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In a short period of time, Hurricane Katrina and Rita in the U.S. and the recent earthquake in Pakistan have wrecked havoc on the lives and property of innocent and helpless people. Many of our colleagues have been affected and we can hope and pray for their lives to be back to normal soon.

The annual meeting in San Francisco will be here shortly. This issue of *Decision Line* provides information about the Institute's meeting in San Francisco as well as several interesting articles. In the President's letter, Professor Thomas Callarman informs us about his recent move to the China Europe International Business School after more than a decade as a faculty and administrator at Arizona State University. He is excited at the opportunity to continue his research in China and notes that it would be an interesting country to conduct supply chain research given the relatively under-developed transportation infrastructure.

In the Research Issues column, Pankaj Setia, a doctoral student at Michigan State University, poses the question, "Does greater information sharing always lead to greater efficiency in operations?" First, he introduces the concept of "information morphing," which is defined as "a practice that allows firms to more effectively reap the benefits of sharing information while simultaneously curtailing the threat of leakage of information to competitive networks." Then he examines two issues that arise from information sharing and suggests several areas for future research.

Professor Rick Hesse, Pepperdine University, presents part two of the article "Alldifferent Constraint and the Traveling Sales Problem Heuristics," which was published in the July 2005 issue of *Decision Line*. He describes the Delivery Problem Tour (DPT) and presents a heuristic to solve this difficult problem. The workbook for the Excel templates is available on the *Decision Line* Web site for students and faculty to experiment with.

In the article on Ecommerce, Professor Julie Kendall, Rutgers University, notes an increasing number of mapping software and map-related applications that are available on the Web. We are quite familiar with MapQuest and its ability to locate an address or provide driving directions. However, Google's purchase of Keyhole and subsequent introduction of Google Earth has changed the way we view location mapping. In the future we will have access to more maps with extensive overlays, allowing us to see buildings around the location of interest.

Once again, we have two "Deans' Perspective" articles in one issue of *Decision Line*. In the lead article, John Fernandes, president and chief executive officer of AACSB International, discusses setting standards for assessment. He provides a historical perspective of learning outcomes assessment at AACSB. AACSB is totally committed to the assessment initiative and has established a Learning Assessment Task Force (LOATF) to identify effective learning outcomes and assessment techniques to assist members in implementing the assurance of learning standards. In the second article, Professor Craig McAllaster, dean of Rollins College, discusses ways that a leader can use power and influence to effectively accomplish their jobs.

Jane Humble, Arizona State University, reviews two popular new texts published by John Wiley & Sons: *Project Management: Tools and Trade-offs* by Ted Klastorin, and *Core Concepts: Project Management in Practice* (2nd ed.) by Mantel, Meredith, Shafer, and Sutton. She concludes that Mantel et al. offer "more value for students who want to be job-ready when they graduate" and Klastorin "provides value to executives and high level managers who need to understand problems faced by project managers in their organization, but who probably do not need to actually solve problems themselves."

See you all in San Francisco soon! ■



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is professor and chair of the Management Department in the College of Business, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. He holds a Bachelor of Engineering from the University of Malaya, an MBA and a Ph.D. from the University of South Carolina. Professor Leong has held leadership positions in Decision Sciences Institute such as at-large vice president, Doctoral Student Consortium coordinator, Instructional Innovation Award Competition coordinator, and POM track chair. He has published articles in *Decision Sciences*, *Journal of Operations Management*, *Interfaces*, *Journal of Management*, and other journals. His current research interests include international operations, operations strategy, technology management, and supply chain management. Professor Leong has co-authored two books, won teaching and research awards, and received the Educator of the Year award from the Asian Chamber of Commerce in Las Vegas.

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