

September 30, 2014



Dear IJAHP Reader:

Welcome to our first issue in 2014! This year has been very busy for the AHP community due to the International Symposium of the Analytic Hierarchy Process (ISAHP 2014) that took place from June 29 – July 2 in Washington, D.C. IJAHP sponsored and participated in the organization of the meeting and several selected papers from the symposium will be published in our upcoming issues.

The IJAHP editorial board was instrumental in the academic organization of ISAHP 2014 while *Maestro Meetings*, led by Milagros Pereyra, did a great job handling the symposium logistics. It was very hard work for all of us; however, it was worth it, given that the meeting was a success both academically and socially. We will include a more extensive report of the symposium in our next issue, given that some administrative aspects had not been completed by the time the contents for the current issue were scheduled.

Our first article in this issue, by Yavuz and Baycan, deals with the problem of implementing a collaborative watershed management strategy and for this purpose, involving relevant stakeholders is a key element for the success of the strategy. Next, Mehta, Verma and Seth develop a model to prioritize 13 total quality management criteria and 68 sub-criteria in the engineering education sector. SERVQUAL is an accepted framework for the assessment of service quality. Miri et al use this framework, in combination with ANP to prioritize the service quality of insurance branches. Renewable energy resource (RER) projects have become very important for the sustainability of our society. In the fourth paper in this issue, Dhital et al address a RER project evaluation in Nepal from the perspective of those responsible for implementing the project as well as the users. Finally, we conclude the section of peer-reviewed articles with a theoretical paper. Hefnawi and Soliman review the different methods used to obtain the AHP priority vector, and compare it with the current eigenvector method.

Besides the customary set of research articles, we have included in this issue a very interesting interview with Thomas L. Saaty, AHP/ANP creator and founder of this journal. Don't miss this interview since Tom still has much to teach us about AHP. Also, if you are soccer fan you must have watched the FIFA 2014 World Cup this past summer and are probably aware of the controversy surrounding the FIFA Golden Ball award, the award which recognizes the best player in the tournament. A

large number of fans didn't agree with FIFA's decision of the award winner. Being originally from Latin America, where soccer, religion and politics are the three most important activities (although I'm not sure in what order), I have included some reflections on how AHP could contribute to the decision about who, in my humble opinion, actually deserved the award, and how to avoid these award controversies in the future.

Finally, you may notice that there is a DOI identification at the bottom of the first page in each article. The DOI format is as follows:

<http://dx.doi.org/10.13033/ijahp2014.v6.is1.xxx>

where xxx is the corresponding article identification (e.g. 001, 002, 003...) in the issue

This DOI identification will give a unique identifier to the electronic article, independent of any change to the journal host, and will allow IJAHP to be on par with best practices in electronic journal publishing. At IJAHP we are always looking for ways to improve the journal standing, and to ensure that our AHP community can be proud of the quality of their official journal.

Enjoy our IJAHP issue!

Enrique Mu, PhD
Editor-in-Chief