AHP NEWS

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF ENRIQUE MU USES AHP TO HELP CITY OF PITTSBURGH MOVE TO THE CLOUD

Professor Enrique Mu, Editor-in-Chief of the International Journal of the AHP (on the right), honored by Mayor Luke Ravenstahl for helping the City of Pittsburgh select the best technology to move its Information Technology functions to the Cloud, a tough decision that had to be made by city officials. Professor Mu used AHP (the Analytic Hierarchy Process for decision-making) to guide the process, facilitating it over a period of months.

Cloud Computing provides resources using a computer network as opposed to reliance on an individual computer's operating system, software or data. When using "The Cloud" the individual computer serves only as a means of displaying information processed on a network of computers far away. The City of Pittsburgh required a Cloud Computing Internet Technology solution.

Due to the high cost, complexity and public nature of this requirement it was imperative that the decision-making process be accurate, transparent and open to the views of different city information system stakeholders. For assistance with this high-priority decision, the City of Pittsburgh turned to Dr. Enrique Mu, Ph.D., Carlow University associate professor and specialist in AHP-based decision-making and information technology management.

The group participating in the decision process consisted of approximately 12

specialists in finance, technical issues and administration from the city information systems department. The AHP model was a combination of the requirements that had been developed by the city for the system and judgments input by the participants with the participants giving judgments in the parts of the hierarchy in which they were expert. Each such meeting to collect judgments was finished in about one session.

In his recognition of Professor Mu, Mayor Ravenstahl said he had made an invaluable analytical contribution in the help he gave the city in the quest to find a suitable Cloud Computing Solution, and he went on to say the success by the decision-making team led to the solution of a real and urgent city problem.