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
February 5, 2021, online

Present: *An Caris, Dries Goossens, Bernard Fortz, Roel Leus, Gerrit Janssens, Jeroen Beliën, Patrick De Causmaecker, Dries Goossens, Kenneth Sörensen, Philippe Chevalier, Greet Vanden Berghe, Yasemin Arda, Dimitri Papadimitriou, Annick Sartenaer, Jean-Sébastien Tancrez, Hadrien Melot, Sabine Wittevrongel, Wouter Blondeel, Yves Crama, Tony Wauters, Pieter Vansteenwegen*

Starting: 2 pm

Attached documents:
Activity report 2020 (G. Janssens)
Financial report 2020 and budget 2021 (D. Goossens)
4OR report (Y. Crama)

Agenda
1. Approval of the minutes of the General Assembly, dated January 30, 2021
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. Sörensen 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 2020 and the new budget for 2021.

5. Approval of the consolidated accounts for 2020 and of the budget for 2021.
Decision: approved unanimously.

6. Clearance for the board of administrators
Decision: The assembly unanimously gives clearance to the Administrators.

7. Membership fees for 2022
Unanimous decision: Decision: We increased, last year, the regular fee with 15 euro and the student/re-tired fee with 10 euro, to obtain a more balanced yearly budget. 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 2022
There is no candidate yet for organizing ORBEL 2022.
Decision: approved unanimously.

9. Nominations for the Board of Administrators
*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

Decision:
*12 members **elected for 2021 and 2022:***

- 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
- Wauters, Tony

Finishing: 2:05 pm.
online, February 5, 2021

Kenneth Sörensen   *Pieter Vansteenwegen*
President   *Secretary*

ORBEL

General Assembly meeting held online

on Friday 5 February 2021

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE ACTIVITIES IN 2020

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

This document reports on the following activities: the ORBEL 34 conference held at Lille Central, the ORBEL award 2020, the involvement of the society into scientific publications, and news from other activities of the society in 2020.

The 34rd national conference on Operations Research, called **ORBEL 34**, has been organised by Diego Cattaruzza and his team members of the Ecole Centrale de Lille at their campus in Villeneuve-d'Ascq on Thursday 30 and Friday 31 January 2020. The organising team has managed to host 158 participants, with 82 scheduled presentations by researchers from 13 different countries, and two invited talks. The following distinguished plenary speakers took the floor: (1) Adam Letchford (Lancaster University, UK) with a talk entitled 'Fairness in Optimization (and Elsewhere)'; and (2) Miguel F. Anjos (The University of Edinburgh, Scotland) with a talk entitled 'Convex Optimization Approaches for Large-Scale Optimal Power Flow Problems'. The conference dinner took place at a restaurant called La Terrasse des Remparts in the old part of Lille (Vieux Lille). 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 number of participants probably has never been so high in the history of the ORBEL conferences.

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 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 2020 award, the jury, presided by our board member Jeroen Beliën, selected Lisa Popelier (Ghent University) to be the winner with her thesis entitled 'Balancing disassembly lines by consideration of tools and limited space' with promoter Veronique Limère and co-promoter Nico Schmid.

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, were non-existing. The society sponsored the International Colloquium on Graphs and Optimization (GO XI), to be held in Spa, but the event has been postponed till July 2021.

I would like to thank all members of the society for bringing out research in their publications and presentations at the numerous conferences, be it mostly online, 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, for being the president in the last two years and hopefully acting as vice-president for a number of years to come. Let me also welcome the new president, Yasemin Arda, to continue to keep the society alive with a great spirit. Thanks to Dries Goossens, for taking the responsibility as our treasurer. Thanks also to the ORBEL 34 organisers and hoping further successful ORBEL conferences will be hold in the near future. Thanks to the members who took the initiative for organising the 'corona sessions' as an alternative for an ORBEL conference in 2021. Thanks to Jeroen Beliën for organising the ORBEL award before and during the conference. Thanks to Pieter Vansteenwegen for his active work as the ORBEL secretary. 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 to Dimitri Papadimitriou for the links with IFORS.

Gerrit Janssens, Delegate Administrator on February 5, 2021

ORBEL – Results 2020

IN

	2019 [Eur]	2020 [Eur]	budget 2020 [Eur]
membership	3836,06	1570,00	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	1570,00	4000,00

OUT

	2019 [Eur]	2020 [Eur]	budget 2020 [Eur]
memberships	173,75	222,50	200,00
publications	4501,82	1855,69	4000,00
workshops	1000,00	1000,00	3000,00
secretariat	619,60	600,00	650,00
website	311,30	25,00	0,00
bank costs	193,30	47,00	135,00
borsalino	0,00	0,00	2500,00
total	6799,77	3750,19	10485,00
net result	-2962,22	-2180,19	-6485,00

Balance

Assets

	1/1/20 [Eur]	31/12/20 [Eur]
KBC current	18.820,38	25.689,47
VAT account	2.198,41	2.198,41
others	-265,55	-9.314,83
total	20.753,24	18.573,05

Liabilities

	1/1/20 [Eur]	31/12/20 [Eur]
capital	22000,00	20000,00
reserves	1715,46	753,24
net result	-2962,22	-2180,19
Total	20753,24	18.573,05

ORBEL – Budget 2021

IN

	2020	budget 2020	budget 2021
	[Eur]	[Eur]	[Eur]
membership	1570,00	4000,00	5700,00
publications	0,00	0,00	0,00
conferences	0,00	0,00	0,00
subsidies	0,00	0,00	0,00
interests	0,00	0,00	0,00
total	1570,00	4000,00	5700,00

OUT

	2020	budget 2020	budget 2021
	[Eur]	[Eur]	[Eur]
memberships	222,50	200,00	200,00
publications	1855,69	2250,00	2000,00
workshops	1000,00	3000,00	2000,00
secretariat	600,00	650,00	650,00
website	25,00	0,00	25,00
bank costs	47,00	50,00	50,00
borsalino	0,00	2500,00	1800,00
total	3750,19	8650,00	6725,00
net result	-2180,19	-4650,00	-1025,00

4OR: Activity report 2020

February 5, 2021

Editorial board

Belgian editors:

- Editor-in-chief: Yves Crama (with Silvano Martello and Michel Grabisch).

- Senior editors: Frank Plastria and Thierry Marchant.

- Associate editors: Marc Pirlot, Kenneth Sörensen, Dorothée Honhon (U of Texas Dallas).

Volume 18 (2020)

(compared with Volume 17, 2019)

- 4 issues, 532 pages (up from 450)

- 4 invited surveys (up from 3)

- 15 research papers (up from 13)

- 8 PhD theses abstracts (2 of which defended in Belgium) (down from 9 of which 2)

- No industry paper, no educational paper

Facts and figures

Impact factors:

- ISI Web of Knowledge latest (2019) **Impact Factor** is **1.143.**

- It was **2.056** for 2018, **1.206** for 2017, **1.559** for 2016, **1.371** for 2015. (Smaller number of surveys published in 2017-2018!)

- Scopus 2019 **Citescore** is **2.9** (**2.33** for 2018, **1.47** for 2017, **1.83** for 2016, **1.19** for 2015).

Facts and figures

- Slightly increasing trend in flow of submissions:

2017	2018	2019	2020
203	231	332	278

- Number of accepted papers was stable, increased in 2020:

2017	2018	2019	2020
27	27	29	40

- Number of published pages has been stable at around 110 pages per issue for several years. Increase starting in 2019 (as announced last year).

Conclusions

- The journal is doing well.

- Quality and quantity tend to increase.

- Our number of citations remains too limited.

- Thanks to all the editors and reviewers!