

As a member of EUROPT working group I have participated in two meetings with representatives of EURO WG during IFORS 2005 in Hawaii.

### **1. Joint meeting of national OR associations and EURO WG representatives**

The main question discussed during this meeting was the question of popularization of OR in modern society and the connected with it question of spreading the information about OR, EURO and other international OR organizations, attracting the new countries-members and individual members to OR associations, looking for new financial sources for stimulating the investigation. The main idea that has to be transmitted in this connection is that EURO can provide facilities and services that cannot be available to researches on the national level.

It was decided to prepare a special suggestion for European Commission about popularization of OR.

Another question was the one about the membership in EURO: has it to be individual or through the national OR associations. Here there are different points of view. It was mentioned, for example, that not all European (and not European too) countries have OR organizations so the individual membership has to be possible. Some countries are not EURO members by economical reasons. From the other side, in the case of dual membership, what kind of fee has an individual member to pay if his national OR organization is EURO member already? If a member of a national OR organization-member of EURO is automatically individual URO member?

### **2. Brief meeting of EURO WG representatives with Cris Potts**

During this meeting we exchanged the information about our working groups, their past and future activities. Special attention was paid to connection of our WG with industry.

One of questions discussed during the meeting was connected the membership in WG. Some WG leaders insist that members of their WG have to participate in all WG workshops or at least in one of the two. If some member is not active he is excluded from the WG. Another WG considers participation in their WG as just a good will of each member and accept all investigators working in the area of interest of WG.

The question about financing of WG activities was discussed too. It is evident that WG have to look for financial support for their meetings, issuing of informative bulletins or other editions.

Closing this meeting, its leader Chris Potts informed us that in brief some decision about new policy with WG will be made.

With the best wishes.  
Tatiana Tchemisova.