

# ORBEL vzw

“Société Belge de Recherche Opérationnelle”

“Belgische Vereniging voor Operationeel Onderzoek”

ING : BE03 3200 8587 5584 ASBL/VZW n° 406630532

Siège Social/Sociale zetel: 30 Av. Renaissance-laan, B-1000 Bruxelles-Brussel

## Minutes of the General Assembly January 30, 2020, Lille (France)

**Present:** Gerrit Janssens, Bernard Fortz, Dimitri Papadimitriou, Kenneth Sørensen, Pieter Vansteenwegen, Patrick De Causmaecker, Wouter Blondeel, Thierry Pironet, Greet Vanden Berghe, Wouter Verbeke, Yasemin Arda, Dries Goossens, Jeroen Beliën, Delphine Luçq, Célia Paquay, Hatice Çalik , Ines Marques, Daniel Sentis

*Starting: 4.50 pm*

*Attached documents:*

Activity report 2019 (G. Janssens)

Financial report 2019 and budget 2020 (D. Goossens)

4OR report (Y. Crama)

### Agenda

1. Approval of the minutes of the General Assembly, dated February 7, 2019

**Decision:** The minutes are approved without changes.

2. ORBEL activity report of the delegate Administrator

G. Janssens presents the report.

**Decision:** the report is officially acknowledged and approved unanimously.

3. Activity report from the OR Publication delegate on 4OR and OR Publications

K. Sørensen presents the report about 4OR and OR Publications, made by Y. Crama.

**Decision:** the report is officially acknowledged and approved unanimously.

4. Financial report by the Treasurer

D. Goossens presents the financial situation of 2019 and the new budget for 2020.

5. Approval of the consolidated accounts for 2019 and of the budget for 2020.

**Decision:** approved unanimously.

6. Clearance for the board of administrators

**Decision:** The assembly unanimously gives clearance to the Administrators.

7. Membership fees for 2021

**Unanimous decision:** We kept the fees unchanged for 2013-2020, but now we increase the regular fee with 15 euro and the student/retired fee with 10 euro, to obtain a more balanced yearly budget. We remove the institutional membership. Any member may still request a paper (every member) or an electronic version (PhD students) for an additional fee (€ 15 each).

**Standard** (regular) membership : € 70

**Students** and **retired person's** membership: € 40

## 8. ORBEL 35

Antwerp is a candidate for organizing ORBEL 35.

**Decision:** approved unanimously.

## 9. Nominations for the Board of Administrators

**11 members elected for 2019 and 2020:**

- Aghezzaf, El-Houssaine
- Beliën, Jeroen
- Caris, An
- Labbé, Martine
- Leus, Roel
- Goossens, Dries
- Sartenaer, Annick
- Spieksma, Frits
- Sörensen, Kenneth
- Tancrez, Jean-Sébastien
- Van Utterbeeck, Filip

**Decision:**

**18 members elected for 2020 and 2021:**

- Arda, Yasemin
- Blondeel, Wouter
- Chevalier, Philippe
- Crama, Yves
- David, Benoit
- De Baets, Bernard
- De Causmaecker, Patrick
- De Smet, Yves
- Fortz, Bernard
- Janssens, Gerrit
- Kunsch, Pierre
- Mélot, Hadrien
- Papadimitriou, Dimitri
- Pirlot, Marc
- Schyns, Michaël
- Vanden Berghe, Greet
- Vansteenwegen, Pieter
- Wittevrongel, Sabine

## 10. Miscellaneous items

a. All papers published in JORBEL (1961-2001) are now available in a digital format:

[www.orbel.be/jorbel](http://www.orbel.be/jorbel)

*Finishing: 5:30 pm.*

*Lille, January 30, 2020*

*Kenneth Sörensen*

*President*

*Pieter Vansteenwegen*

*Secretary*

# ORBEL

## General Assembly meeting held at Centrale Lille

on Thursday 30 January 2020

### ANNUAL REPORT OF THE ACTIVITIES IN 2019

Dear Chairman, dear Members of the Administration Board, dear ORBEL Members

This document reports on the following activities: the ORBEL 33 conference held at Hasselt University, the ORBEL award 2019, the involvement of the society into scientific publications, and news from other activities of the society in 2019.

The 33<sup>rd</sup> national conference on Operations Research, called **ORBEL 33**, has been organised by our board member An Caris and her team members at the Hasselt University on Thursday 7 and Friday 8 February 2019. The organising team has managed to host 109 participants, with 53 scheduled presentations and three invited talks. The following distinguished plenary speakers took the floor: (1) Claudia Archetti (Università degli Studi di Brescia, Brescia, Italy) with a talk entitled 'Vehicle routing problems and recent business trends'; (2) Sandra Transchel (Kühne Logistics University, Hamburg, Germany) with a talk entitled 'Quantitative modelling to manage supply chains for perishable products'; and (3) Richard Hartl (Universität Wien, Austria) with a talk 'Vehicle routing with equity and balance criteria: models, methods, insights'. The conference dinner took place in a place called Smaaksalon in the center of Hasselt city. The financial results and the number of ORBEL memberships obtained through subscription to the conference will be reported in the financial report to be presented by the treasurer. Many thanks to the organising team for the successful conference.

The **ORBEL award** is an award handed out by the society, every year, to the best student's Master thesis in the field of Operations Research. The award amounts to 1500 Euro and is sponsored by OM Partners (currently called OMP), a provider of supply chain planning software located in Wommelgem near Antwerp. Selected candidates present their work at the ORBEL conference and the award is handed over to the winner during the conference. For the ORBEL 2019 award, the jury, presided by our board member Jeroen Beliën, selected Hendrik Wijnant (Ghent University) to be the winner with his thesis entitled 'The influence of line balancing on line feeding for mixed-model assembly lines' with promoter Veronique Limère.

With respect to the publications, the society is actively involved in the journal **4OR (A quarterly journal of operations research)** through the duty of the main editor Yves Crama (together with Michel Grabisch and Silvano Martello). The details on the recent volume of the journal have been prepared by our board member Yves Crama.

**Other activities**, organised by members of the society, with support of the society, include the Belgian Mathematical Optimization workshop and the on-line availability of the articles of the JORBEL journal.

- (1) The Belgian Mathematical Optimization workshop took place at the Floréal in La-Roche-en-Ardenne on 25 and 26 April 2019. In a single session, twelve presentations were made by speakers from various Belgian universities, and two invited talks by Silvano Martello and by Claudia d'Ambrosio were added to the program. The organisation was in hands of our board member Bernard Fortz.
- (2) Our society had its own journal from 1961 till 2001 under different names, of which the last one was JORBEL. In the past years, the papers have been scanned in order to put them accessible through the website of ORBEL. In 2019 this website has been set up by our president Kenneth Sörensen and is now ready to go into operation.

I would like to thank all members of the society for bringing out research in their publications and presentations at the numerous conferences abroad to let the world know that there exists an active Operations Research Society in Belgium. Further, the board of administrators for observing and suggesting a good operation of the society. Let me mention at this point, the president, Kenneth Sörensen, who served already for one year, to keep the society alive with a great spirit. Thanks to Dries Goossens, of taking over the responsibility as treasurer for a long time. Thanks also to the ORBEL 33 organisers and hoping they can repeat this effort in a not too long time. Thanks to Jeroen Beliën for organising the ORBEL award before and during the conference. Thanks to Yves Crama for being the representation of the society to the journal 4OR. Thanks to Bernard Fortz for keeping the links active with EURO and IFORS. Thanks to Pieter Vansteenwegen for his active work as the ORBEL secretary.

Gerrit Janssens, Delegate Administrator on January 30, 2020

## ORBEL – Results 2019

### IN

	2018 [Eur]	2019 [Eur]	budget 2019 [Eur]
membership	4325,00	3836,06	4000,00
publications	0,00	0,00	0,00
conferences	0,00	0,00	0,00
subsidies	0,00	0,00	0,00
interests	19,10	1,49	0,00
total	4344,10	3837,55	4000,00

### OUT

	2018 [Eur]	2019 [Eur]	budget 2019 [Eur]
memberships	174,90	173,75	200,00
publications	4636,70	4501,82	4000,00
workshops	1000,00	1000,00	3000,00
secretariat	650,00	619,60	650,00
website	0,00	311,30	0,00
bank costs	131,35	193,30	135,00
borsalino	0,00	0,00	2500,00
total	6592,95	6799,77	10485,00
net result	-2248,85	-2962,22	-6485,00

### Balance

#### Assets

	1/1/19 [Eur]	31/12/19 [Eur]
ING current	1970,99	3477,13
ING deposit	19841,61	15343,25
subtotal	21812,60	18820,38
VAT account	2198,41	2198,41
Others	-295,55	-265,55
total	23715,5	20753,24

#### Liabilities

	1/1/19 [Eur]	31/12/19 [Eur]
capital	24000,00	22000,00
reserves	1964,31	1715,46
net result	-2248,85	-2962,22
Total	23715,46	20753,24

## ORBEL – Budget 2020

### IN

	2019	budget 2019	budget 2020
	[Eur]	[Eur]	[Eur]
membership	3836,06	4000,00	4000,00
publications	0,00	0,00	0,00
conferences	0,00	0,00	0,00
subsidies	0,00	0,00	0,00
interests	1,49	0,00	0,00
total	3837,55	4000,00	4000,00

### OUT

	2019	budget 2019	budget 2020
	[Eur]	[Eur]	[Eur]
memberships	173,75	200,00	200,00
publications	4501,82	4000,00	2250,00
workshops	1000,00	3000,00	3000,00
secretariat	619,60	650,00	650,00
website	311,30	0,00	0,00
bank costs	193,30	135,00	50,00
borsalino	0,00	2500,00	2500,00
total	6799,77	10485,00	8650,00
net result	-2962,22	-6485,00	-4650,00

# 4OR: Activity report 2019

January 23, 2020

# Editorial board

« Belgian » editors:

- Editor-in-chief: Yves Crama (with Silvano Martello and Michel Grabisch).
- Senior editors: Frank Plaetria and Thierry Marchant.
- Associate editors: Marc Pirlot, Kenneth Sörensen, Dorothee Honhon (U of Texas Dallas).

Reminder: Frits Spijksma moved to Eindhoven

# Volume 17 (2019)

- 4 issues, 450 pages
- 3 invited surveys
- 13 research papers
- 9 PhD theses abstracts (7 of which defended in Belgian universities)
- No industry paper, no educational paper
- Similar stats as previous years

# Facts and figures

Steadily increasing KPIs:

- ISI Web of Knowledge latest (2018) **Impact Factor** is **2.056**.
- It was **1.206** for 2017, **1.559** for 2016, **1.371** for 2015, **1.000** for 2014.
- 4OR ranks **35th out of 84** journals in category Operations Research & Management Science.
- Scopus 2018 **Citescore** is **2.33** (**1.47** for 2017, **1.83** for 2016, **1.19** for 2015, **1.10** for 2014).
- Ranks among top 25% in various Scopus categories

# Facts and figures

- Steady flow of submissions (no updated figures yet for 2019, but apparently increasing).
- Number of published pages has been stable at around 110 pages per issue for several years.
- Our backlog is increasing (more submissions!)
- Objective is to increase the number of articles published, progressively and carefully.

# Conclusions

- The journal is doing very well.
- Quality and quantity are increasing.
- Thanks to all the editors and reviewers!