



NEWSLETTER

Operational Research Society of New Zealand (Inc.)

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21 MAHER STREET
UPPER HUTT.

THE MEDICAL RESEARCH COUNCIL OF N.Z.

The Council would request that the attention of research workers or potential workers be drawn to the activities of the jointly funded MRC and Health Department, Health Services Research Committee.

The Committee sees as one of its functions being to provide "seed money" to allow the development of research ideas to a stage where they would be capable of competing for grant funds through normal channels in their own right. However it is also interested in receiving applications for small circumscribed research or research and development projects which do not warrant submission as formal "project grant" applications to the Council or other funding agencies.

For the information of those who have not previously seen the areas of current concern, a description of the five priority areas designated by the Committee is available from the undersigned at P.O. Box 5541, Wellesley Street, AUCKLAND.

J.A. Borrows
Secretary

OR FOR T.V.

TV NEW ZEALAND'S SCIENCE UNIT IS INTERESTED IN OPERATIONAL RESEARCH/ MANAGEMENT SCIENCE APPLICATIONS FOR USE IN THEIR SCIENCE PROGRAMMES SUCH AS TUESDAY NIGHT'S SCIENCE EXPRESS. MEMBERS WITH POTENTIAL ITEMS, WHICH SHOULD BE VISUALLY STIMULATING, SHOULD WRITE TO:

*THE PRODUCER,
T.V.N.Z. SCIENCE UNIT,
BOX 1945,
CHRISTCHURCH.*

NEW MEMBERS

<i>Messers M.S. Black</i>	<i>A.T.I.</i>
<i>M.D. Roes</i>	<i>Waikato University</i>
<i>P.R. Clark</i>	<i>P.O.H.Q.</i>
<i>T. Harris</i>	<i>Dept. of Education</i>
<i>J.R. Hayes</i>	<i>B.P.</i>
<i>M.R. Moore</i>	<i>Health Department</i>
<i>P.C. Baker</i>	<i>U of C</i>
<i>C.J. Burnett</i>	<i>U of C</i>
<i>J.W. Griffin</i>	<i>U of C</i>
<i>Lau Boon Hwee</i>	<i>U of C</i>
<i>P. Lee</i>	<i>U of C</i>
<i>N.C. Winter</i>	<i>U of C</i>
<i>J.T. Buchanan</i>	<i>Cant. Frozen Meat</i>

conference

THE 1981 CONFERENCE WAS ONCE AGAIN A HUGE SUCCESS WITH O.R. PRACTITIONERS ATTENDING FROM ALL FACETS OF THE ECONOMY. THIS MIXTURE OF ATTENDEES WAS REFLECTED IN THE PAPERS PRESENTED.

THE UNIVERSITIES SHOWED HOW TO GET A PHD WHILE MINIMIZING THE NUMBER OF AWKWARD QUESTIONS AND RESEARCH, THOUGH NOT THE NUMBER OF SUBJECTS ATTEMPTED. THE PUBLIC SECTOR SHOWED HOW TO FIND A SOLUTION - ANY SOLUTION - WHILE THE PRIVATE SECTOR EXPLAINED HOW TO MAKE A QUICK BUCK OUT OF TRENDY O.R. PACKAGES.

THE DINNER WAS ALSO AN EXAMPLE OF O.R. MISMANAGEMENT WITH EXERCISES IN:-

- * INVENTORY CONTROL - THE WINE RAN OUT AT 7 PM.
- * PRODUCTION SCHEDULING - THE GUEST SPEAKER STARTED 10 MINUTES AFTER CLOSING TIME.
- * MINIMIZATION - TO KEEP AS LOW AS POSSIBLE THE NUMBER OF PEOPLE WHO SAW THE MICE.
- * QUEING THEORY - HOW TO GET AN EVEN DISTRIBUTION OF PEOPLE FINISHING MEALS FROM 7 PM. TILL 10 PM.
- * SIMULATION - HOW TO GET EVERYONE EATING AT THE SAME TIME BUT DIFFERENT COURSES.

THIS YEAR THE COVETED "BEST PAPER OF THE YEAR AWARD" WAS NOT PRESENTED - I WONDER WHY NOT?

AUCKLAND UNIVERSITY CENTENARY

THE UNIVERSITY OF AUCKLAND WILL CELEBRATE ITS CENTENARY IN MAY 1983. MANY EVENTS WILL TAKE PLACE DURING THE 'FOCUS' WEEK-END 6 - 9 MAY 1983. THOSE SEEKING FURTHER INFORMATION SHOULD WRITE TO THE REGISTRAR.

'Operations Management'

Martin K. Starr,
Prentice Hall, Englewood Cliffs,
New Jersey.
618p.

The book is descriptive and straight forward, concentrating on a broad ranging discussion of production management techniques and methods. It does not use complex mathematics and is aimed at the intellegent Manager of Supervisor, but OR analysts can still learn some useful points from it.

I was impressed by the broad coverage of a production company's operations covered, in a clear and lucid style. These range from concepts of productivity, break even graphical analyses, product life cycle, project management, flow shop management and line balancing, to forecasting, scheduling, inventory control and materials planning, location, equipment selection and layout, job improvement and wage determination, and quality assurance. A very good broad introduction, from which one can move on, if necessary to more detailed books. A considerable number of references are given on each Chapter.

Hugh Barr