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

Dave Evans reads his report (see attached report).

Acceptance of report.

Proposer: Jacques du Toit                      Seconder: Wim Gevers

### **5. FINANCIAL REPORT**

Financial statements for 2011: Provided by Marthi Harmse, discussed by Dave Evans. Analysis is on the ORSSA website. Operating surplus has varied considerably over the past 10 years – a more consistent level is required. Approximately 60% of membership funds have been received. Marthi Harmse provided a budget for 2012 that does included shortfall. Dave Evans reported that after discussions at the Executive Committee meeting the previous day, with sponsorship for the 2012 Conference and more aggressive marketing for advertising for the Newsletter, next year's budget will break even. Marthi Harmse does not yet have the 2009 and 2010 statements audited, but will see to it as soon as possible. Danie Lötter will move to the financial side of the newsletter.

Hans Ittmann asked whether it was possible to give information on the money that ORSSA currently has. Dave Evans responded by indicating that the society has R250 000 at National level in total. Chapters have between R50 000 – R60 000. On the whole, the society is worth approximately R400 000 in assets, less R40 000 for 2011 conference expenses which was incurred knowingly. Hans Ittmann also pointed out that outstanding membership fees form part of assets and contributed approximately R200 000 of the total assets. This may become a problem as the society does not physically have these funds.

Acceptance of report.

Proposer: Mark Einhorn                      Seconder: Jan Kruger

## **6. AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION**

An extensive revision to the Constitution was tabled (see attached document). It had been circulated to members as required constitutionally, two months earlier and was taken as read. Dave Evans and Jan van Vuuren explained that the update was primarily to bring the Constitution in line with current electronic communication practices, and correct various other minor errors, typos, etc.

Wim Gevers asked a question on Section 4.3 of the proposed constitution. He wanted to know whether members may receive benefits without paying fees. Ian Durbach confirmed that members have to pay fees to be part of ORSSA.

Wim Gevers presented another possible problem of governance with respect to Section 5. He noted quorums may be too small in certain cases. Wim proposed that a quorum consists of at least 7 members. Wim proposed 7 members and Ozias Ncube seconded the proposition. This amendment was accepted.

Acceptance of revised constitution

Proposer: Wim Gevers                      Seconded: Jan Kruger

## **7. EDITORS' REPORTS**

### **7.1 ORION**

Martin Kidd reads Stephan Visagie's report (see attached report). Wim Gevers asked about the possibility of making ORION an e-journal, which may reduce costs. Dave Evans stated that this possibility was discussed in the executive meeting, and that the society will continue to publish a hard copy journal for the time being. Dave Evans thanked the Orion team for the outstanding job they are doing.

### **7.2 Newsletter**

Mark Einhorn reads Danie Lötter's (Newsletter Editor) report (see attached report). Hans Ittmann asks about the possibility of having an e-newsletter. He pointed out that IFORS has an e-newsletter and that it should be considered as more documents will become available electronically. Dave Evans stated that this had also been given thought in the executive meeting, however, the newsletter will remain as a hard copy for the next three years. Dave Evans announced that Danie Lötter will become the new Newsletter Business Manager and thanked Danie and his team for the work they have done.

## **8. WEBMASTER'S REPORT**

Jan van Vuuren gives some feedback. There is a need for technical skills. A proposal was made for a capable developer to upgrade the current static information base to a system where a member may update his/her own information by means of a login name. Quotes for an upgrade will be available shortly. He is currently busy setting specifications for the website. The new webmaster should be able to contribute to this design. A request was made to report on broken links and any information that is not currently available on the website. Material may be sent to improve the standard of the website.

## **9. CHAPTER REPORTS**

### **9.1 JOHANNESBURG**

Dave Evans reads the report. This chapter has approximately 100 members with only 19 of these members up to date on payments. Three functions were held. The first function was held in November 2010 for the Chapter AGM where Ozias Ncube was the speaker. A function was held during February 2011 in Midrand and in August 2011, 25 members attended a workshop at Voda World.

### **9.2 PRETORIA**

Winnie Pelsler reads her report (see attached report).

### **9.3 KWAZULU-NATAL**

The chapter is still dormant. Aderemi Adewumi volunteered to look to reviving the Kwazulu-Natal Chapter. Dave Evans offered the support of the Society to help him with that.

### **9.4 VAAL TRIANGLE**

Dave Evans reads the report on behalf of Hennie Kruger. Two functions had been scheduled where the speaker unfortunately cancelled at short notice.

### **9.5 WESTERN CAPE**

Margarete Bester provided no report. Jan van Vuuren spoke on behalf of Margarete. A meeting was held at the beginning of the year. A meeting in June was cancelled and another meeting will be organised by Margarete.

## **10. EURO, IFORS AND OTHER LINKS**

Hans Ittmann thanked the 16 South Africans who attended IFORS in Melbourne, Australia. Hans suggests a dedicated column on the newsletter for operations research for development. The next IFORS will be held in 2014 in Barcelona, Spain.

## **11. ORSSA 2012**

Dave Evans indicated that discussions had been held with the Pretoria Chapter Committee, who agreed to be hosts, supported by the Johannesburg Chapter Committee where necessary. The conference will probably be held in a rural area near Pretoria. The conference will be held on the 16 – 19 September 2012.

## **12. ELECTION OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE FOR 2012**

The following members were unanimously elected:

Secretary:	Tanya Lane-Visser
Treasurer:	Marthi Harmse
Database Manager:	Ian Durbach
Newsletter Editor:	Mark Einhorn
Newsletter Business Manager:	Danie Lötter
Journal Editor-in-chief:	Stephan Visagie
Journal Manager:	Martin Kidd
Webmaster:	Jason Matthews
Additional members	Elias Willemse 'Maseka Lesaoana Elias Munapo
Co-opted:	Hans Ittmann (IFORS representative) Theo Stewart (EURO representative)

Jan van Vuuren, as current Vice President, will automatically become President. Dave Evans, at the end of his two year tenure as President, will automatically become Vice President.

### 13. 2011 CONFERENCE REFEREED STREAM PROCEEDINGS

Elias Willemse commented on the conference proceedings. A total of 33 submissions were received and 15 were accepted. Sarma Yadavali and Elias Willemse organised the proceedings. The conference proceedings will continue in 2012.

### 14. CLOSE

Dave Evans thanked the National Executive Committee members for their support during his two years as President. He expressed his confidence in Jan as the incoming President and wished him every success.

Jan van Vuuren thanked Dave Evans for his contribution as President.

### ATTENDANCE REGISTER

Name	Name
Martin Kidd	Jan Kruger
Lischen Venter	Hannelie Nel
Paul Fatti	Jan Greben
Jan van Vuuren	Tanya Lane-Visser
Wim Gevers	Maria Treurnicht
Hans Ittmann	Elias Munapo
Anton de Villiers	Caston Siguake
Elias Willemse	Mark Einhorn
Ian Durbach	Ernest John Lanz
Maseko Lesoana	Evert Barend Schlunz
Ozias Ncube	Martijn van der Merwe
Edinah Mudimu	Jacques du Toit
Aderemi Adewumi	Dave Evans
Anton de Villiers	

## President's Report: ORSSA Annual General Meeting:

Victoria Falls, 20 September 2011

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Before getting into the body of my report, I'd like to repeat an aspect I touched on last year: I know we're all living 'life at the speed of the Internet' and I'm not sure where that's taking humanity or the planet, with global warming, crooked financial wiz kids and global economic crashes, but that's another story. Where it is taking ORSSA is that we all seem to have progressively less and less spare time to run the Society. And compounding the problem, the whole 'governance' game which has developed in recent years is also becoming a very costly industry for those of us who have to comply with all the new demands, too. Many of us are employed by 'public sector' entities – Universities, the CSIR, the DBSA, etc., which all now demand tax clearance certificates before they will make payments to ORSSA in any respect – be it conference fees, or sponsorship, etc. This puts increasing demands on our office bearers, all of whom are unpaid, running the Society in their spare time. I'm not sure what the answer is – we've already sub-divided the portfolio which the Treasurer used to carry, and we may have to look at expanding the Executive Committee and creating more specific portfolios to spread the load. We discussed this at the Executive Committee meeting yesterday, and may well add two new portfolios to cover governance and marketing to address this.

I was fortunate to meet with a past president of INFORMS – our American sister organisation, a couple of months ago and asked if she had any suggestions for us. Our national membership is smaller than her chapter – Boston. Nationally, they can afford several full time employees, so there circumstances are so different that unfortunately she had no relevant suggestions for us.

The life blood of ORSSA is the Chapters, and, as in many years, we have a mixed bag to report. Without wanting to steal any of the thunder from the Chapter Chairs who will be reporting later in the agm, the overall picture is as follows (in alphabetical order):

- The Durban Chapter is still dormant.
- The Johannesburg Chapter has been more active since the last agm; I will read the branch report on behalf of their chair shortly as the branch chairman is unable to be with us.
- The Pretoria Chapter is also thriving; their chair will report in due course.
- The Vaal Triangle Chapter has also been quiet so far this year; I will read the chairman's report shortly, as he is also unable to be here.
- The Western Cape Chapter continues very successfully and will also be reporting on later.

My thanks go to all the Chapter Chairs who are doing such good jobs.

Orion and the Newsletter will also be reported on in detail shortly: they both continue to do outstandingly well and I express a huge thank you to Stephan Visagie, Danie Lotter and the rest of the team members. The web page is also in good shape and thanks for this go to Jan van Vuuren and his team, who have effectively assumed the mantle of webmaster this year, in addition to all his other roles. IFORS 2011 took place recently in Australia, and the Society was well represented – thanks to all the participants for keeping ORSSA's visibility high.

This conference is clearly and very intentionally another step in our Africa Outreach initiative. We are delighted by the number of delegates who are present from the region, as well as from South Africa, although several familiar faces are missing, because of the difficulties I alluded to above around 'governance' and a trip to a foreign country. In some ways, this is a clear example of the difficulties affecting the region – travel of this nature would be trivial in Europe, as they have minimised the barriers to cross border trade and travel, and their economy has flourished spectacularly as a result. This has still to happen in our region – just one of many areas where OR could help, and again, an area where the 'accountability' issue I mentioned in my presidential address, rears its head again. We also found some interesting angles to organising a conference with a 'virtual LOC', with half the team in Bulawayo and the other half scattered all over South Africa. With hindsight, we've coped fine,

and learned a couple of lessons, if we do something similar again. To repeat myself, thanks to everyone who has contributed in that area. It is an outstanding conference in all respects. As I said in my presidential address, the opportunities for using OR to support development in the region are almost limitless, as is the need. How can we be more effective in doing this? I oversaw the Rozwadowski judging again this year, and was impressed by how many of the papers that we reviewed were exactly this – OR being applied effectively in areas such as health. Several have been published in Orion over recent years – if you're looking for ideas on how to get into this area, I commend them to you as something to provoke your thinking. The region still needs you.

To close off, let me re-emphasise the demands that the increased workload involved in running the Society puts on the members of the national executive committee, all of whom serve in a voluntary, unpaid, spare time capacity. Without naming them individually, I thank them all for their tireless efforts in all aspects of their work on behalf of ORSSA.

I would also like to thank you all for the support I've received during my two years of being privileged to be your President; Executive Committee members, chapter committees and the members who contribute to Orion, the Newsletter, the chapter activities and the conference. It's been an honour which I really appreciate.

I wish Jan, my successor from January, every success, and the support from all of you which I know he will get. Having seen him in action in the various portfolios he has held for the Society in recent years, I am very confident that the Presidency will be in the hands of a very worthy incumbent in 2012 and 2013.

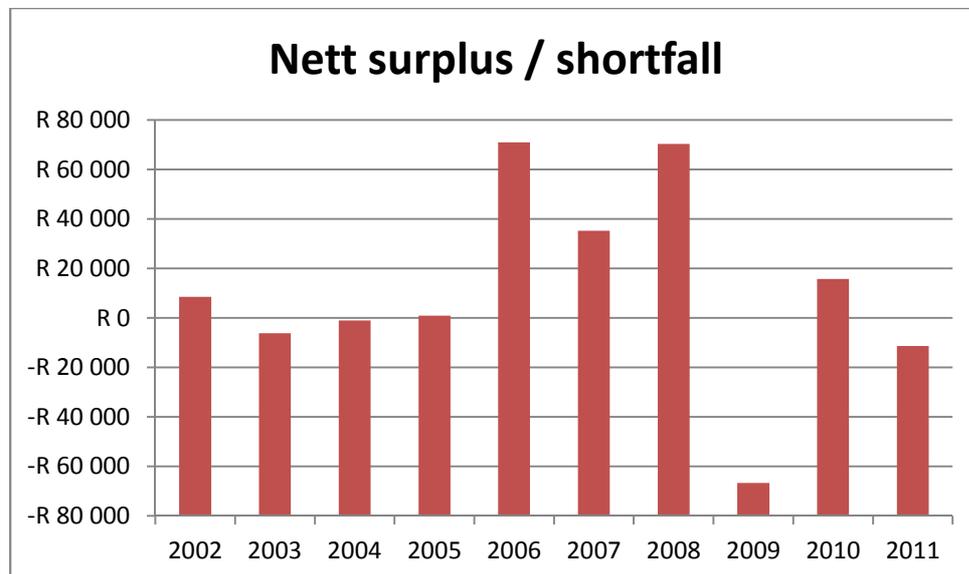
Thank you.

Dave Evans  
ORSSA President  
Annual General Meeting  
20<sup>th</sup> September 2011

# Operations Research Society of South Africa

## Financial Report for the Period 1 January 2011 to 16 September 2011

### Context



- 2002 The Society would have incurred a nett loss if the ICORD account transfer of R22 948 did not take place during the year. Auditors raise a concern that these conditions could indicate the existence of material uncertainty which may cast significant doubt about the Society's ability to continue as a going concern in future.
- 2003 Again the auditors raise a concern that there might exist material uncertainty which may cast significant doubt about the Society's ability to continue as a going concern in future.
- 2004 The auditors advise that attention should be given to managing the cost of operations and continuing the annual increase of membership fees or finding alternative sustainable sources of income to fund operations.
- 2006 The Society would have incurred a nett loss if the 2005 ORSSA Annual Conference account transfer of R100 000 did not take place during the year. The auditors raise a concern that the Society's financial exposure to the 2008 IFORS Conference is substantial. It is critical that this is managed to avoid financial obligations which could bankrupt the Society.
- 2008 The Society would have incurred a nett loss if the IFORS income of R123 580 did not take place during the year.
- 2009 71% of the budgeted membership fees was received  
6% of the budgeted newsletter advertisements was received  
0% of the budgeted donations for student prizes was received  
0% of the budgeted interest was received  
R20 100 unbudgeted expenses occurred for IFORS 2008 (loan from Johannesburg chapter and renewal of internet site)  
R16 518 unbudgeted loss occurred for the 2009 ORSSA Annual Conference  
ORiON expenses were 5% more than budgeted  
R844 unbudgeted expenses occurred for awards  
R130 unbudgeted expenses occurred for the website
- 2010 R6 950 was received for the 2009 ORSSA Annual Conference  
Profit on the 2010 ORSSA Annual Conference to be finalised
- 2011 Projected shortfall  
R56 040 unbudgeted loss is projected for the 2011 ORSSA Annual Conference

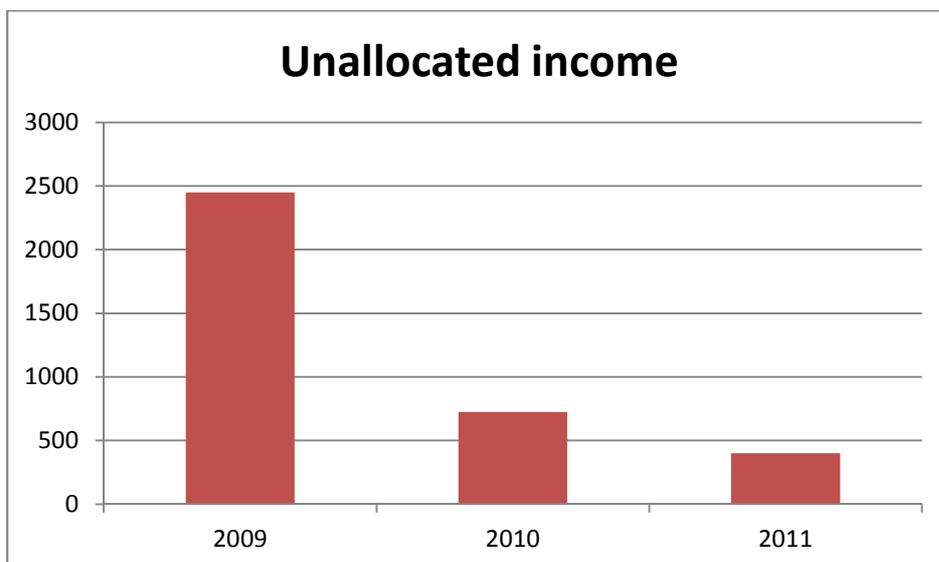
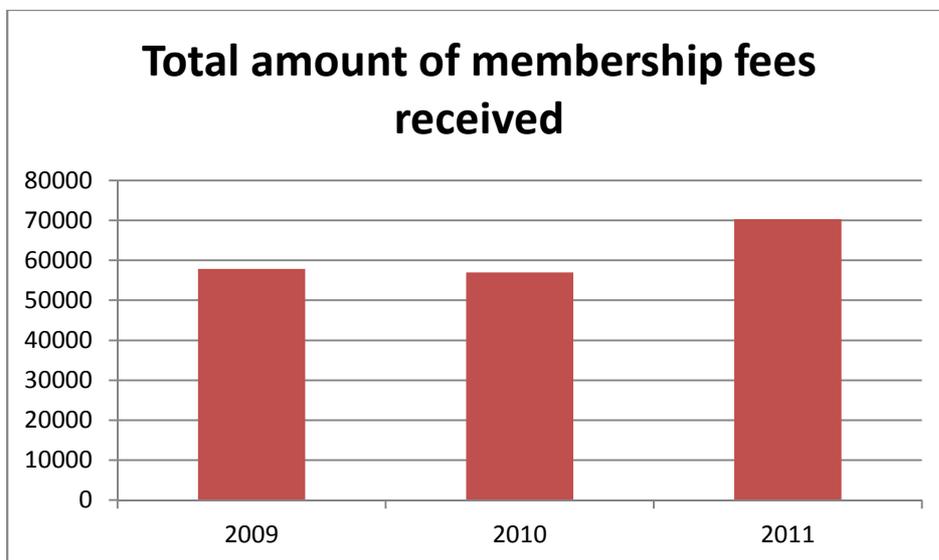
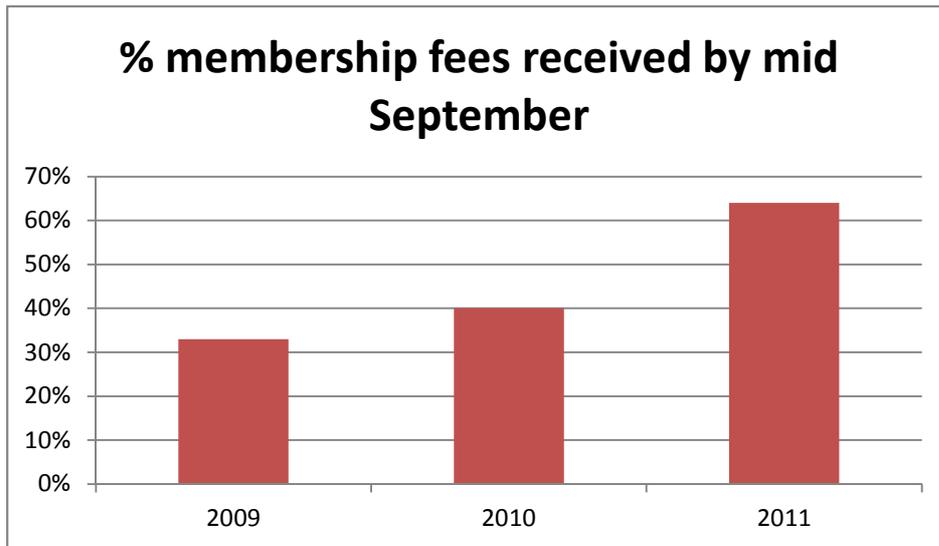
## **Turnaround strategy**

1. Obtained audited financial statements for the financial years 2005, 2006, 2007 and 2008.
2. Stopped benefits to members owing more than R1 000.
3. Stopped sending mail to returned addresses.
4. Automatically upgraded student members to full members after three years.
5. Contacted one hundred and sixty seven members owing more than R1 000 individually. Thirty eight of these members paid up.
6. Increased membership fees.
7. Streamlined process to increase membership fees.
8. Updated signatories and mailing address of bank account.
9. Closed previous savings account and opened new investment account with higher interest rate.
10. Allocated all previous checkbooks and obtained new checkbook for Executive Committee members in northern chapters.
11. Maintain more stringent financial control.
12. Sorted out foreign currency outgoing transactions.
13. Paid up outstanding IFORS and EURO fees.
14. Updated budget to include previously unforeseen expenses.
15. Developed procedures which were handed over to the Secretary to assist the Treasurer in focusing on financial matters.
16. Developed procedures which were handed over to the Database Manager to assist the Treasurer in focusing on financial matters.
17. Motivated for the portfolio of Database Manager.
18. Assisted the newly appointed Database Manager.
19. Assisted in proposing revisions to the Constitution to better reflect current financial proceedings of the Society as well as to improve the effectiveness in future.
20. Took responsibility for the finances of the 2011 ORSSA Annual Conference.

## **Next steps**

1. Finalise profit for the 2010 ORSSA Annual Conference
2. Obtain audited financial statements for the financial years 2009, 2010 and 2011.
3. Obtain tax clearance certificate.
4. Follow up with bank regarding previously updated signatories and mailing address.
5. Follow up with bank regarding foreign currency incoming transactions.
6. Follow up with bank regarding interest receivable on savings account.
7. Implement credit card transactions as soon as a webmaster is elected again.
8. Complete treasury procedures

**2011 financials**



1. By mid September 2011, 23% more was received in membership fees compared to the full 2010 financial year.
2. 155% more than budgeted newsletter advertisements was received.
3. 81% more than budgeted ORiON subscriptions was received.
4. 60% of the budgeted newsletter expenses occurred at 50% of delivery.
5. 91% of the budgeted ORiON expenses occurred at 50% of delivery due to the late receipt of invoices (only 50% of the budgeted ORiON expenses occurred in 2010).
6. This financial year and in future the budgeted administrative support to membership and treasury will include auditing costs. The balance of the budgeted amount was not taken up.

### **Acknowledgements**

1. Dave Evans is thanked for assisting in finalizing the audit of the 2005 and 2006 financial statements.
2. Wim Gevers is thanked for assisting in finalizing the audit of the 2007 and 2008 financial statements.
3. Francois Bester is thanked for assisting in finalizing the audit of the 2007 and 2008 financial statements.
4. Francois Bester is thanked for aggressively generating income via newsletter advertisements.
5. Martin Kidd is thanked for implementing invoices to ORiON subscribers.
6. Ian Durbach is thanked for taking over the duties of Database Manager.
7. Isabelle Nieuwoudt is thanked for taking over duties as Secretary.
8. Jan van Vuuren is thanked for standing in as Website Master.
9. Edward Chiyaka and his team as well as Dave Evans are thanked for managing costs for the 2011 ORSSA Annual Conference.
10. Dave Evans, Hans Ittmann and Maseka Lesaoana are thanked for assisting in securing sponsorships for the 2011 ORSSA Annual Conference. I am deeply grateful towards EURO and IFORS for their generous sponsorships.
11. All Executive Committee members are thanked for taking extra trouble to keep expenses down.
12. Members are thanked for paying their membership fees – including those in arrears. I am grateful for previous members who paid up their membership fees before resigning (although I am sad about each member resigning).

  
MFP Harmse

Treasurer: Operations Research Society of South Africa

17 September 2011

Date



# Constitution

## 1. Name of the Society

The name of the Society shall be *The Operations Research Society of South Africa*.  
*ORSSA shall be the accepted abbreviation for the name of the Society.*

## 2. Objects of the Society

The objects of the Society shall be to promote a wider knowledge of the techniques, theory and practices of Operations Research.

## 3. Legal position of the Society

3.1. The Society shall be a body corporate endowed with rights and duties, and shall be capable of suing and being sued in its corporate name.

~~3.2. The English version of the Constitution shall be considered binding and the Afrikaans version a translation thereof.~~

3.3. The Society shall not pursue the acquisition of gain and monetary advantage for its members.

3.4. The income and property of the Society acquired in whatever way, shall be applied exclusively to the promotion of the objects of the Society as described in this Constitution, and no part thereof shall be paid directly or indirectly to members of the Society, provided that nothing stated herein shall prohibit the bona fide remuneration of office bearers or employees of the Society, or any member thereof, for services rendered to the Society.

3.5. All assets shall be the property of the Society and any person whose membership of the Society is terminated for whatever reason shall have no claim to, or interest in, any of the assets of the Society.

3.6. The liability of the members of the Society shall be limited to the extent that each member shall only be liable to the amount of his<sup>1</sup> annual membership fee and any money that may otherwise be owing by him to the Society.

3.7. If, for whatever reason, the Society is dissolved, payment of all debts is effected and all obligations are met, then any property of whatever nature remaining shall not be paid to nor be distributed among the members of the Society, but shall be given to or be transferred to an institution or society with objects similar

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<sup>1</sup> In this Constitution the male form of a noun or pronoun shall be taken to imply the female form as well.

to that of the Society, and which for this purpose shall be appointed by the members of the Society or in default by the Executive Committee, at or before dissolution.

## 4. Membership

### 4.1. Membership types

There shall be the following membership grades:

- 4.1.1. Student membership;
- 4.1.2. Full membership;
- 4.1.3. Fellowship;
- 4.1.4. Retired membership;
- 4.1.5. Honorary life membership;
- 4.1.6. Corporate ~~or Institutional~~ membership.

### 4.2. Granting of membership

4.2.1. For election to ~~full~~ membership an applicant must supply pertinent information to the ~~Database Manager on behalf of the~~ Executive Committee and receive the favourable votes of the majority of the members ~~present at an of the~~ Executive Committee ~~meeting~~.

4.2.2. The Executive Committee may at its discretion reclassify a full member to a Fellow of the Operations Research Society of South Africa. The Executive Committee ~~will shall~~ be guided, ~~but not necessarily bound~~, by the following considerations:

- The individual ~~will shall~~ be invited by the Executive to become a fellow;
- The individual should be a long standing member of the Society;
- The individual should have served the science and profession of Operations Research over a considerable period of time; ~~or.~~
- ~~Any other evidence that the Executive feels it needs to consider to assess the individual's contribution to the practice of Operations Research.~~

4.2.3. Corporate or institutional entities applying for corporate ~~or institutional~~ membership may be accepted by the Executive Committee as corporate ~~or institutional~~ members.

4.2.4. A person who is a full-time student at a recognised educational institution may ~~become accepted by the Executive Committee as~~ a student member.

4.2.5. The Executive Committee may at its discretion award retired membership to any member. The Executive Committee ~~will shall~~ be guided, but not necessarily bound, by the following considerations in granting such status:

- receipt of a written application from the member;
- age of the member not less than 55 years;
- member retired from regular employment.

4.2.6. The Executive Committee may at its discretion award honorary life membership to any prominent or distinguished person.

#### 4.3. **Application for Membership**

Application for student or full membership shall be made on the prescribed form. The application shall be ~~signed submitted~~ by the applicant. ~~and if application is made for full membership, it shall be supported by any two full members of the Society as proposer and seconder.~~ Application for corporate ~~or institutional~~ membership shall be made on the prescribed form and shall be ~~signed submitted~~ by a person duly authorised thereto by the applicant. ~~The signature of the applicant on the application form~~ Upon receipt of an application for student, full or corporate membership, the Database Manager shall circulate the details of the application to the Executive Committee who shall make a decision with respect to granting or denying membership to the applicant. By submitting the application form, the applicant signifies his acceptance of the provisions of this Constitution should he be accepted as a member of the Society.

#### 4.4. **Expulsion of Members**

The Executive Committee may at its discretion expel a member if, in the opinion of the Committee, the conduct of such member is injurious to the interests of the Society, or if he has contravened the provisions of the Constitution or if he failed, after due notice, to pay his membership fee, provided that he shall have opportunity to put forward reasons why his membership shall not be terminated.

#### 4.5. **Resigning Membership**

A member wishing to resign his membership, shall address his written resignation to the Secretary. Such a member shall remain liable for membership arrears.

#### 4.6. **Membership Fees**

The membership fees for all membership classes residing within and outside chapter boundaries including student and corporate members, but excluding honorary life members, ~~will shall~~ be proposed by the Executive Committee for approval at an Annual General Meeting of the Society. Honorary life members ~~will shall~~ pay no membership fees. Membership fees shall be payable annually on or before the 30th of June.

### 5. **Office Bearers**

Office bearers shall be as follows:

- 5.1. President;
- 5.2. Vice President;
- 5.3. Secretary;
- 5.4. Treasurer;
- 5.5. ~~Database Manager~~;
- 5.6. Newsletter Editor;
- 5.7. ~~Newsletter Business Manager:-Newsletter~~;
- 5.8. Journal Editor-in-Chief;
- 5.9. ~~Journal Business Manager:-Journal~~;
- 5.10. Webmaster.

The Vice President during the President's second year of office shall automatically become the President ~~of during~~ the succeeding year. The Immediate Past President ~~will shall~~ serve as Vice President<sup>2</sup> during the President's first year of office.

## 6. Executive Committee

The Executive Committee shall consist of all office bearers, ~~the most recent Past President resident in South Africa~~ together with at least two other elected members and all Chapter Chairmen.

## 7. Election of Executive Committee

7.1. Except for the President and Vice President ~~and Immediate Past President~~, all members of the Executive Committee shall be elected annually at the Annual General Meeting. A new Vice President shall be elected at alternate Annual General Meetings, to hold the position during the second year of the President's tenure, and to succeed the President of the Society the following year. The President shall hold office for a two-year period. The Immediate Past President shall be an ex-officio member for one year, during which year he/she shall fulfil the role of Vice President.

~~7.2. Only the members present at the Annual General Meeting may participate in the election of the Executive Committee. All voting shall be by secret ballot.~~

7.3. All classes of members, except Corporate ~~/Institutional~~ members or their representatives, may stand for election and be elected to the Executive Committee.

## 8. Voting Rights

All classes of members, except Corporate ~~/Institutional~~ members, have voting rights. For purposes of a General Meeting a member shall be allowed to appoint a proxy who shall be entitled to vote on his behalf.

## 9. Nomination of the Executive Committee

9.1. Nomination for election of members of the Executive Committee (other than the President ~~immediate Past President/~~ and Vice President in alternate years, and Chairman of every Chapter) shall be in writing<sup>3</sup> and shall state the name of the nominee and the office for which he is nominated.

9.2. Nominations shall be signed by the nominee and by a proposer and seconder. If the candidate fails to be elected to that specific post, then provided he is prepared to stand and accept another position he shall be able to stand for another position and in this case he shall be proposed and seconded from the floor at the Annual General Meeting.

9.3. The Secretary shall call, by notice in writing, for such nominations at least one month before the Annual General Meeting, ~~dated from the date of posting of the notice~~, and shall provide a form which may be used for nomination purposes.

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<sup>2</sup> In this Constitution the term *Vice President* shall be taken to mean either *Immediate Past President* (during the President's first year of office), or *President Elect* (during the President's second year of office).

<sup>3</sup> In this Constitution the phrase *in writing* shall be taken to mean via conventional mail or via electronic mail.

- 9.4. Nominations must be lodged with the Secretary at least fourteen days before the Annual General Meeting.
- 9.5. If the number of nominations for any particular office is in excess of the number required to fill such office, then election shall be by secret ballot at the Annual General Meeting.
- 9.6. If the number of nominations for any particular office is equal to the number required, then the nominee shall be declared elected unopposed.
- 9.7. If the number of nominations is less than required, those nominated shall be declared elected and the Executive Committee shall nominate members to those positions for which no nomination has been received. If a duly nominated candidate is not elected to the specific office proposed in writing, he can be nominated from the floor as laid down in **Clause 9.2**. In such a case there shall be a secret ballot to elect an office bearer from those nominations received from the members, ~~from~~ to the Executive Committee, as described in this paragraph and those eligible for floor nomination and nominated as laid down in **Clause 9.2**.
- 9.8. If, from any cause whatever, a vacancy occurs in any office during the year, the Executive Committee may fill such vacancy by appointing any full member to such office, and the person so appointed shall hold office until the next Annual General Meeting.
- 9.9. If, for any reason whatever, a Vice President who is the President Elect is unable to accept the office of President, a President shall be nominated and elected at the Annual General Meeting.
- 9.10. If, for any reason whatever, the **Immediate** Past President is not able to **fulfil the role of Vice President**, a Vice President shall be nominated and elected at the Annual General Meeting.
- 9.11. If the whole Executive Committee resigns, a Special General Meeting ~~will~~ **shall** be convened within two weeks by the Secretary of the Committee to choose a new Committee. All nominations for the various offices ~~will~~ **shall** then be from the floor. The resigning members ~~will~~ **shall** continue to function until the new Executive Committee has been chosen.

## 10. Tenure of Office

The President of the Society shall hold office from 1 January one year after taking office as Vice President for a period of two years thereafter. All other members of the Executive Committee shall hold office from 1 January of the year following the Annual General Meeting at which they were elected until the end of that year. If **Clause 9.10** applies, the Vice President shall hold office for two years.

## 11. Annual General Meeting

- 11.1. An Annual General Meeting shall be held each year on a date and at a place and time appointed by the Executive Committee.
- 11.2. The Secretary shall, by notice in writing, give each member of the Society at least one month's notice of the meeting, ~~dated from the date of posting of the notice~~.
- 11.3. The President of the Society shall be the Chairman of the Annual General Meeting. In the event ~~of his not being~~ **that he is not** available, the Vice

President, ~~and in the event of his not being available, the retired President~~ shall be Chairman of the meeting. If ~~neither~~ of the aforementioned persons is available, the meeting shall elect its own Chairman.

11.4. A quorum at the meeting shall be the members present.

11.5. A majority of the votes of the full members present shall decide any ~~question matter~~.

## 12. Special General Meeting

A Special General Meeting shall be convened by the Secretary:

12.1. upon the direction of the President in writing;

12.2. upon a resolution of the Executive Committee;

12.3. upon a ~~requisition request~~ signed by not ~~less fewer~~ than 15 members.

Such direction, resolution or ~~requisition request~~ shall state precisely the ~~special~~ business for which a special meeting is to be convened. At least two weeks' notice in writing of such special meeting shall be given, ~~dated from the date of posting of the notice~~. A Special General Meeting shall be conducted in the same manner as the Annual General Meeting, but no business shall be transacted other than the ~~special~~ business for which it was convened.

## 13. Functions of the Executive Committee

All the business and affairs of the Society shall be managed and controlled by the Executive Committee. Without prejudice to their general commission, the specific functions of the Committee shall be:

13.1. to carry out the objects of the Society;

13.2. to decide on membership applications;

13.3. to administer funds received by the Committee;

13.4. to circulate a regular Newsletter among members of the Society;

13.5. to announce decisions of the Society;

13.6. to exercise control over employees of the Society;

13.7. to exercise discipline where and when necessary as stipulated;

13.8. to call an Annual General Meeting;

13.9. to report to the Annual General Meeting on the activities of the Society during the year and to present audited accounts.

## 14. Powers of the Executive Committee

The Executive Committee shall have full power and authority to carry out all the objects of the Society, except where such powers are expressly reserved to a General or Special General Meeting. In addition, but without prejudice to their general authority, the Executive Committee shall have authority:

14.1. to decide on membership affairs;

14.2. to receive and administer membership fees, funds and endowments and to apply such as it deems fit, but without prejudice to the provision of Clause 17.2;

- 14.3. to open a banking account with a bank and to invest any funds not immediately required for the purposes of the Society with any South African bank, building society or insurance company;
- 14.4. to enter into such contracts as may be necessary for the carrying out of the objects and the business of the Society;
- 14.5. to co-opt one additional **voting** member to the Executive Committee. Such member shall have the right to vote at meetings of the Executive Committee. **Further** additional members may be co-opted, but they shall have no voting rights;
- 14.6. to initiate the creation of a chapter or to recognise the creation of a chapter or to withdraw such recognition;
- 14.7. to establish Special Interest Groups and to recognise such groups in the chapters;
- 14.8. to recommend amendments to the Constitution.

## 15. Meetings of the Executive Committee

- 15.1. The Executive Committee shall meet at least four times per year on a date and at the place and time as appointed by the President. **These meetings may be physical meetings in a single place, video conferences from various centres in South Africa or web/blog meetings.**
- 15.2. A special meeting of the Executive Committee shall be convened by the Secretary upon a **requisition request** signed by not **less fewer** than four members of the Executive Committee. Such **requisition request** shall state explicitly the **special** business for which a special meeting is to be convened.
- 15.3. Proper notice of a meeting of the Executive Committee shall be given to each member of the Committee at least one week before the date appointed for such a meeting.
- 15.4. The President of the Society shall be the Chairman of all meetings of the Executive Committee. In the event of his not being available, the Vice President, ~~and in the event of his not being available, the retired President~~ shall be Chairman of the meeting. If **none neither** of the aforementioned persons is available, the committee shall have power to elect its own Chairman.
- 15.5. Four members shall form a quorum.
- 15.6. All questions shall be decided by the vote of the majority of the members present and the Chairman shall have a casting as well as a deliberative vote.

## 16. Chapters

- 16.1. All Chapter Constitutions shall be submitted to the Executive Committee for approval.
- 16.2. All members of a Chapter shall also have to be members of the Society.
- 16.3. All Chapters shall report to the Annual General Meeting on the activities of the Chapter during the year.

## 17. Financial Matters

- 17.1. One quarter of the membership fee of a member shall be remitted to the Chapter to which the member belongs, if such a Chapter exists, and if the Chapter in question requests this remittance. This remittance shall take place on an annual basis, without the possibility of backdated remittance requests by Chapters.
- 17.2. All documents pertaining to the assets of the Society and all contracts and deeds shall be deemed duly signed if signed by two members of the Executive Committee, nominated and authorised for this purpose by the Executive Committee.
- 17.3. Cheques shall be signed by two members of the Executive Committee nominated and authorised for this purpose by the Executive Committee.
- 17.4. The financial year of the Society extends from 1st January to 31st December.
- 17.5. The accounts of the Society shall be audited and certified by an accountancy firm, registered in accordance with the *Public Accountants and Auditors Act of 1951*, and which shall be appointed by the Executive Committee.

## 18. Language Medium

The language of record of the Society shall be English.

## 19. Amendments to the Constitution

Amendments may be proposed by any member, seconded by any other member and shall be submitted in writing at least one month before the General Meeting. A simple majority will suffice to accept an amendment to this Constitution. Amendments will be able to be made at a General Meeting or by a postal or electronic mail vote if this is decided at a General Meeting.

## Report: ORiON

We would like to report on the following points/issues.

- **Online hosting of ORiON**

After negotiations with the necessary authorities, ORiON is now hosted by University of Stellenbosch's library. Although we do not give off any freedom in this movement, we gain a long list of advantages. Among these advantages are (1) Maintenance of the OJS system, which was a huge headache due to ORSSA not having a webmaster/IT person. (2) They have applied for a .ac.za domain name for ORiON - it is very difficult and prestigious to get an academic domain name. (3) They take care of all digital preservation of papers. (4) They have applied for DOIs for papers published in ORiON. This was successful and we are now in the process of assigning DOIs to back dated issues. (5) They also make ORiON's papers visible to search engines from other university libraries.

- **Visibility**

ORiON is hosted (electronically) by EBSCO, ProQuest, AJOL, SABINET and on the ORSSA website, which make ORiON's papers visible to a lot of search engines and will hopefully increase our citations. It seems as if the name of the game has changed from "publish or perish" to "be cited or you're not invited." We are thus doing everything in our power to get papers visible to scholarly search engines, as getting cited (by the right journals) is the only way to get on the master journal list of ISI (or WOK as they are known nowadays).

- **Rate of submissions**

We have reported at the previous exec meeting that we are worried about the slow rate of submissions to ORiON. This rate has picked up somewhat and at this stage there are around 6 papers in the review process - of which two are already provisionally accepted, pending that the authors make small corrections. At this stage it seems as if we shall be able to get at least 3 papers for ORiON 27(2), but we really have to up the submissions. Once again I would like to ask the exec members to please encourage other members to submit papers to ORiON. If we want to submit the journal again for ISI rating, we'll have to up the number of local submissions. Furthermore, there are a physical problem in that we cannot print and bind ORiON if the papers add up to less than 60 pages.

- **Printers**

We have had a very bad run with printers and have changed printers for ORiON 27(1). We had a much better experience after we changed to other printers, but also incurred a substantial increase in cost. We are in the process of searching for cheaper options that would still maintain our high printing standards. ORiON needs a lithographic printing process that only a few printers can perform. We managed to find printers that is willing to perform the job at a substantially cheaper price. However, we are still in negotiations with them about the quality. It might be that they can provide a digitally printed document at a comparable quality, which will be much cheaper to produce.

- **Online submission system**

The online submission system is stable and is functioning smoothly. We would like to encourage all the members to please explore and use the electronic system as it significantly eases the administrative burden on the editorial team.

I would like to thank all authors who have chosen to publish in ORiON during the last year. The same thanks goes out to all the referees that have helped ORiON maintaining its standards. Without these two parties, especially the referees that does not get any gain for their laborious efforts, there would be no ORiON.

I would also like to give a huge thank to Martin Kidd and Anton de Villiers for their hard work and assistance. Both has put in a tremendous number of hours into ORiON and is performing very professional jobs. I would like to raise a special thanks to Martin for easing my job as editor significantly and freeing my time up to focus on more strategic issues and planning. He is performing a superb job as journal manager!

Stephan Visagie  
Editor-in-chief: ORiON



## **AGM: Elephant Hills Hotel, Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe**

### **ORSSA Newsletter Report: September 2011**

The past year has been a very successful one for the newsletter. All the issues were completed on schedule and apart from having a mishap with the printing of one issue of ORiON, I trust that everyone received their copies within a reasonable amount of time.

During the past year, I have received numerous requests from a few members for extra copies of the newsletter to use as handouts at various OR functions. I would like to take this opportunity to urge members of the Society to continue using the Newsletter as a marketing tool not only for OR, but also for ORSSA. Note that electronic copies of the newsletter may also be downloaded from the ORSSA website.

Regarding the cost of the newsletter, the following. The cost of printing 300 copies of a twenty page newsletter for one year is R20064.00. The postage cost, including the postage of two issues of ORiON is R15236.20. This gives a total cost of R35300.20 per annum. For the 2011 period the society is supposed to receive R22573.00 generated from income received from advertisers. This results in a shortfall of R12727.20. I seriously think that one of the main goals of the 2012 newsletter team, should be to try and make the newsletter sustainable on its own by securing a few more anchor advertisers for the 2012 calendar year, so as to cover publication and postage costs completely.

I would now like to give a very special word of thanks to all the contributors for their hard work and dedication over the past year. I think the quality of the contributions was of a very high standard and I received many compliments regarding the contents of the newsletter. Then I would also like to thank Jan van Vuuren for all his advice and input, and especially for his excellent proofreading skills. Also a word of thanks to Martin Kidd for all his help with the newsletter section of the ORSSA website. Without his help, the electronic copies would be non-existent on the website. I would also like to thank our two anchor advertisers, SAS and Bluestallion, for their support during the past year as well as members who made use of the newsletter as advertising medium. And last but not least I would like to thank Francois Bester for his help in making sure that the newsletter stays viable with income received from our advertisers.

I have decided to step down as editor of the newsletter. Editing the newsletter started off with a few bumps here and there, but in the end it was an absolute pleasure compiling each issue I edited. I wish the new editor all the best in his new venture, and I trust that the newsletter will remain of the high quality and standard that it has been for the past few years.

Thank you,  
Daniel Lötter  
Newsletter Editor.

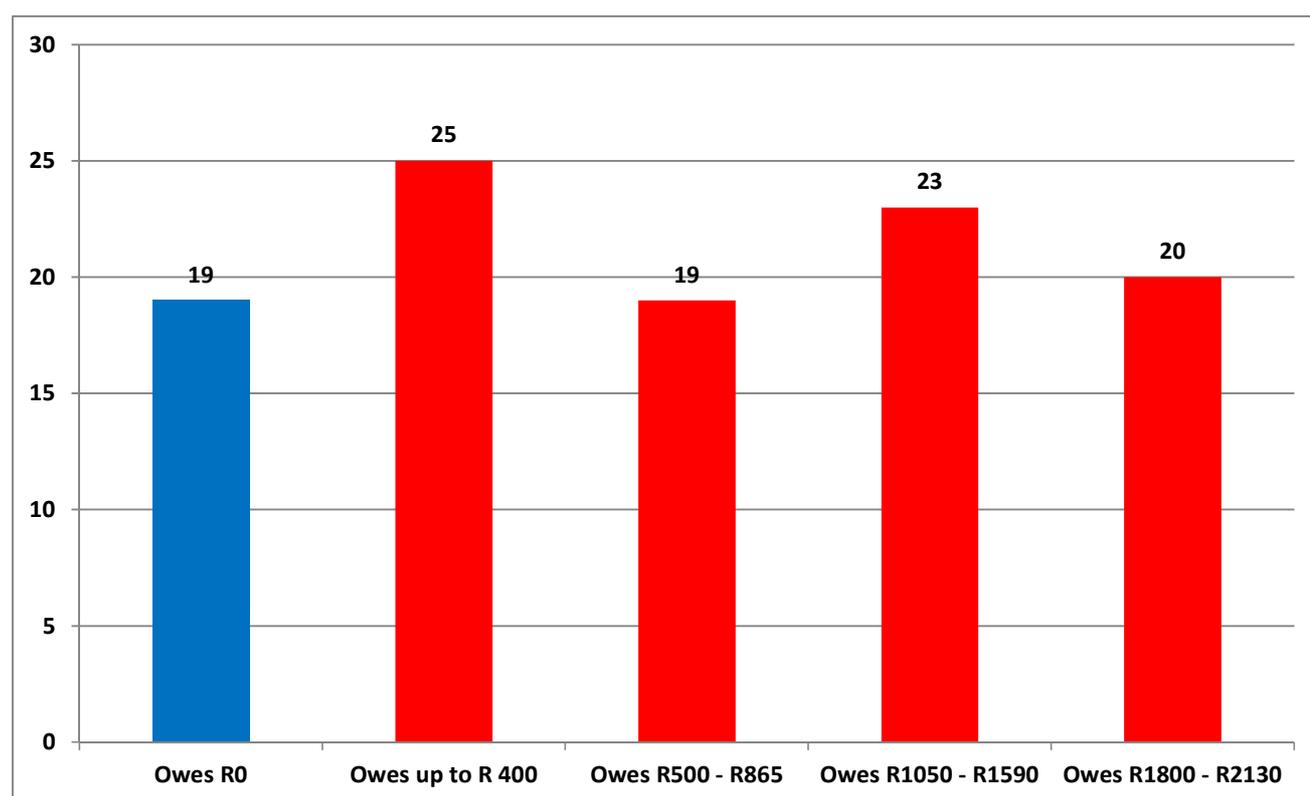
## ORSSA Johannesburg Chapter report - 2011

We have **106** OR Members to date. Attendees to our events comprises of about 60% non-members, 40% members. These are mostly from *industry* as opposed to *academics*. Our last chapter meeting only had attendees from industry – maybe there's a trend here.

### Member fees

A concern is the member fees still owed (of which I am guilty as well). We aim to encourage members to pay their fees in order to enjoy more benefits. A total of **43** members owe more than R1000, and will be excluded from correspondence.

Below a breakdown of the chapter member fee situation:



### Events

This year was relatively quiet regarding events. We had the following **two** events in 2011, and **one** event in October 2010, after the previous ORSSA conference:

Date	Venue	Topic	Speaker	Background	Attendees
17 November 2010	DBSA, Midrand	THE STRATEGIC LINK BETWEEN SUPPLIER DEVELOPMENT AND SMME GROWTH IN THE SOUTH AFRICAN ECONOMY	Ozias Ncube	Supply plain, Operations and Production management. Senior Lecturer, Graduate School of Business Leadership, SBL, UNISA	12
18 February 2011	Hugo's Place, Kyalami	VALENTINES DINNER: INSPIRATIONAL TALK	Lawrie Golding	Executive consultant to the Vodacom Group, involved in the implementation of Strategy, Culture and Transformational Change	11
14 September 2011	Vodawold, Midrand	BUSINESS PROCESS MANAGEMENT	Peter Lever	Business Analyst and Software Engineer, BPM consultant, Founder/Owner of Therefore BPM Consulting	22

## **Website**

We plan to develop a website for the Johannesburg chapter specifically. We can still post events on the ORSSA site, but in order not to clutter up the site with further interesting facts regarding industries in Johannesburg that benefit or contribute to OR, we thought it best to host a separate Joburg OR site. I am still in planning phase, awaiting feedback and ideas from members in the area.

## **ORSSA conference 2012**

The Pretoria chapter invited us to join in organizing next year's ORSSA conference which will be in Gauteng. Looking forward to co-host this wonderful event.

Greetings from Joburg and enjoy the Victoria falls!

Kind Regards

**Louis Dannhauser**

**ORSSA Johannesburg Chair**

[dannhlou@gmail.com](mailto:dannhlou@gmail.com) Tel: 082 998 0570

# ORSSA Pretoria Chapter Feedback 2010 - 2011



**1. Presentation and cocktail function 30 Nov 2010**

The topic was: 'Tales of the unexpected: large-scale micro simulation of urban futures' by Dr Johan Joubert and Pieter Fourie.

The presentation was followed by a cocktail function. The evening was well attended.

**2. Presentation and cocktail function 31 May 2011**

The topic was: 'The influence of Operations Research and Systems analysis on military decision making: latest trends' by Ben du Toit.

The presentation was followed by a cocktail function. The evening was well attended.

**3. Annual Executive Meeting 16 August 2011**

At this meeting a new committee was elected. The members are:

1. Winnie Pelser as president.
2. Elias Willemse as vice-president.
3. Wilna Bean as secretary.
4. Dr Elias Munapo as an additional member.
5. Treasurer will be a joint position between Winnie Pelser, Elias Willemse and Wilna Bean.

The next chapter event will be held at the end of October (from the 24th of October onwards).

**4. Meeting 13 September 2011**

At this meeting the possibility of hosting ORSSA 2012 was discussed.

**5. Financial Statement:**

Date	Beneficiary	Motivation	Amount	Balance
30-Nov-2010		Function	R 4 950.00	R 43 820.35
30-Nov-2010	Excl Books	Gift Vouchers	R 400.00	R 43 420.35
31 May 2011		Function 31 May 2011	R 3 939.00	R 39 481.35
31 May 2011	Excl Books	Gift Vouchers	R 200.00	R 39 281.35

Activities at the Vaal Triangle Region were not what we hoped for at the beginning of the year. No activities took place although we tried at two occasions to organize meetings – these meetings were finalized and then at the last moment, just before notices were sent out, we had to cancel due to unexpected availability of the speakers. It seems as if the main problem in the region is members' busy schedules – it is extremely difficult to find a date that suits most of the members as well as possible speakers. The problem becomes even more difficult if one takes into account that our members are not located in the same area (city).

We have now secured someone from SASOL to address a meeting in February 2012 (one of the meetings that we had to cancel during 2011) and hope that we can start the New Year with an early meeting. Marthi Harmse also put us in contact with someone from SASOL who has arranged a talk on Operations Research for SASOL employees. We received permission to invite the ORSSA members to the presentation and an invite was sent out. The meeting took place on 14 Sept 2011 and as it was scheduled for the morning I am not sure if any of our members (except Sasol employees) was able to attend.

The plan is to have another student competition in the Vaal Triangle region (we had our first one in 2010) and a call for participation was sent out at the end of August – unfortunately no response to date has been received.

I would like to thank everybody who was involved in the Vaal Triangle Region, especially Marthi Harmse who is always willing to help us and also Dave Evans, in his capacity as President of ORSSA, for his support.

Thank You  
Hennie Kruger