

*MSOM Business Meeting Minutes, INFORMS Spring Conference
May 6, 1996 (Washington, D.C.)*

The meeting opened with an announcement by Morris Cohen concerning the recent death of Xavier de Groot. Morris commented on Xavier's contributions to the OM community and to his popularity in the classroom at Wharton and INSEAD. Xavier will be remembered for his fresh approach to life and his elegant integration of operations and economic models. He is survived by his wife, Martina, and two young sons, Gauthier and Antoine.

After this solemn note, Michael Magazine welcomed everyone to the meeting and gave a brief overview of the agenda. Karen Donohue reported on the finances of the society. Since the merger of TECMAN and COPOM, the society has run a healthy surplus of \$3,500 per year. The current membership of the society stands at 595.

Saif Benjaafar was thanked for putting together an exciting set of *MSOM* sponsored sessions at the current conference. The session organizers for upcoming conferences include:

Fall 1996 (Atlanta): Mark Spearman and Richard Daniels

Spring 1997 (San Diego):

Faculty at UCLA: fReza Ahmadi, Sriram Dasu, Tech Ho, Uday Karmarkar, Hyung Kim and Chris Tang.

Fall 1997 (Dallas): Valerie Tardif

Valerie Tardif announced that she is looking for volunteers to put together panel discussions and tutorials as well as regular sessions for the Fall 1997 meeting. (Note: If you would like to volunteer or have an idea for an interesting session, contact Valerie at tardif@mail.utexas.edu). Medini Singh reminded everyone about the upcoming *MSOM* conference which will take place on June 24 & 25 at Dartmouth. A smaller, more focused "Multi-Echelon Conference" will also be held at Dartmouth on June 23. The next *MSOM* conference is scheduled for the Summer of 1998 in Seattle, Washington. Derek Atkins and Ted Klastorin are organizing this conference.

In an effort to increase our opportunities as a group, Michael Magazine raised the issue of whether to convert *MSOM* from Section to Society status. Vicki Sauter, Vice President-Subdivisions, was introduced as a special guest to provide information on this matter. Vicky outlined the pros and cons of converting from a Section to a Society. Generally, a Society is viewed as a larger, more established organization. For example, a Society can serve as an umbrella organization for several specialized Sections. A Society does not differ from a Section in terms of its interaction with *INFORMS*. Both forms of organization enjoy the same internal benefits. After some open discussion, the general consensus of the group was to remain a Section for the time being.

Turning to the issue of communications, Michael Magazine announced that Frank Ciarallo and Dilip Chhajed welcome suggestions and submissions for the *MSOM* newsletter (contact Frank at frank@sie.arizona.edu) and Website (contact Dilip at dchhajed@commerce.cba.uiuc.edu). Information related to *MSOM* can now be found at:

<http://www.sie.arizona.edu/MSOM/msom.html> (*MSOM homepage*)

<http://www.sie.arizona.edu/MSOM/april96news.html> (*April Newsletter*)

<http://www.engr.wisc.edu/~informs/homepage.html> (*Research Database*)

Raj Veeramani outlined the current status of the *MSOM* Research Database. This Website will allow

easy submission and retrieval of papers according to the OR/MS subject classification index as well as by author or key words. For more information, check out the Website listed above or contact Raj directly at raj@ie.engr.wisc.edu.

Yehuda Bassok reminded all students and recent graduates that submissions for the *MSOM* student paper competition must be received by August 30, 1996. *MSOM* members should encourage their students to submit their best papers. A hand-out was distributed outlining the status of the new *MSOM* journal, edited by Lee Schwartz. The first issue is planned for first quarter 1998, with a call for papers planned for early Fall 1996. The editorial organization will consist of 30 senior editors and a larger editorial board. The overall review process will be tightly coordinated by the Editor-in-Chief's office and designed to provide reviews to submitting authors within 75 days of their receipt.

Michael Magazine ended the meeting by announcing the newly elected officers for 1996-1997:

President: Joe Mazzola
Executive VP (President-elect): Mark Spearman
VP for Meetings and Communications: Karla Bourland
Secretary/Treasurer: Karen Donohue.

Joe Mazzola led the attendees in a round of applause thanking Michael Magazine for his work as President. The meeting was then adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Donohue