



December 2013

Dear IJAHP Readers:

Welcome to this IJAHP issue!

Our opening article by Oddershede uses a mixed method approach involving AHP and Montecarlo simulation to address electric grid impact assessment taking into account political, economic, societal and technological considerations. Next, Poveda develops and weights sustainable development indicators for surface mining operations and discusses how AHP can be used to address the different stakeholders needs in this area.

In the next two articles we move from sustainability to application. Bijan, Keramati and Salehi apply the Analytic Network Process (ANP) to the American Customer Satisfaction Index (ACSI) for e-commerce to develop a model for web user satisfaction comparison. Sabiruddin, Bhattacharya and Das apply AHP to the selection of appropriate process parameters in gas metal arc welding. This article is particularly interesting because it uses AHP to assess experimental results in the presence of many different outcome variables. Therefore, if you plan to work with experiments you may find this AHP application very interesting, even if you are not in the manufacturing field.

We close our article section with a paper by Tom Saaty about the connection between the eigenvector as the solution for the priority vector of an AHP comparison matrix and Perron's theorem. More precisely, that it is not necessary to have Perron's theorem to prove that the eigenvector is the solution.

In this issue, we have started the practice of reviewing recent AHP/ANP books on the market. Salomon, Zinoviev, and Zinovieva review Ishizaka and Nemery's "Multi-criteria Decision Analysis: Methods and Software." We hope that our readers will welcome their colleagues' book reviews, and you are encouraged to keep us abreast of new book publications in the AHP/ANP field.

Finally, we welcome Valentina Ferretti, PhD to the IJAHP editorial team. Ferretti will be in charge of the News and Events section, covering news related to AHP/ANP conference and events. This section provides conference highlights from two academic events in Chile (thanks to Dr. Garuti and Dr. Salomon for the inside information), an announcement about a university-wide scholarship award obtained by this editor, and

most importantly an invitation to attend our upcoming ISAHP 2014 meeting (www.isahp.org) being held in Washington, D .C. from June 29 – July 2, 2014.

Although this symposium is independent from our journal, Rozann Saaty, Vice President of Creative Decisions Foundation, has been instrumental in getting the IJAHP editorial team to become the organizers of the upcoming ISAHP 2014. Therefore, ISAHP 2014 attendees should be thankful to Rozann Saaty for making Creative Decisions Foundation resources available to support the symposium. Thanks should also be extended to Birsen Karpak and Antonella Petrillo whose hard work as program co-chairs is making this symposium possible. I would also like to recognize the work of Elena Rokou, who has been instrumental in sending out the ISAHP communications, and Milagros Pereyra, who as head of Maestro Meetings Inc., has implemented the entire symposium infrastructure (e.g. website development, online submission system).

The year ahead promises to be important and productive for the diffusion of AHP/ANP at both the theoretical and practical level.

Enjoy this issue and see you at ISAHP 2014 in Washington D. C.

Enrique Mu, PhD

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<http://dx.doi.org/10.13033/ijahp.v5i2.214>