IJAHP team presents at INFORMS 2017

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IJAHP News Editor, Dr. Valentina Ferretti, wins award

During October 2017 at the INFORMS annual meeting, which took place in Houston, our *IJAHP* News and Events section editor, Dr. Valentina Ferretti, won the 2017 INFORMS Decision Analysis Practice Award. The DAS/SDP (Decision Analysis Society/Society of Decision Professionals) Practice Award is a joint award given annually to the best decision analysis application, as judged by a panel of society members. The intent of this award is to recognize, promote, and publicize good decision analysis practice.

After obtaining the runner up position for the INFORMS 2016 Decision Analysis Practice Award with a work titled, "From Spatial SWOT Analysis to MCDA and choice experiments: an integrated approach for historical heritage management in a new World Heritage site" (authors: Valentina Ferretti and Elisa Gandino), Valentina decided to try again and applied for the 2017 edition of the award with a new Decision Analysis intervention. This second project titled, "How to improve educational programs for underprivileged children? The impacts of value-focused Decision Analysis" was authored by Valentina and Gabriella Csányi, one of her students from the Master's in Decision Science program in the Department of Management of the London School of Economics and Political Science. With this project, Valentina and Gabriella supported a foundation in Hungary in developing a selection model for underprivileged children to be welcomed in the foundation's Educational Program. The developed framework allowed the board of the foundation to define a set of shared objectives to be achieved in the selection process, and is expected to decrease dropout rates of children from the program. This project will also be featured at the 2018 annual meeting of the Decision Analysis Affinity Group (SDP's annual conference).

Valentina (left) and Gabriella (right) together with Dr. Greg Hamm, the Co-Chair of the 2017 Decision Analysis Practice Award Committee

Gabriella (left) and Valentina (right) at the INFORMS meeting

AHP/ANP topics at INFORMS 2017

On a different note, Dr. Enrique Mu, *IJAHP* Editor-in-Chief, presented two studies along with co-authors Orrin Cooper and Michael Peasley about ANP best practices and the implications of coherence (this last study led by Dr. Cooper). This session was dedicated to ANP, and also featured Dr. Gabriela Sava who discussed whether a shared-decision making model for colorectal cancer screening could lead to better medical outcomes.

From left to right, Enrique Mu, Gabriela Sava and Orrin Cooper

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