



CORS • SCRO

Canadian Operational Research Society
Soci t  canadienne de recherche op rationnelle

The
Bulletin

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IN THIS ISSUE

Dear CORS members,

Firstly, get to know the excellent 2021-2022 council nominees with photos of their smiling faces and some impressive biographies.

Secondly, check out this year's completely virtual 2021 CORS conference. Visit the website to view the program and start to plan your experience now.

Lastly, find out how the Saskatoon chapter has adapted to provide some online content for their members this year.

Cheers,

Andrea

<u>Bulletin Editor</u>	Andrea Friars
<u>Elected Officers</u>	
President	Michael Pavlin
Vice-President	Jules Comeau
Past-President	Stanko Dimitrov
Secretary	Marco Bijvank
Treasurer	Gregory Paradis
Councillors	Erdem Coskun (19–21) Sonia Vanderby (20–21) Samira Abbasgholizadeh Rahimi (20–22) Majid Taghavi (20–22)
<u>Standing Committees</u>	
Awards	Jules Comeau, Majid Taghavi, Erdem Coskun
Education	Anjali Awasthi
Membership	Sonia Vanderby
Program	Jules Comeau, Fredrik Ødegaard, Fatma Gzara, Timothy Chan
Public Relations	Michael Pavlin
Publications	Samir Elhedhli, Elkafi Hassini, Andrea Friars
SIG Relations	Jules Comeau, Samira Abbasgholizadeh Rahimi, Erdem Coskun
Section Relations	Jules Comeau, Samira Abbasgholizadeh Rahimi, Gregory Paradis
Past Presidents Advisory Board	Michael Pavlin, Stanko Dimitrov
<u>Ad hoc Committees</u>	
Practice Prize	Mikael Rönnqvist
Award of Merit	Stanko Dimitrov, Mahmut Parlar, Mikael Rönnqvist, David Stanford
Student Paper Competition	Tamon Stephen, Anjali Awasthi
Financial Planning	Gregory Paradis, Stanko Dimitrov, Michael Pavlin, Jules Comeau
Industry	Michael Pavlin
Nominating	Stanko Dimitrov
INFOR Co-Editors	Samir Elhedhli, Elkafi Hassini
Traveling Speakers Program	Stanko Dimitrov
IFORS Representative	Marco Bijvank

CORS COUNCIL 2020–2021

CORS Council consists of the officers of the society, four councillors, the immediate past president, and the standing committee chairs. Contact information for council representatives is below. See www.cors.ca for a complete listing.

President	Michael Pavlin, Wilfrid Laurier University, president@cors.ca
Vice-President	Jules Comeau, Université de Moncton, vicepresident@cors.ca
Secretary	Marco Bijvank, University of Calgary, secretary@cors.ca
Treasurer	Gregory Paradis, University of British Columbia, treasurer@cors.ca
Past-President	Stanko Dimitrov, University of Waterloo, sdimitro@uwaterloo.ca
Councillor	Erdem Coskun, Manulife / John Hancock, mehmeterdemcoskun@gmail.com
Councillor	Sonia Vanderby, Saskatchewan Health Quality Council, soniavanderby@gmail.com
Councillor	Samira Abbasgholzadeh Rahimi, McGill University, samira.rahimi@mcgill.ca
Councillor	Majid Taghavi, Saint Mary's University, Majid.Taghavi@smu.ca

2020–2021 SIG, SECTION, & CHAPTER PRESIDENTS

Analytics SIG	Gregory Paradis, University of British Columbia, cors.analytics.sig@01101.io
Forestry SIG	Maha Ben Ali, École Polytechnique de Montréal, maha.ben-ali@polymtl.ca
Health Care OR SIG	Nadia Lahrichi, École Polytechnique de Montréal, nadia.lahrichi@polymtl.ca
Queueing Theory SIG	Opher Baron, University of Toronto, Opher.Baron@rotman.utoronto.ca
Atlantic	Claver Diallo, Dalhousie University, claver.diallo@dal.ca
Québec & Québec Student	Irène Abi-Zeid, Université Laval, irene.abi-zeid@osd.ulaval.ca
Montréal	Nadia Lahrichi, École Polytechnique de Montréal, nadia.lahrichi@polymtl.ca
Montréal Student	Başak Tozlu, Concordia University, basaktozlu@gmail.com
Kingston	Mohan Chaudhry, Royal Military College of Canada, chaudhry-ml@rmc.ca
Ottawa	Dragos Calitoiu, Carleton University, calitoiu@math.carleton.ca
Toronto	Hassan Anis, University of Toronto, hassan.anis@mail.utoronto.ca
Toronto Student	Maryam Daryalal, University of Toronto, m.daryalal@mail.utoronto.ca
Southwest Ontario	Joe Naoum-Sawaya, Western University, jnaoum-sawaya@ivey.ca
Waterloo Student	Khaled Shah, University of Waterloo, khaled.mostafa.shah@uwaterloo.ca
Winnipeg	Currently vacant
Saskatoon	Hamed Samarghandi, University of Saskatchewan, samarghandi@edwards.usask.ca
Calgary	Owen James, Associated Engineering, jameso@ae.ca
Edmonton	Armann Ingolfsson, University of Alberta, armann.ingolfsson@ualberta.ca
Vancouver	Currently vacant

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Fellow Members,

Well, what a year! I won't lie to you; I was hoping to write this message while not being under a lockdown order. I hope that you all stay safe through what will hopefully be one of the final hurdles in enduring the pandemic. There are reasons for optimism. Tulips are popping up, birds are building their nests, and vaccines are becoming more widely available. I know many of us are (tentatively) preparing for a fall that involves in-person teaching and have our sights set on travel, and maybe – on a day not too long from now – sitting down with a friend in a café.



On council and throughout the CORS community, preparations for the conference are of course in full swing. The organizers had the foresight to realize that this conference was not going to be in-person early in the planning and have taken on the challenge of preparing the best possible virtual conference. The creative and meticulous preparations should provide an incredible platform for sharing academic and industry progress, as well as a venue for engaging with friends and colleagues in the Canadian OR community. I look forward to seeing you at the talks, meetings, and networking events scheduled over the first week of June. If you haven't already registered, I encourage you to do so as soon as possible!

<https://uwaterloo.ca/canadian-operational-research-society-conference/registration>

Please reach out to council if you have any questions, concerns, or suggestions. Remember that there are many opportunities to get involved with CORS, including conferences, SIGs, local sections, and council. Stay safe, stay healthy, and keep CORS vital!

Sincerely,

Michael Pavlin

2021–2022 CORS COUNCIL NOMINEES

Vice President

Peter Vanberkel

Associate Professor
Dalhousie University

Peter Vanberkel is an Associate Professor in the Department of Industrial Engineering at Dalhousie University and a Staff Scientist at the IWK Health Centre. His research involves improving healthcare operations using stochastic operational research methods and analytics. His work is published in leading journals including *Omega*, *Manufacturing and Service Operations Management*, *European Journal of Operational Research*, and *Queueing Systems*. Peter is active within CORS and is a member of the HCOR and Queueing SIGs. He served as Council Secretary for four years and was the co-chair of CORS 2018 in Halifax. In 2016, Peter co-founded and co-chaired the inaugural HCOR SIG oral presentation competition for graduate students. He is also a past winner of the CORS Practice Prize.



Councillor (2021–2023)

Masoud Chitsaz

Principal
Kinaxis

Masoud Chitsaz is currently a Principal at Kinaxis, a world leader in supply chain planning and optimization. Masoud is focused on the development of advanced analytics methods for large-scale manufacturing supply chains. He has over 15 years of experience in software development and business consulting especially in logistics, supply chain, and transportation. He has served clients across different domains such as automotive, steel production, port operations, construction and infrastructure development, municipalities, and department of transport.

Masoud is a NextAI mentor for supply chain startups. He is co-chair of the industry practitioner's cluster at the CORS 2021 conference. His goal is to increase industry-academic collaborations and partnerships. Masoud has a PhD in Operations Management from HEC Montreal (2020) with the school's best thesis award and an MBA (2007) and Master's in Transportation (2003) from Sharif University of Technology. He was a researcher at WATMIMS (Department of Management Sciences at the University of Waterloo), CIRRELT and GERAD (Department of Computer Science and Operations Research, University of Montreal), and CIB (Department of Mechanical Engineering, Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, KUL, Belgium).



Councillor (2021–2023)**Amir Rastpour**

Assistant Professor
Ontario Tech University

Amir Rastpour is an Assistant Professor of Operations Management at Ontario Tech University. He received his PhD from the University of Alberta's School of Business in 2015. His research is focused on improving the health care system using statistical and queueing theory models. He is a past winner of CORS Best Student Paper Award and a finalist for INFORMS Health Care Best Student Paper Award. His research has been published in journals like Production and Operations Management and European Journal of Operational Research and has been recognized by NSERC. Amir has been an active member of CORS over past several years and is currently serving as Treasurer/Secretary of the Healthcare Operational Research (HCOR) special interest group.

**Councillor (2021–2023)****Nadia Lahrichi**

Associate Professor
Polytechnique Montréal

Nadia Lahrichi is an associate professor at the department of Mathematics and industrial engineering at Polytechnique Montreal. Her research is mainly focused towards applying modeling and operational research tools to improve patient flow in the healthcare system. She uses exact, metaheuristics and discrete event simulation approaches to tackle patient and resource scheduling problems. She has received the award for outstanding application of operational research (from the Canadian Operational research society) for solving the home health care routing and scheduling problem. In recent years, she has been very involved in CORS. She was notably chair of the student competition, president of the SIG healthcare and president of the Montreal chapter.





CORS SCRO 2021

June 7–10, 2021 uwaterloo.ca/cors2021

Plenaries

150+ Sessions

**Neural Networks
Workshop**

Tutorials

570+ Talks

Panels

Distinguished Talks

Analytics Day

CHOW

Register TODAY!

Attendee registration deadline: May 21, 2021

uwaterloo.ca/cors2021

CONFERENCE PROGRAM is now LIVE

Program at-a-glance and highlights – uwaterloo.ca/cors2021

Searchable program – <https://pheedloop.com/cors2021/>

CORS SCRO 2021 Program HIGHLIGHTS

Harold Larnder Memorial Plenary

Novel Supply Chain Network Models Inspired by the COVID-19 Pandemic –
From Optimization to Game Theory

Monday June 7, 11:30AM EDT



ANNA NAGURNEY
University of Massachusetts Amherst



SUSAN ATHEY
Stanford University

Tuesday June 8, 11:30AM EDT

Plenaries



GEORGIA PERAKIS
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Thursday June 10, 11:30AM EDT

C Canadian Healthcare
H Optimization
O
W Workshop

Monday June 7, 10AM – 5PM EDT

<https://uwaterloo.ca/cors2021/canadian-healthcare-optimization-workshop-2021>

**Analytics
Day**

Thursday June 10, 1:30PM – 5PM EDT

<https://uwaterloo.ca/canadian-operational-research-society-conference/analytics-day>

SECTION AND CHAPTER NEWS

SASKATOON

Saskatoon section had an online presentation by Dr. Ahmed Saif (Assistant Professor, Dalhousie University) on February 25. The title of the presentation was “Robust service system design under demand uncertainty”.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CORS Membership

Membership fees for **April 1, 2021 to March 31, 2022** are due. Invoices were emailed to members in January. You may be able to use an NSERC grant to pay dues.

Renew your membership at http://www.cors.ca/sites/cors_php/en/membership/renewal.php

If you have questions, contact Membership Services at members@cors.ca

CORS FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

TRAVELING SPEAKERS PROGRAM (TSP)

The TSP enables local sections to bring Canadian OR practitioners / researchers as speakers to their local events. In order to keep costs in line while maximizing the CORS national profile, CORS sponsorship will be limited to 50% of the total expenses, up to a maximum of \$500 per speaker or \$1000 for a single event (conference, workshop). Other expenses can be covered by the local section. The program of the event must acknowledge the contribution of CORS. Each local section must contact the TSP coordinator to obtain approval for funding preferably at least one month in advance of the event date. Payment will be made by the CORS Treasurer upon receipt of the expense form <http://www.cors.ca/?q=content/traveling-speakers-program>

Stanko Dimitrov, TSP Coordinator, sdimitro@uwaterloo.ca



CORS SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

CORS Council approved a policy on Special Interest Groups (SIGs). A SIG provides a mechanism to promote CORS, the SIG area and the SIG members, as well as the opportunity for CORS members with common interests to interact and network.

Analytics SIG

Gregory Paradis, cors.analytics.sig@01101.io
University of British Columbia
www.cors.ca/SIG/Analytics

Forestry SIG

Maha Ben Ali, maha.ben-ali@polymtl.ca
École Polytechnique de Montréal
www.cors.ca/SIG/Forestry

Health Care Operational Research SIG

Nadia Lahrichi, nadia.lahrichi@polymtl.ca
École Polytechnique de Montréal
www.cors.ca/SIG/HCOR

Queueing Theory SIG

Opher Baron, Opher.Baron@rotman.utoronto.ca
University of Toronto
www.cors.ca/SIG/Queueing

If you would like to join a SIG, contact the people listed above, or indicate that you would like to join when you renew your CORS membership.

CORS encourages members with common interest in an area within or related to operational research to form additional SIGs.

More information about SIGs can be found online at www.cors.ca/?q=content/communities

If you are interested in forming a SIG in a particular area, contact:

Jules Comeau, SIG Committee Chair, vicepresident@cors.ca



MEETINGS AND CONFERENCES

CORS Business Meetings

Jun 10, 2020	Council Meeting, Teleconference
Sep 18, 2020	Council Meeting, Teleconference
Nov 20, 2020	Council Meeting, Teleconference
Jan 22, 2021	Council Meeting, Teleconference
Jan 29, 2021	Council Meeting, Teleconference
Mar 19, 2021	Council Meeting, Teleconference
May 6, 2021	Financial Planning Committee Meeting
Jun 7–10, 2021	Council Meeting (Conference)
	Council Meeting (Conference with SIGs, Sections, Chapters)
	CORS AGM (Conference)

CORS Annual Conferences

Jun 7–10, 2021	Annual Conference, virtual format
Date TBA 2022	Annual Conference joint with INFORMS International, Vancouver, B.C.

WWW Conference Listings

CORS: www.cors.ca/?q=content/cors-annual-conferences

INFORMS: <https://www.informs.org/Meetings-Conferences>

IFORS: www.ifors.org/web

Netlib Conference Database: <ftp://ftp.cc.ac.cn/netlib/confdb/Conferences.html>

SIAM: www.siam.org/meetings/calendar.php

POMS: <https://pomsmeetings.org>

EURO: www.euro-online.org/web/pages/460/calendar

THE NEXT ISSUE

The next issue of the Bulletin will be published in **August**. Contributions to this issue, especially news on the activities of local sections or CORS members, should be submitted by **July 23, 2021** to:

Andrea Friars
Editor, CORS Bulletin
Email: AndreaFriars@gmail.com

The preferred method of submission is by an MS Word attachment to an email.

CORS BULLETIN TRANSLATION POLICY

Items that are CORS business will be translated into English and French. All other items will be published in the language they are submitted in.

CORS BULLETIN ADVERTISING POLICY

Ads cost \$120 per page, proportional for fractional pages. Logos and prepared layouts can be accommodated. This fee also includes distribution of the advertisement on the CORS Mailing List. Direct inquiries to the Editor.

CORS MAILING LIST

As a benefit of membership, members may use the CORS Mailing List to transmit messages, announcements, and job postings to the entire membership or to a targeted subgroup such as a local section. For example, you can send

- messages regarding the activities and business of the society;
- announcements about conferences, conference sessions, special journal issues, seminars or other activities provided that these are related to operational research in its broadest sense;
- job postings of general interest to CORS members.

The Mailing List is not used for commercial purposes, and all messages are vetted before they are sent out. To submit items to the Mailing List, email CORS Membership Services at members@cors.ca

For non-members, a fee of \$60 is charged for the distribution of job postings and other announcements or messages of interest to the CORS membership.

The **Canadian Operational Research Society** was founded in 1958. Its goal is to advance the theory and practice of OR and to stimulate and promote contacts between people interested in the subject.

Publications: A quarterly scientific journal called *INFOR* and a news *Bulletin*.

Meetings: An annual national conference with an award ceremony, occasionally organized jointly with an international society (IFORS, INFORMS), and numerous local events organized by local sections.

Local Sections & Chapters: CORS has twelve local sections and four student chapters located throughout Canada.

Awards and Prizes: CORS presents the following annual awards and prizes at its conference:

Award of Merit for significant contributions of a present or past member of CORS to the profession of OR.

Harold Larnder Award to an individual who has achieved international distinction in OR.

Omond Solandt Award to an organization, private or governmental, that is deemed to have made an outstanding contribution to OR in Canada.

Practice Prize for the challenging application of the OR approach to the solution of applied problems.

Eldon Gunn Service Award for outstanding contributions of time and service to the society.

Student Paper Competition to recognize the contribution of a paper either directly to the field of OR through the development of methodology or to another field through the application of OR.

Graduate Student Funding: CORS encourages attendance of graduate students at its conference by providing partial funding. Visit CORS website for details.

CORS Diploma: This diploma is awarded to students graduating from a university curriculum comprising several OR courses. Criteria may be found on the CORS website.

Membership Directory: An online directory of CORS members is available as a membership benefit.

To join CORS: Go to the CORS website and join online by credit card using the form found under membership or complete the PDF application form found on the CORS website and mail it with payment to the address below.

Fees: Member \$110; Retired Member \$55; Student Member \$45 (including post-doctoral fellows)

Website: www.cors.ca

INFOR: www.tandfonline.com/loi/tinf20

LinkedIn: www.linkedin.com/company/canadian-operational-research-society

Twitter: @CORS_President