At the ISAHP 2009 meeting in Pittsburgh, Thomas L. Saaty offered a challenge to the attendees to explain the eigenvector solution of the pairwise comparison judgment matrix that is the basis of the Analytic Hierarchy Process so that it would be understandable to any intelligent layman. He wrote an essay himself on it during the meeting, and submitted it as his offering. A second essay on the subject, also during the meeting, was written by Stan Lipovetsky. These two papers appear in this issue of the journal. The competition remains open, and we, the editors of the IJAHP, are soliciting more papers on the topic for publication in this journal. Tom Saaty has offered a prize for a truly outstanding paper. We remind you that three things count in a good paper: technical accuracy, originality of approach, and excellence in exposition, not necessarily in order of priority for this special topic. Since this is an open-ended competition it is not quite sure when the decision will be made to award the prize; it depends on the quality of the papers submitted.

With regards,

Rozann Saaty
IJAHP Managing Editor