

EURO

THE ASSOCIATION
OF EUROPEAN
OPERATIONAL
RESEARCH
SOCIETIES

21 SEPTEMBER - 31 DECEMBER 1998 • VOLUME 7 (3-4)

Bulletin

Inside

A message from the President Elect
Christoph Schneeweiss

EURO Prize for the best applied
paper Costas Pappis

EURO Prime I Conference
11-14 September 1999,
Warsaw, Poland

EURO Winter Institute
4-18 March 2000,
Lac Noir, Switzerland

EURO Member Societies corner
Croatian OR Society
Italian OR Society

IFORS 15th triennial Conference
16-20 August, Beijing, P. R. China

EURO events calendar

Bulletin of the Association of European Operational Societies (EURO)
distributed quarterly through the National Societies and on the
Internet EURO web server.

B.D.: Bruxelles X; A.K.: Brussel X

Editor: Ph. Van Asbroeck, 108 av. Sleeckx, B-1030 Bruxelles, Belgium

EURO Office • Université Libre de Bruxelles • Service de mathématiques
de la gestion • Bld du Triomphe CP 210/01 • B-1050 Brussels •
Belgium • Fax: +32 2 650 59 70 • E-mail: euro@ulb.ac.be • URL:
http://www.ulb.ac.be/euro/euro_welcome.html

A message from the President Elect

It has almost become a custom that shortly before the President Elect takes over the presidency of EURO he is asked to reflect upon the present state of EURO and to contribute some ideas about possible future developments. Following this tradition, I gladly accept this opportunity and invite you to share some thoughts on Operational Research and its present and future organization within EURO.

When I was asked to be a candidate for the position of President Elect, two motivations were most important for me: first, my permanent interest in a politically and scientifically closer co-operation in Europe, and second, the excellent state of all EURO institutions, and, in particular, the Executive Committee. Compared to quite a number of other international boards, EURO can be lucky to possess such a well-organized central steering institution with so highly motivated and capable colleagues, particularly those who, after four years on heavy duty, are retiring from active business, and the current President who happily continues to serve the Executive Committee as immediate Past President. But not only the Executive Committee, many other colleagues and friends considerably contribute to EURO's success, such as those who are working as chairpersons or members in programme and organizing committees, in Working Groups and Summer Institutes, in award and ad hoc committees and as National Representatives in the Council, as IFORS representatives and, last but not least, as EJOR editors.

How can all this enthusiasm of the present and former generations since the first days of EURO be explained? It seems to me that this has ultimately to do with our common interest in a flourishing and peaceful Europe that can play a constructive role in the world. After centuries of imperialism and disastrous wars, and being aware of a truly European development of science at the time when the first universities on our continent were founded, we are now the first generation that has the historic chance not only to contribute to the well-being of each country's economic situation but to foster mutual understanding on a peacefully unifying continent. At the eve of the common

currency, Europe is becoming a concrete reality. It is time for new departures. Let us seize the opportunity to get EURO even more prepared for the challenges of the decades to come.

EURO is one of the largest scientific organizations in Europe. It is operating in the highly important and rapidly developing field of information technology. The optimizing techniques of Operational Research are going to become of crucial significance. Thus OR is moving again into the center of interest. Moreover, since OR is team-oriented, it is ideally capable of playing the central role of a coordinating science. Having this rather positive perspective in mind, what are the directions towards which EURO should and could move?

Generally speaking, EURO is facing two worlds: an inner and an outer world. Considering its interior responsibilities, EURO has to serve its member societies and has to care for all those activities that can best be handled on a European basis. Instruments such as the yearly conferences, the Working Groups, Summer Institutes etc. are typical examples. The recent debate in the EURO bulletin and in the Italian newsletter (AIRO) clarified the role EURO can play in addition to the activities of the national societies. These 'geographical chapters' are indispensable for a vivid functioning of our science. It is in the tradition of our continent that cultural issues, such as certain questions of educational or academic qualification are regulated more or less locally. Thus, EURO with its federal structure perfectly matches the political structure in Europe.

On the other hand, and this became also quite clear in the debate, EURO is a body of its own and has to look after the interests of its members on a more global level. In particular, consciously or not, EURO is comparing itself with INFORMS. How is INFORMS organizationally structured compared with EURO? Which are INFORMS' instruments? How is INFORMS' contact to the business world organized? How is its relationship to the public media? How are young people supported and which role does a placement service play?

Of course, INFORMS is a 'national' society, and EURO is one of the regional societies of IFORS. But what does this mean? I believe, for the next century, very little. As EURO, we must exploit the opportunities an emerging unified Europe is offering us. We must realize and understand our cultural variety as an important chance and should preserve it on a local geographic basis which clearly implies that the structures of EURO will necessarily be different from those of INFORMS. On the other hand, there is a lot we can learn and that can be implemented in EURO. Even more: with the political process of integration there is considerable freedom for EURO to develop without too many institutional impediments. There are several new initiatives which, in my opinion, should be pursued in the next years:

The contact to European practice should be intensified. Compared to many national societies EURO had from its very beginning a problem in getting into contact with practitioners. The recent problems with the Best Applied Paper Award is only the last negative experience. On the other hand, Europe is the home market for our companies, and hence research and education in such an important field as modern technologies should be viewed from a European perspective. Therefore, despite the problems EURO had in the past, it still seems to be promising to invite the European business world to co-operate with EURO. So let us learn from the success INFORMS had with its roundtable and let us try to establish a EURO roundtable which is intended to function as an advisory board of European top managers. This would not only bind specific parts of European practice to EURO but could also intensify the contact of many a national society with practitioners in their country. First steps towards this direction have been taken. In due time more will have to be reported on this major step EURO should try to take.

Together with the roundtable, one could establish a placement service for young people. This service should not be limited to jobs but should also comprise a market for internships throughout Europe. The internet might be extremely useful in establishing such a market.

The contact with the emerging political structures should be intensified. This postulate is not new and in view of the almost impenetrable jungle of the European bureaucracy not easy to realize. It seems to me that seeking the contact with the European Union we should not only rely on the research aspect of our discipline. Here a country's national science foundation is still of central importance. Possibly more successful might be a contact concerning European education and curricula in our field. This is due because of the emerging European labour market and the inconclusiveness many European nations are experiencing in this central field.

An enormous difficulty in Europe seems to be the contact to the relevant press. There is no common language and only a limited public interest in European scientific activities. Thus we are again in a different situation compared to INFORMS. However, things are going to change and press releases of EURO should not be considered as being out of our scope. Indeed the National Representatives could translate EURO releases into their own language and could forward them to a selected number of journals in their country.

Clearly there will be further activities worth being pursued in the near future. You are invited to contribute your ideas simply by sending an e-mail. Indeed EURO needs all your support. None of the above activities can be performed without your active involvement.

(My e-mail address: schneeweiss@bwl.uni-mannheim.de)

Christoph Schneeweiss
President Elect

EURO Prize for the best applied paper (EURO 2000 Conference, Budapest, July 2000)

First announcement

The EURO 2000 Conference (to be held in Budapest in July 2000) will be marked, like all EURO Conferences since 1995, by the competition for the **"EURO Prize for the best applied paper"**. All interested authors are invited to submit papers describing an application of Operational Research which has original features, whether in methodology, application or implementation.

The purposes of the competition are:

- to recognise outstanding accomplishments in the practice of Operational Research,
- to attract more application-oriented papers to EURO Conferences,
- to promote the practice of Operational Research in general.

In submitting a paper, the authors should pay attention to the following:

- it will be presented at the EURO-2000 Conference in case of selection,
- it has not been submitted concurrently to another competition,
- the jury may take whatever contacts it feels appropriate to evaluate the paper,
- in case it is selected in the short-list, the paper will be submitted to a feature issue of EJOR guest-edited by the chairman of the jury. The jury will review the various submissions and select a short-list of finalist papers,
- the fees of the authors of the finalist papers will be waived (in case of multiple authors it is understood that fees are waived for only one of the authors). These papers will be presented in one or, in exceptional cases, several "special sessions" organised by the chairman of the jury.

The winner of the Prize will be determined by the jury after the presentation of the finalist papers in the special session. The winner of the Prize will be announced by the chairman of the jury during the closing session. The winner of the Prize will give a brief presentation (15 minutes) of the paper. The EURO Prize for the best applied paper should be

considered as a considerable honour. The Prize in itself will consist of:

- an ad-hoc certificate and medal,
- the exemption of fees for the next three EURO Conferences (in case of multiple authors, it is understood that there will be only three exemptions).

The schedule for the EURO 2000 Conference is as follows:

- 30 November 1999: Deadline for the submission of papers.
- December 1999 - March 2000: Jury examines submissions.
- April 2000: Jury announces the finalists papers. Referees are selected for the finalist papers. Composition of the special sessions transmitted to the Programme and Organising Committees. Special sessions are widely publicised in the Final programme.
- July 2000: Special sessions organised by the chairman with the finalist papers. Winner of the Prize announced during the closing session. Winning paper is briefly presented during the closing session.

All papers must be submitted in paper form as well as in electronic form (Word 6.0/95) attachment to an e-mail to the Chairman of the Jury Professor Costas P. Pappis at the following address:

University of Piraeus
Dept. of Industrial Management
80 Karaoli & Dimitriou Str.
18534 Piraeus
Greece

Tel.: (+301) 4222060, 4120751/ext.316
Fax: (+301) 4179064
E-mail: pappis@unipi.gr

CALL FOR PAPERS**Euro Prime I Conference**

**1st Meeting of Young Europeans on Operational Research
11 to 14 September 1999 - Warsaw, Poland**

OR in XXI st Century

EURO_PRIME_WARSAW_1999@ibspan.waw.pl
http://www.ibspan.waw.pl/EURO_PRIME_1999/

Objectives

The EURO Executive Committee decided to recommend the establishment of a young persons OR conference (Up'), open to persons under age of 35, which will take place every three years in the same year as the IFORS Conference.

The aim of the Up's is provide the means for the young OR specialist in Europe to meet in a less formal and less costly environment than that of the traditional EURO-K Conferences. It is suggested the conference be based at a university and use student accommodation.

It is expected that OR specialists will play the critical role in the information and knowledge society, and the digital economy of the 21st century.

Operational Research can be conceived as a very broad area, encompassing both hard and soft science based methods and tools for decision, management and governance support. It is also at the heart of the process system's integration, and design as well as implementation of smart machines and intelligent systems.

At EURO XVI new perspectives for Operational Research due to new technologies for information and communication (especially the WWW technologies) were examined. The recent system's integration of OR, computers and telecommunication are among the most important factors of change at the work in our society.

Electronic collaboration has become widespread already today, almost all EURO XVI participants possess electronic addresses and therefore we ask them to collaborate electronically with us for the success of Euro Prime I 1999.

EURO PRIME 1999 Topics

- Mathematical programming
- Interior point methods
- Mathematical programming / Location
- Integer programming
- SICUP
- Time tabling / Graph
- Transportation / Vehicle routing
- Metaheuristic
- OR applications
- Multicriteria methodology / Multi-objective programming
- Multicriteria decision analysis
- MCDA applications
- Scheduling
- Project scheduling / Logistics
- Management
- Flexible manufacturing
- Intelligent manufacturing
- Quality management
- Management of Technology: A European Perspective
- Research & Development
- Revenue Management: OR Perspective
- Globalization mergers and deregulation: opportunities for OR
- Knowledge & Organisation
- Strategic planning
- Production planning / Inventory
- Financial modelling & Risk management
- Information Technology in Management & Accounting
- Game theory / Rough sets
- Fuzzy theory / Applications
- Querying systems / Stochastic process
- Simulation / OR software tools
- Artificial intelligence
- Decision analysis and DSS
- Intelligent Group Decision & Negotiation Support
- Advances in computer and information technologies: opportunities for OR

- Real-Time OR
- DEA
- Methodology for analysing complex societal problems
- Environmental management and urban / social problems: opportunities for OR
- Modelling Environmental Problems
- Health Application
- Telecommunication
- Systems Integration: opportunities for OR
- Key Factors to Success in OR Practice
- Web-Based Simulation Modelling
- Internet Application
- Data Mining & Massive Data Sets
- Computational Intelligence in OR/MS
- Teaching / Learning in Cyberspace
- Techno-MBA: OR inputs
- Information Society Technologies and the Global Digital Networked Economy: OR perspective
- OR in 2004, 2014, 2024
- Other

EURO PRIME 99 conference Committees

Conference Chair Person

Andrzej Straszak: straszak@ibspan.waw.pl

Provisional Program Committee

Valerie Belton:

val@mansci.strath.ac.uk

Raymond Bisdorff (EURO):

bisdorff@crpcu.lu

Waldemar Dobrzyński:

dobrzyns@ibspan.waw.pl

Andrzej Straszak:

straszak@ibspan.waw.pl

Oliver Fabel:

oliver.fabel@wirtschaftsw.uni-magdeburg.d400.de

Przemyslaw Grzegorzewski:

pgrzeg@ibspan.waw.pl

Cecile Arondel:

arondel@lamsade.dauphine.fr

Roman Slowinski:

slowinsk@sol.put.poznan.pl

Jean-Pierre Barthelemy:

jp.barthelemy@enst-bretagne.fr

Andrzej Jaszkievicz:

Andrzej.Jaszkievicz@cs.put.poznan.pl

Janusz Kacprzyk:

kacprzyk@ibspan.waw.pl

Tuula Kinnunen:

tuula.kinnunen@tukkk.fi

Zbigniew Klimont:

klimont@iiasa.ac.at

Zilla Sinuany-Stern:

zilla@bgumail.bgu.ac.il

Luis Valadares Tavaras:

lavt@alfa.ist.utl.pt

Jorge Miguel Reis Silva:

jmiguel@alpha2.ubi.pt

Leo Kroon:

lkroon@fac.fbk.eur.nl

Mirko Vujosevic:

evujosev@ubbg.etf.bg.ac.yu

Jesus T. Pastor:

jtpastor@umh.es

Rainer E. Burkard:

burkard@opt.math.tu-graz.ac.at

Olivier Hueber:

hueber@pop.idefi.cnrs.fr

Radoslav Vician:

rado@ainova.sk

Paul Windrum:

Paul.Windrum@man.ac.uk

Maurice Yolles:

m.yolles@livm.ac.uk

Edmund Burke:

ekb@cs.nott.ac.uk

Andrea Schaerf:

aschaerf@dis.uniroma1.it

Arjen van Weert:

arjen@lcn.nl

David Corne:

D.W.Corne@reading.ac.uk

Ben Paechter:

benp@dcs.napier.ac.uk

Jonathan Thompson:

j.m.thompson@swan.ac.uk

James Peter Newell:

jpn@cs.nott.ac.uk

De Baets Bernard:
Bernard.DeBaets@rug.ac.be

Fortemps Philippe:
Philippe.Fortemps@fmeps.ac.be

Perny Patrice:
Patrice.Perny@lip6.fr

Marek Makowski:
marek@iiasa.ac.at

Van-Dat Cung:
Van-Dat.Cung@prism.uvsq.fr

Mauro Dell Amico:
dellamico@unimo.it

David Pisinger:
pisinger@diku.dk

Bartel Van de Walle:
bvdwalle@sckcen.be

Jerzy Houbiec:
holubiec@ibspan.waw.pl

Bogdan Smolka:
bsmolka@peach.ia.polsl.gliwice.pl

The EURO Prime Conference Organising Committee

Andrzej Straszak (Chairperson) ASPORS, PORSS:
straszak@ibspan.waw.pl

Olgierd Hryniewicz (Systems Research Institute Polish Academy of Sciences):
hryniewi@ibspan.waw.pl

Zbigniew Nahorski (Applied Information Technology and Management University):
nahorski@wsisiz.edu.pl

Roman Ostrowski (Systems Research Institute Polish Academy of Sciences):
rostrow@ibspan.waw.pl

Piotr Sienkiewicz (ASPORS, NDA):
p.sienkiewicz@wp.mil.pl

Jerzy Houbiec (INFORMS Polish Chapter):
holubiec@ibspan.waw.pl

Jan Owsinski (Secretary ASPORS):
owsinski@ibspan.waw.pl

Bartomiej Solarz-Niesuchowski (Systems Research Institute):
solarz@ibspan.waw.pl

Tatiana Jaworska (Systems Research Institute):
jaworska@ibspan.waw.pl

Barbara Mabic-Kulma (Applied Information Technology and Management University):
kulma@wsisiz.edu.pl

Andrzej Kauszko (ASPORS):
kaluszek@ibspan.waw.pl

Plus persons yet to be nominated.

Contact person

Dr Waldemar Dobrzyński:
dobrzyns@ibspan.waw.pl

Co-organizing research organization and University

- Systems Research Institute Polish Academy of Sciences, Warsaw, Poland
<http://www.ibspan.waw.pl/>
- Applied Information Technology and Management University, Warsaw, Poland
<http://www.wsisiz.edu.pl/>

Co-organizing EURO Working Groups

- MODEST, Modelling of economies and societies in transition:
owsinski@ibspan.waw.pl
- DEAPM, Data envelopment analysis and performance measurement:
A.Emrouznejad@warwick.ac.uk

Conference Fee

Conference fee will vary according to the country of origin of the participants from 130 to 30 CHF for early registration and from 170 to 50 CHF for late registration.

After registration and sending the abstract you will receive (in about one week) e-mail concerning your conference fee.

Would you be so kind to register and send the abstract as soon as possible.

EURO Winter Institute (EWI) XVIII

Lac Noir, Switzerland,
March 4 - March 18, 2000

Theme

Metaheuristics in Combinatorial Optimisation

Scope

In recent years, several metaheuristics have proved highly efficient for the solution of combinatorial optimisation problems. The EURO Winter Institute will focus on this topic, more particularly on the development and the use of local search techniques (e.g., tabu search, simulated annealing), evolutionary algorithms (e.g., genetic algorithms, scatter search) and neural networks. Applications of these metaheuristics on academic or real life problems are welcome.

EURO Summer and Winter Institutes (ESWI) are organised to encourage good social and working relationships among promising young OR scientists in Europe. One important purpose of a EURO Institute is to establish a network of promising young researchers (normally aged 25-35) who will continue to work together in future, e.g. as a working group. The participation is limited to a group of about 25. Participation is an honour and a person can be a participant in an ESWI only once in her/his career.

Applicants should submit an unpublished paper within the theme of the Institute together with their curriculum vitae to their National OR Society. Each National Society of EURO will then select one (eventually two) candidate(s) and submit the information to the chairperson of EWI XVIII. The scientific committee will make the final choice of the participants.

Activities

At the Institute there will be lectures given by invited speakers, but the main emphasis will be on the participants' presentations and on the discussion about the papers. A special issue of EJOR (European Journal of Operational Research) will be prepared based on papers presented at the Institute. EURO considers the social activities to be most important for the success of the EWI, since it is through these activities that friendships can deve-

lop and a scientific network can be established for cooperation in the future. For this purpose, the organisers of this Swiss EWI will prepare a varied social program including visits to chocolate and cheese factories.

Location and expenses

EWI XVIII will take place in Lac Noir (Schwarzsee), a lovely village of the Swiss Alps situated just near a mountain lake, in a middle of a fantastic snow landscape. The cost of stay at the EWI (scientific programme, accommodation, meals, and social activities) is covered by EURO, the Swiss OR Society, the "3e cycle romand de recherche opérationnelle" and other sponsors. The participants will have to cover the costs of travel expenses to Lac Noir. However, EURO encourages the National OR Societies to give support to their participants to cover these costs.

Schedule

Deadline for submission of papers to the National Societies : to be decided by each National Society. Deadline for submission of information about the candidates by the National OR Societies to EWI: October 30, 1999.

Announcement of selected participants by the Scientific Committee of the EWI: November 30, 1999. EWI XVIII (Metaheuristics in Combinatorial Optimisation): March 4 - 18, 2000.

Information

Information is available from the chairperson of the organising committee:

Marino Widmer,
Université de Fribourg,
IIUF - Regina Mundi,
Rue Faucigny 2,
CH-1700 Fribourg
Switzerland
Tel.: ++ 41 26 300 83 24
Fax: ++ 41 26 300 97 26
E-mail: marino.widmer@unifr.ch

This corner is devoted to news passed on by EURO Member societies to the EURO Bulletin.

The Croatian OR Society

Address:
 CRORS HDOI,
 Ekonomski facultet,
 Kennedyjev trg. 6,
 HR-10000 Zagreb, Croatia
 Tel.: +385 1 233 1111
 Fax: +385 1 233 5633
 E-mail: ksoric@oliver.efzg.hr
 URL: <http://www.foi.hr/hdoi/>

First announcement and call for papers
 ParaOpt VI - October 4-8, 1999
 Dubrovnik, Croatia
 The 6th International Conference on Parametric
 Optimization and Related Topics
 Information:
<http://www.math.hr/dubrovnik/index.htm>
 Reply form:
<http://www.math.hr/dubrovnik/form.htm>

The Italian OR Society

Address:
 AIRO, c/o Sig. A. Martinoli Bagnasco,
 Via Serretto 1/4, I-16131 Genova, Italy
 Tel.: +39 10 377 7703
 Fax: +39 10 377 7703
 URL: <http://www.autom.dist.unige.it/AIRO/airo.html>

AIRO99
 Annual Conference of the Operational Research
 Society of Italy
 Naples, Castel dell'Ovo, September 21-24, 1999

Simulation and Optimisation in Operations Management

First announcement and call for papers

Date and Location
 AIRO99, the Annual Conference of the Operatio-
 nal Research Society of Italy, will be held in Naples,
 Castel dell'Ovo, on September 21-24, 1999.

Theme
 The theme is open, but contributions on models
 and methods for simulation and optimisation in
 operations management will be appreciated.

Organisation
 The Conference is organised into plenary and con-
 current sessions. Opportunities for software demon-
 strations are available. The Conference languages
 are Italian and English.

Call for Papers
 Researchers and O.R. practitioners wishing to pre-
 sent papers should send an abstract of 300 words
 within March 31, 1999. The abstract, written in a
 text format file without mathematical formulas,
 should contain: title, authors, affiliations (tel., fax,
 e-mail), three key words and at most five refer-
 ences. The file should be sent via e-mail to:
airo99@airo.org

or via courier to the following address:
 AIRO99 - Prof. Antonio Sforza
 Dipartimento di Informatica e Sistemistica
 Universita degli Studi di Napoli "Federico II"
 Via Claudio 21 - 80125 Napoli

EURO MEMBER SOCIETIES CORNER

This corner is devoted to news passed on by EURO Member societies to the EURO Bulletin.

Selection of Papers

The AIRO99 Programme Committee will select the papers to be presented at the Conference and included in the Conference Proceedings.

Special Issue of AIRO Journal

A special issue of *Ricerca Operativa*, Journal of AIRO, will be devoted to the papers presented at the Conference. Authors interested in this opportunity have to submit the full paper within September 30, 1999.

Students and Graduated

Students and graduated introduced by Operational Research teachers may attend AIRO99 at a reduced fee.

Deadlines

March 31, 1999 submission of abstracts
May 31, 1999 acceptance notice

Registration Fees

	Within June 30, 1999	After June 30, 1999
AIRO members	L. 350.000	L. 450.000
Ph.D	L. 150.000	L. 200.000
Stud. and graduat.	L. 50.000	L. 65.000
Others	L. 450.000	L. 550.000

Payment

- Bank transfer on account AIRO99 n. 27/133, Banco di Napoli, Fisciano (Sa), (ABI 01010 - CAB 76210)
- Cheque enclosed to registration form and payable to AIRO99.
- Credit card

Hotels

There are many hotels in Naples, but reservations should be made well in advance. For detailed information about travelling and accommodation participants may contact:

Romanticsud Express,
viale Augusto 94, 80125 Napoli
Tel.: +39 081 2394822 pbx
Fax: +39 081 5935880

Secretariat

AIRO99 will be organised with co-operation of CRMPA (Research Center on Pure and Applied Mathematics, www.crmpa.it) and DIIMA (Dept. of Information Engineering and Applied Mathematics) at University of Salerno, 84084 Fiscano (Sa),
Tel.: +39 089 964189
Fax: +39 089 964191
E-mail: silvia@gauss.crmpa.unisa.it
<http://www.airo.org/airo99>



IFORS '99

15th Triennial Conference Hosted by the Operations Research Society of China Beijing, P.R. China, August 16 - 20, 1999

Conference theme

OR-Parallel roads to prosperity in the 21st century

Registration fee

Registration before May 1, 1999 - \$US425

Registration after May 1, 1999 - \$US550

Students - \$US200 and \$300, depending on meeting the deadline

Registration fee includes

- Attendance at the Conference
- Final program book
- Coffee breaks
- Get-together party with Chinese style buffet
- Banquet
- Evening social - acrobatic show
- One day tour of the Great Wall
- One-year subscription to ITOR (International Transactions in Operational Research)

Conference venue and hotel

The conference venue and accommodation will take place at the Beijing Friendship Hotel, one of the largest garden-style, four-star hotels in Asia with a style of classic elegance. Situated in the northwest part of Beijing, it is half an hour away from Beijing International Airport by taxi. The hotel consists of five buildings, twenty-six restaurants each serving a different style of authentic Chinese and Western cuisines, a golf course, a swimming pool with diving platforms, a billiards room, tennis courts, a health Center Sauna, bars and ballrooms. It has 1,900 rooms of various categories, all with private facilities. The hotel has various multi-functional halls and meeting rooms (over sixteen parallel session rooms) with sophisticated facilities. It is an ideal place for conferences.

Address

No. 3 Baishiqiao Road,
Beijing 100873, China
Tel.: 86-10-68498888
Fax: 86-10-68498866

Accommodation Costs

Category	Rate
Deluxe Twin	US\$100
Superior Twin	US\$85
Standard Twin	US\$55
Triangular Bedroom	US\$28
Standard Suite	US\$160

Notes

1. Because August is usually a busy tourist month, payment for hotel accommodation must be sent before June 1, 1999, and must be directed to the Conference Secretariat to receive the above rates for the Conference.

2. These rates include 10% service charges, US\$1.5 city construction fees per day and an US\$8 Western breakfast. Extras such as IDD and DDD calls, lunch, supper, laundry, minibars, etc. are not included.

3. A standard room contains two single beds. The Secretariat will not be responsible for room sharing arrangements. The triangular bedrooms will be reserved only for scholars and students because of the limited number of these rooms.

The Secretariat will make reservations according to the check-in and check-out dates indicated on the Registration Form.

Software and book exhibition

The Local Organizing Committee will organize an exhibition, which will remain open from 08:30 to 18:30 every day during the Conference. Commercial exhibitors will be welcome to display books,

journals and computer software related to OR. Exhibition-participation cost will be US\$1000 for one booth (including 3.2 m x 1.4 m space, 1.8 m high walls on the three sides, two information desks with two chairs, one or two 15A/220V socket, and conference get-together party and coffee breaks). Exhibits will be set up on August 15 and dismantled on August 21.

The Local Organizing Committee will also arrange technical seminars for exhibitors in the evening. The fee for the arrangements of a technical seminar depends on the needs of exhibitors. Those who are interested in exhibiting should please contact:

Mrs. Cuiling Lan, IFORS'99 Secretariat
Center for International Scientific Exchanges
Chinese Academy of Sciences
52 Sanlihe Rd., Beijing 100864, China
Tel.: 86 10 68597201 or 86 10 68597207
Fax: 86 10 68597740
E-mail: hy-cise@mail.cashq.ac.cn

Working lunches

In order to provide more opportunities for participants to meet with one other, working lunches will be arranged during August 16-20, at a cost of US\$10, not including drinks. Lunch tickets will be sold when you register on the spot at the registration desk. (Lunches are not included in the registration fee.)

Social Program

The local organizing committee has organized a social program of tours for you and your accompanying person to interesting historic sites during your stay in Beijing. The following is the list of sight-seeing lines for the five days during the conference.

Line 1	US\$20	Afternoon	Temple of Heaven \ Tian An Men Square
Line 2	US\$18	Morning	Palace Museum
	US\$7	Afternoon	Beijing Zoo
Line 3	US\$15	Morning	Summer Palace
	US\$15	Afternoon	Fragrant Hill Park \ Temple of the Reclining Buddha
Line 4	US\$10	Morning	Coal Hill Park \ Beihai Park
	US\$10	Afternoon	Lama Temple
Line 5	US\$10	Morning	Chinese Ethnic Culture Park
	US\$7	Afternoon	Shopping Tour

Pre- and post- Congress Tours

In order that Congress participants may admire many historic sites, scenic areas and recent developments in other cities in China, Pre-and Post-Congress tours will be specially arranged by the Center for International Scientific Exchanges of CAS and the China International Travel Service. First-class service will be provided. Optional tour sites are as follows:

Pre-Tour 1

Shanghai-Xi'an-Beijing, August 11-15, 1999

Pre-Tour 2

Guangzhou-Guilin-Xi'an-Beijing, August 10-15, 1999

Post-Tour 1

Beijing-Kunming-Dali-Xishuangbanna-Kunming (Exit)-Hong Kong, Aug.21-29, 1999

Post-Tour 2

Beijing-Nanjing-Wuxi-Suzhou-Shanghai, August 21-27, 1999

Post-Tour 3

Beijing-Xi'an-Guilin-Guangzhou, August 21-26, 1999

Post-Tour 4

Beijing-Chengdu-Lhasa-Chengdu-Guangzhou, August 21-27, 1999

Post-Tour 5

Beijing-Xi'an-Dunhuang-Turpan-Urumqi-Beijing, August 21-31, 1999

The prices per person for each tour are as follows:

Pre-Tour 1	US\$740 (D)	US\$806 (S)
Pre-Tour 2	US\$899 (D)	US\$978 (S)
Post-Tour 1	US\$1340 (D)	US\$1490 (S)
Post-Tour 2	US\$683 (D)	US\$809 (S)
Post-Tour 3	US\$953 (D)	US\$1031 (S)
Post-Tour 4	US\$1806 (D)	US\$2044 (S)
Post-Tour 5	US\$1766 (D)	US\$2011 (S)

* (D) and (S) indicate respectively DOUBLE OCCUPANCY and SINGLE OCCUPANCY for hotel accommodation, respectively.

General information

Visas

An official invitation letter will be issued to those who return the final registration form. Please take this letter with you to your nearest Chinese Embassy or Consulate to apply for entry visa(s).

Weather

Beijing has a continental climate with clearly defined seasons. Weather in Beijing during the Conference will be somewhat hot. The average temperature in August is about 25°C, 20°C at night and 30°C during the daytime. There are occasional showers.

Arrival

For the convenience of the participants, special arrangements will be made to meet participants at Beijing International Airport on August 14 and 15 and transport them to the Beijing Friendship Hotel. Representatives holding a sign inscribed "IFORS'99" will be present at the airport exit from 7:00 to 23:00. The transportation fee from the airport to the hotel is US\$10 per person, payable on the bus. Taxis are always available at the Airport. Taxi fares to the hotels will be about RMB 120 (or about US\$15).

Invited Papers

Papers will be invited from prominent researchers and practitioners by session organizers. In addition,

the national and kindred member societies of IFORS are invited to present National Contributions.

Contributed Papers

Authors wishing to contribute papers are requested to submit an abstract of not more than 50 words electronically by WWW, or email, or by fax or normal mail. Responding to this call for papers with an abstract does not constitute registration for the conference. The deadline for the electronic submission of abstracts is DECEMBER 31, 1998.

Abstracts of all papers (both invited or contributed), along with an Abstract Fee of \$US100, should be submitted to the IFORS Secretariat:

Ms. L. Peregrina
IFORS Secretariat
Richard Ivey School of Business
The University of Western Ontario
London ON
Canada N6A 3K7
E-mail: ifors@ivey.uwo.ca
Fax: + 1 519 439 6783

The abstract fee, which is non-refundable after December 31, 1998, will be credited towards the presenter's registration fee.

For more detailed information on abstract submission, please see our website: <http://www.ifors.org/>



EURO events calendar

26/02/99 14/03/99	ESWI	Protection and Exploitation of Renewable Resources: Ilomantsi, Finland Tuula.Kinnunen@tukkk.fi
5-6/03/99	EWG	HOP, Hierarchical Organisational Planning: Mannheim, Germany schneeweiss@bwl.uni-mannheim.de
18-19/03/99	EWG	Aid for Multicriteria Decisions: 49th Meeting, Milan, Italy colorni@elet.polimi.it
7-9/04/99	EWG	Financial Modelling: Valencia, Spain Molenaar@few.eur.nl
25-27/04/99	EWG	Decision Support Systems: Turku, Finland christer.carlsson.abo.fi
5-7/05/99	EWG	Eurobanking: Rome, Italy antti.korhonen@indeksi.pp.fi
25-28/05/99	EWG	EUROFUSE, Fuzzy sets: Joint EUROFUSE - International Conference: Joint Meeting of the EURO Working Group on Fuzzy Sets and Second International Conference on Soft and Intelligent Computing, Budapest, Hungary Bernard.DeBaets@rug.ac.be jfodor@mszi.gau.hu
27-29/05/99	EWG	ECCO XII: Bandor, Spain smartello@deis.unibo.it
22/06/99	EWG	Group and Negotiation Decision Support: Copenhagen, Denmark Fran@mansci.strath.ac.uk
23-29/06/99	EWG	Locational Analysis: ISOLDE VIII, Coimbra/Estoril, Portugal coutinho@inescc.pt antunes@dec.uc.pt http://www.dec.uc.pt/isolde8
18-23/07/99	EWG	ORAHS: Latvia david@dclayden.demon.co.uk
2-3/08/99	EWG	Transportation: 7th meeting, Espoo, Finland bielli@iasi.rm.cnr.it
3-6/08/99	Mini EURO	Mini Euro Conference on Artificial Intelligence in Transportation and Science, Espoo, Finland jarkko.niittymaki@hut.fi
XX/09/99	EWG	Environmental Planning: Beijing, China, (during the IFORS conference) pappis@unipi.gr

EURO events calendar

XX/09/99	EWG	WATT: Beijing, China, (during the IFORS conference) j.a.m.schreuder@math.utwente.nl
11-14/09/99	Euro Prime	1st EURO Prime Conference: Warsaw, Poland http://www.ibspan.waw.pl/EURO_PRIME_1999/
22-24/09/99	Mini Euro	10th Mini EURO Conferences - Human Centered Processes HCP'99: Brest, France
28/09-2/10/99	EWG	Aid for Multicriteria Decisions: 50th Meeting (and 25th anniversary), Cerisy-la-Salle, France roy@lamsade.dauphine.fr
18-20/11/99	EWG	Financial Modelling: Vienna, Austria Molenaar@few.eur.nl
4-18/03/00	EWI	Financial Modelling: Trondheim, Norway Molenaar@few.eur.nl
4-18/04/00	ESWI	EURO Winter Institute: Lac Noir, Switzerland marino.widmer@unifr.ch
Spring 00	EWG	Financial Modelling: Trondheim, Norway Molenaar@few.eur.nl
16-19/07/00	EURO XVII	Budapest, Hungary
XX/09/00	EWG	Transportation: Rome, Italy bielli@iasi.rm.cnr.it http://www.iasi.rm.cnr.it/~ewgt/index.htm
Autumn 00	EWG	Financial Modelling: New York, USA Molenaar@few.eur.nl
XXYY/00	EWG	Project Management and Scheduling: Germany lavt@civil18.civil.ist.utl.pt

If you want to add any EURO event, please contact the EURO Office (euro@ulb.ac.be).

ESWI: EURO Summer & Winter Institute
 EURO-k: EURO Conference
 EURO Prime: EURO Prime Conference
 EWG: EURO Working Group Meeting
 Mini EURO: Mini EURO Conference