

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Current Trends in Operations Research



Dr. Shabbir Ahmed

Associate Professor

H. Milton Stewart School of Industrial & Systems Engineering

Georgia Institute of Technology

Atlanta, GA 30332, USA

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Keynote Abstract

Operations Research (OR) techniques continue to have significant impact on traditional application areas such as transportation and logistics, production planning and scheduling, inventory control, facility location and layout. In recent years, the scope and significance of OR has extended considerably to various non-traditional areas such as health care, energy, and data mining. In this talk, the speaker will offer some personal perspectives on these recent trends in OR applications, and the research challenges and potential they offer.

Bio:

Dr. Shabbir Ahmed is an Associate Professor in the H. Milton Stewart School of Industrial & Systems Engineering at the Georgia Institute of Technology. He has a Bachelor in Mechanical Engineering from the Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology, and Masters and PhD in Operations Research from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Dr. Ahmed serves as the Chair of the Community of Stochastic Programming (COSP), and was a Vice-chair (Stochastic Programming) of the INFORMS Optimization Society (2006-2008). He is an Associate Editor for Mathematical Programming C and Operations Research Letters, an Area Editor for Surveys in Operations Research and Management Science, a Topical Editor for the Encyclopedia of Operations Research and Management Science and a Department Editor for IIE Transactions (Operations Engineering and Analysis). Dr. Ahmed's honors include the National Science Foundation CAREER award, two IBM Faculty Awards, the Coca-cola Junior Professorship from ISyE, and the INFORMS Dantzig Dissertation award.

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Operations Management, Quality Management and Supply Chain Management: An Integrated Approach



Dr. Abdur Rahim

Professor

Faculty of Business Administration

University of New Brunswick at Fredericton

New Brunswick, Canada

January 10, 2010

Keynote Abstract

Operations management focuses on carefully managing the whole process to produce products or services economically. It utilizes the system view that underlies modern quality management thinking. Another important business philosophy is supply chain management involving efficient movement of materials, money and information. Operations management, quality management, and supply chain management have been proposed as means of improving quality, while simultaneously reducing cost, eliminating waste and improving efficiency. They can be used as complementary elements of an integrated strategy aimed at improving competitiveness. This talk will provide an overview of recent work on the integration of these three management systems.

Bio:

Dr. Abdur Rahim is a Professor at the Faculty of Business Administration, University of New Brunswick (UNB) at Fredericton, Canada. He joined UNB in 1983 and is a member of the Quantitative Methods area. He received his B.Sc. (Hons.), M. Sc. in Statistics from the University of Dhaka, D.S. in Operations Research from the University of Rome, M.Sc. in Systems Theory from the University of Ottawa, and Ph.D. in Industrial Engineering from the University of Windsor. He teaches Management Science, Operations Management and TQM in the BBA and MBA programs. Dr. Rahim is a recognized world expert in Quality Control and Quality Management. He has taught a wide range of courses in Universities in Canada, Bangladesh, Malaysia, and Saudi Arabia. He has served as an Associate Editor of the International Journal of Systems Science, Quality Engineering, and Engineering Optimization. He is a member of the Advisory or Editorial boards for Economic Quality Control, the Journal of Quality in Maintenance Engineering, the Journal of Quality Engineering and Technology, and the International Journal of Production Research. Dr. Rahim received the UNB Merit Award in 1992, 1999, 2000, and 2009 for his excellence performance in research, service, and teaching.

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Accreditation of Engineering Education: Option or Necessity



Dr. Tasneem Pervez

Associate Professor

Mechanical and Industrial Engineering Department

Sultan Qaboos University

Muscat, Oman

January 9, 2010

Keynote Abstract

With world considered as a “global village” the higher education is currently undergoing new and dramatic changes, which has pros and cons for the survival of a society. Furthermore, the technological revolution of 20th century has restricted the liberation of mind of the seeker of knowledge and focused around national and regional prosperity through application of technical knowledge. The increasing demand for higher education worldwide has resulted in mushrooming of offshore campuses, private institutions and franchising arrangements to cater this demand. Concurrently, regional and global trade agreements are encouraging the movement of professional services, capital and individuals across national borders. These new models and practices raise the questions about the responsibility for the quality of education that is delivered. We need a global definition of the quality of education based on some common evaluation criteria. As a result international system of licensure, certification and accreditation are emerging as a powerful tool to ensure quality and mobility. Is there a need for an accreditation of engineering programs in universities around the globe? In our opinion it is a must for survival, to remain competitive, have increased agility and developing niche in focused areas.

ABET, an internationally accepted accreditation body, is a title to assure quality of engineering programs in USA and abroad. The system is matured and is serving well the needs of global society. The new criteria of outcomes assessment allow the institutions to upgrade its goal and find ways and means to achieve the set goals as a continuous process. This brings competitive culture in engineering education automatically assuring quality and cross-border recognition. The objective of this presentation is not only to establish the need for quality assurance through accreditation but also to highlight various accreditation bodies established around the globe. In addition, the rationale for the need of a Regional Accreditation Body will be put for discussion considering the regional character.

Bio:

Dr. Tasneem Pervez is an Associate Professor in the Mechanical and Industrial Engineering Department, College of Engineering at Sultan Qaboos University (SQU). He has received his Bachelor’s degree from NED University of Engineering & Technology, Karachi, Pakistan, and MS and Ph.D. degrees, all in Mechanical Engineering, from University of Minnesota, USA. He has been actively engaged in research and consulting work with various national and international organizations. His research interests are in CAE, FEM, Composite Materials and Solid Expandable Tubulars. He has served as an Associate Editor / member of editorial board for The Journal of Engineering, Research, Journal of Solids and Structures, IJMD, NED University Journal of Engineering and Disaster Journal. He has given invited talk on Solid Expandable Tubulars in many conference and technical forums. He has received Outstanding Faculty Award, Best paper awards and Best Researcher award in 1999, 2004, 2005 and 2008. A part from teaching, research and consultancy, he has actively participated in developing new engineering programs and accreditation process. He was instrumental in accreditation of engineering programs in both IIUM and SQU specially focusing on Continuous Quality Improvement Process. He has presented various papers related to accreditation in various conferences and conducted 2-5 days workshops on accreditation to 8 different universities in Middle East countries.

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Operational Excellence



Mr. Abdul Muktedir

Managing Director

Incepta Pharmaceuticals

Dhaka, Bangladesh

January 10, 2010

Bio:

Mr. Abdul Muktedir is Managing Director at Incepta Pharmaceuticals Limited and Incepta Vaccine Limited in Bangladesh. He served as Secretary General of Bangladesh Association of Pharmaceutical Industries (BAPI). Mr. Muktedir has B. Pharm and M. Pharm from University of Dhaka, Bangladesh and M.S. in Industrial Pharmacy from Long Island University, USA. He has done research on Anti-tumor antibiotic, University of Dhaka & IPGMR (BSMMU), Dosage Form Design, Long Island University, USA, and Special research interest on Aerosol, Nanotechnology, Sustain release drug, Lyophilization, Design of Pharmaceutical Factory. Since its creation in 1999, Incepta Pharmaceuticals Ltd. has built a solid reputation for quality and reliability. Delivering quality healthcare throughout Bangladesh, the company is also a major exporter and Incepta currently exports to 35 countries. Incepta Pharmaceuticals Ltd. is already Bangladesh's second largest company, and among the country's top five manufacturing companies, it is the fastest growing. Mr. Muktedir puts Incepta's rapid growth down to its diversification.