GROUP DECISION AND NEGOTIATION

GDN SECTION OF INFORMS

E-news • Issue 6 • July/2022

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Letter from the President

Dear Members of the GDN section,

I would like to welcome you to the sixth issue of our GDN newsletter. 2022 has also proved to be a year with uncertainty related to the pandemic and health requirements regarding international travel and participation in public events. However, things have been beginning to change and many on-site events have been already organized. The situation was expected to be better this year than it was last year. We were therefore optimistic about the 22nd International Conference on Group Decision and Negotiation, which we had planned to hold in a hybrid format (in person & virtually), in Moscow, Russia.

However, our plans were once again frustrated and we were not able to meet in person with most of the members of our community. This time for a different reason: the diplomatic impact of the attack of the Russian state on Ukraine. Our community remains in solidarity with the people of Ukraine, victims of this situation and we hope for a peaceful resolution of this conflict. Moreover, we express our solidarity with Russian academics and researchers who are as dismayed by this situation as we are. In line with these principles, the GDN Section Board took the decision to hold our annual Conference virtually (online), for the second time.

Therefore, in June of this year, the GDN 2022 Conference was held in virtual format. In spite of the format, it was an outstanding conference with interesting presentations, rich discussions, and inspiring keynote speakers, that far exceeded the expectations of our community. I would like to thank the Honorary Chair of GDN 2022, Rudolf Vetschera, the General co-Chairs, Fuad Aleskerov and Liping Fang, and the Program Chairs, Danielle Costa Morais and Alexander Lepskiy, for all their hard work in ensuring that the conference became so memorable and inspiring.

As expected, among the most exciting moments of the conference were the announcements of the Awards. This started with the GDN Section Award, the highest recognition for achievement that a member of our international community can receive. The award was announced at the opening session and was followed by a superb keynote address by the Awardee of this year, Mareike Schoop. Congratulations Mareike; well deserved! Then, we had the announcement of the Gregory Kersten GDN Journal Best Paper Award, given during the GDN Section business meeting for the best paper published in the GDN Journal in 2021. Also, during the business meeting, the GDN Springer Best Paper and the GDN Springer Best Student Paper were announced, as were, in both cases, Runner-up papers. These awards were based on the quality of the full paper and on the presentation and discussions during a Special Award Session at the Conference. I would like to express my appreciation to the members of both Committees for these awards, for their thorough work. See the newsletter for further details and I hope this will prompt you to make submissions at the conference next year.

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Since 2019, a GDN Cluster at the INFORMS Annual Meeting has been formed, with a few invited sessions. In October 2022, the INFORMS Annual Meeting will be held in person, in Indianapolis Indiana. The GDN cluster will host two sessions: MCGDM: Multicriteria Group Decision Making Models and Negotiation Models and Analysis. For future years, we strongly encourage the members of the GDN community to submit their work and to organize sessions in the GDN cluster at the INFORMS Annual Meeting.

In 2023, the GDN conference will be held in Tokyo, Japan, from June 11 to 15. We cordially invite you to submit your contributions. We sincerely hope that we shall be able to meet in-person again in 2023. The conferences in 2021 and 2022 were virtual events which means that Tokyo will be the first time in three years that we can enjoy the extra advantages of being together in the same place. Please have a look at the conference site: www.gdnconference.org/gdn2023/.

Finally, as President of the INFORMS Section on Group Decision and Negotiation (2021-2022), I would like to thank the current officers of the Executive Council (2021-2022) for their continuous wholehearted support to the Section: Liping Fang as Vice-President for Meetings, Pascale Zarate as Vice-President for Membership and Publications, Danielle Costa Morais as Secretary and Tomasz Wachowicz as Treasurer. I am once again grateful to Eduarda Asfora Frej, who has been coordinating and editing the newsletter since the first issue.

Keep safe, healthy and in collaborative friendship with our group,

With best regards,

Adiel Teixeira de Almeida

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1. SOCIETY NEWS

1.1. Report on the 22th International Conference on Group Decision and Negotiation (GDN 2022)

The 22nd International Conference on Group Decision and Negotiation (GDN 2022) was held virtually from June 12 to 16, 2022. GDN 2022 was the second virtual international conference on group decision and negotiation.

GDN 2022 was sponsored by the Group Decision and Negotiation (GDN) Section, Institute for Operations Research and the Management Sciences (INFORMS), and was a truly international conference, with submissions from authors located in 24 countries situated in Asia, Australia, Europe, North America, and South America. A total of 62 papers were presented. 90 people attended the conference.

The GDN 2022 conference program was composed of:

- Four Keynote Sessions,
- A Plenary Panel entitled "GDN: Past, Present and Future,"
- 15 Parallel Technical Sessions,
- Doctoral Consortium on June 12,
- GDN Springer Best Paper Competition Session,
- GDN Springer Best Student Paper Competition Session,
- One Group Support System Demonstration Session, and
- A Panel.

The finalists of the GDN Springer Best Paper and Best Student Paper Competitions presented their papers twice: once in the respective competition session and once in the normally scheduled session. A virtual Welcome Reception was also organized to enable person-to-person and small-group interactions. Presentation scheduling was able to take into account the various time zones of the presenters. During the conference, the GDN Section Business Meeting and the Group Decision and Negotiation Journal Editorial Board Meeting were also held virtually.

The GDN 2022 conference proceedings are organized and published in two volumes. After a rigorous blind review process, 9 full papers were chosen for inclusion in a volume published by Springer (https://link.springer.com/book/10.1007/978-3-031-07996-2). The second volume is composed of 53 full and short papers as well as

abstracts, also selected in a thorough blind review process. Information about the second volume is available on the conference website (http://gdnconference.org/gdn2022/local-proceedings/).

We are thankful to many people for their work and cooperation in organizing GDN 2022 and producing conference proceedings. Particularly, our appreciation goes to:

- the authors of the 62 presentations, presenters of the group support system demonstration, and panelists of the panel on emotion in group decision and negotiation for their research and contributions to GDN 2022;
- the Stream Organizers: Pascale Zaraté (Collaborative Decision Making Processes); Liping Fang, Keith W. Hipel, and D. Marc Kilgour (Conflict Resolution); Bilyana Martinovski (Emotion in Group Decision and Negotiation); Zhen Zhang, Yucheng Dong, Francisco Chiclana, and Enrique Herrera-Viedma (Intelligent Group Decision Making and Consensus Process); Mareike Schoop, Muhammed-Fatih Kaya, and Rudolf Vestchera (Negotiation Support Systems and Studies (NS3)); Tomasz Wachowicz and Danielle Costa Morais (Preference Modeling for Group Decision and Negotiation); Haiyan Xu, Shawei He, and Shinan Zhao (Risk Evaluation and Negotiation Strategies); Fuad Aleskerov (Social Choice); and Rudolf Vestchera, Masahide Horita, and Tomasz Wachowicz (Doctoral Consortium), for organizing excellent streams;
- the members of the GDN 2022 Program Committee and the reviewers, for their speedy and quality reviews on all submissions;
- Professor Mareike Schoop for delivering the 2022 INFORMS GDN Section Award keynote presentation;
- Professor Steven Brams, Professor Luis Dias, and Professor Masahide Horita for graciously accepting our invitations to deliver keynote addresses;
- Professor Melvin Shakun, Professor Marc Kilgour, and Professor Rudolf Vestchera for being the Panelists for the Panel on Group Decision and Negotiation: Past, Present and Future;
- the members of the GDN Section Awards Committee (Tung Bui, Liping Fang, and Raimo P. Hämäläinen) for organizing the Springer GDN Best Paper and Best Student Paper Competitions; and
- the Honorary Chair of GDN 2022, Rudolf Vetschera, the General Chairs of GDN 2022, Fuad Aleskerov, Adiel Teixeira de Almeida, and Liping Fang, and the Program Chairs of GDN 2022, Danielle Costa Morais and Alexander Lepskiy, for their contributions to GDN 2022 and the GDN Section; and the session chairs for chairing sessions.

Some memorable moments of GDN 2022 can be seen on http://gdnconference.org/gdn2022/gallery/.

Liping Fang and Danielle Costa Morais

General and Program co-Chairs
22st International Conference on Group Decision and Negotiation (GDN 2022)

1.2.   GDN 2022 Awards

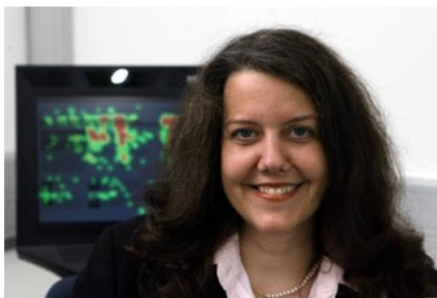### 1.2.1.   2022 Group Decision and Negotiation Section Award

The GDN INFORMS Section honors **Mareike Schoop** for his outstanding contributions to research in the field of Group Decision and Negotiation and outstanding contributions to the GDN Section. The award was granted in the 2022 GDN conference, which was held virtually.

We congratulate Prof. Mareike Schoop for the well-deserved award!

Citation (http://gdnconference.org/gdn2022/awards/):

2022 INFORMS GDN Section Award

Mareike Schoop

Mareike Schoop is a leading researcher in the field of electronic negotiations. Her main contribution is in the adaptation of speech act theory to the domain of negotiations. She has developed the Negotiation Support System (NSS) NEGOISST, which was the first NSS to integrate document support in the form of semantic enrichment with communication support based on speech act theory and analytical negotiation support. NEGOISST is an important platform for conducting empirical research in electronic negotiations. Professor Schoop has brought many promising young researchers to the field of e-negotiations. She has served the GDN community in many ways. She organized the GDN conference in 2017 in Hohenheim and served as chair of the doctoral consortium for several other GDN conferences. She was the treasurer of the INFORMS GDN Section, and since 2020, has been the co-Editor-in-Chief of the GDN Journal.

Adiel Teixeira de Almeida   *Tung Bui*

President, GDN Section   Chair, Nominating Committee

Award committee: *Tung Bui, Liping Fang and Raimo Hämäläinen.~*

1.2.2.   Gregory Kersten GDN Journal Best Paper Award

To commemorate the late Gregory Kersten, the INFORMS Section on Group Decision and Negotiation establishes the annual "Gregory Kersten GDN Journal Best Paper Award" for outstanding papers published in the GDN journal. The Award has been sponsored by The Gregory Kersten Foundation.

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The Gregory Kersten GDN Journal Best Paper Award is given annually to a paper published in the journal Group Decision and Negotiation in the previous calendar year that best contributes to the advancement of the theory and/or practice of group decision and negotiation. A paper is eligible for the award if it has appeared in one of the issues published during the calendar year, or if it is available as "Online First Article" on December 31st of that year. No paper can be selected for the award more than once.

Papers are nominated for the award by the Departmental Editors of the GDN journal. Associate Editors of the journal can nominate papers via the respective Departmental Editors. Each Departmental Editor can nominate up to three papers for a given year. In addition, members of the Award Committee, who are not Departmental Editors of the journal, can nominate up to three papers for a calendar year.

The Award Committee consists of five members, according to the Bylaws, including the President of the Informs GDN Section, the Editor in Chief of the GDN journal, the most recent winner of the GDN section award, other winner of the GDN section award and the most recent winner of the Gregory Kersten GDN Journal Best Paper Award, appointed by the GDN section council. ***The Award committee of 2022 was: Adiel de Almeida; Mareike Schoop/Gert-Jan de Vreede; Raimo Hämäläinen; Liping Fang; Ingmar Geiger.***

Congratulations to the authors of the winner paper of 2022!!

Winner: Druckman, D., Adrian, L., Damholdt, M. F., Filzmoser, M., Koszegi, S. T., Seibt, J., & Vestergaard, C. Who is Best at Mediating a Social Conflict? Comparing Robots, Screens and Humans. *Group Decision and Negotiation,* v.30, 395-426 (2021).

Business Meeting, GDN Conference 2022
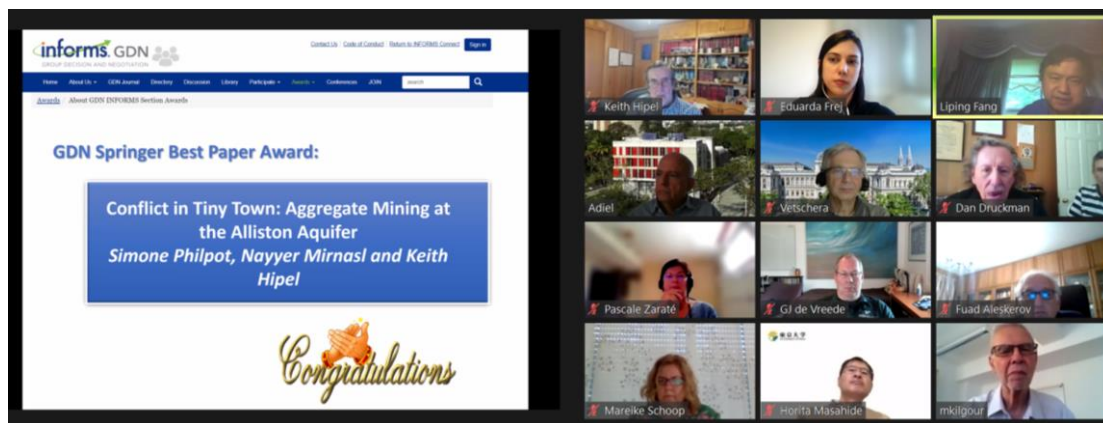
1.2.3.   2022 GDN Best Conference Papers

The purpose of the GDN Springer Best Conference Paper Award is to recognize research presented at the GDN conference. There are two award categories: GDN Springer Best Paper and Runner-up and GDN Springer Best Student Paper and Runner up. The Award is sponsored by Springer, the publisher of the GDN Journal. The GDN Section Council congratulates the authors of the Best papers and Runner-up papers for 2022. The Council is also very grateful to the Award committee (Tung Bui, Liping Fang and Raimo Hämäläinen) for their excellent and enthusiastic work.

1.2.3.1.   2022 GDN Springer Best Paper Award

Best paper:
Authors: Simone Philpot, Nayyer Mirnasl and Keith Hipel
Paper: Conflict in Tiny Town: Aggregate Mining at the Alliston Aquifer
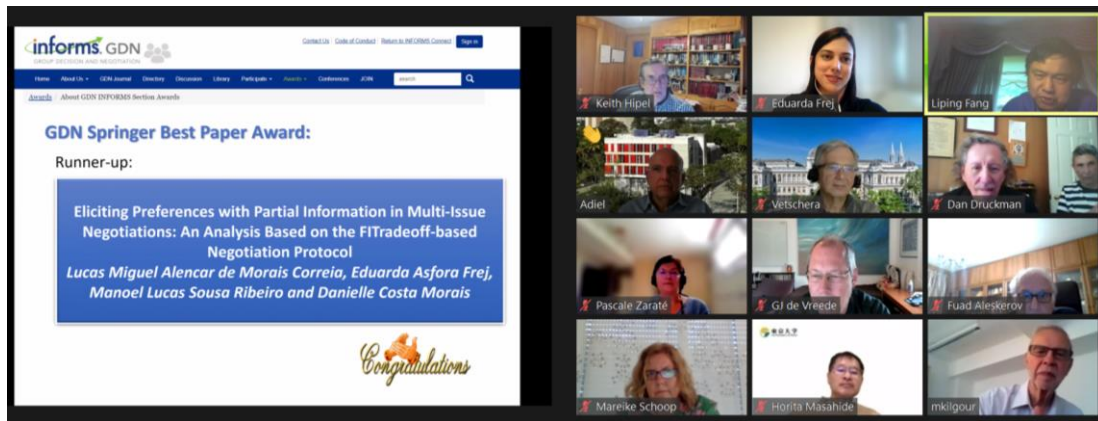

Business Meeting, GDN Conference 2022

Runner-up:
Authors: Lucas Miguel Alencar de Morais Correia, Eduarda Asfora Frej, Manoel Lucas Sousa Ribeiro and Danielle Costa Morais
Paper: Eliciting Preferences with Partial Information in Multi-Issue Negotiations: An Analysis Based on the FITradeoff-based Negotiation Protocol
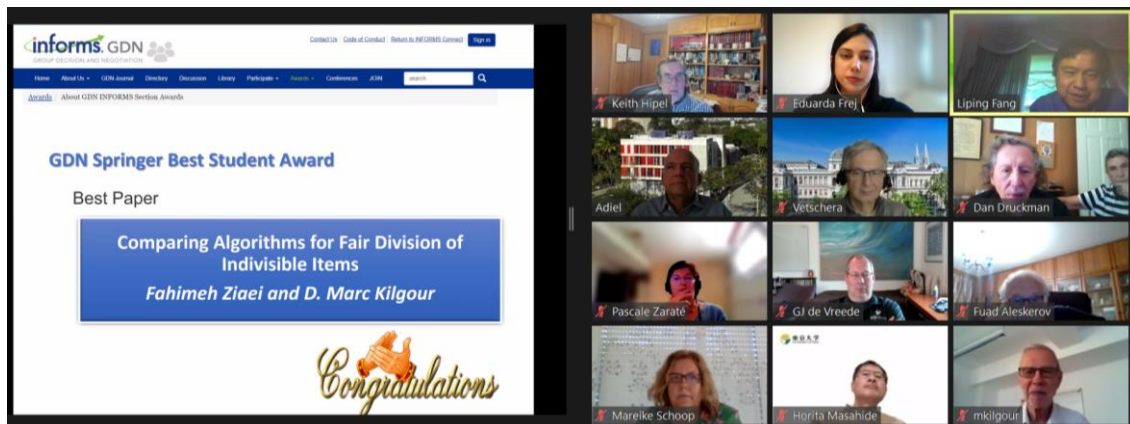
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Business Meeting, GDN Conference 2022

1.2.3.2.   2022 GDN Springer Best Student Award

Best paper:
Authors: Fahimeh Ziaei and D. Marc Kilgour
Paper: Comparing Algorithms for Fair Division of Indivisible Items
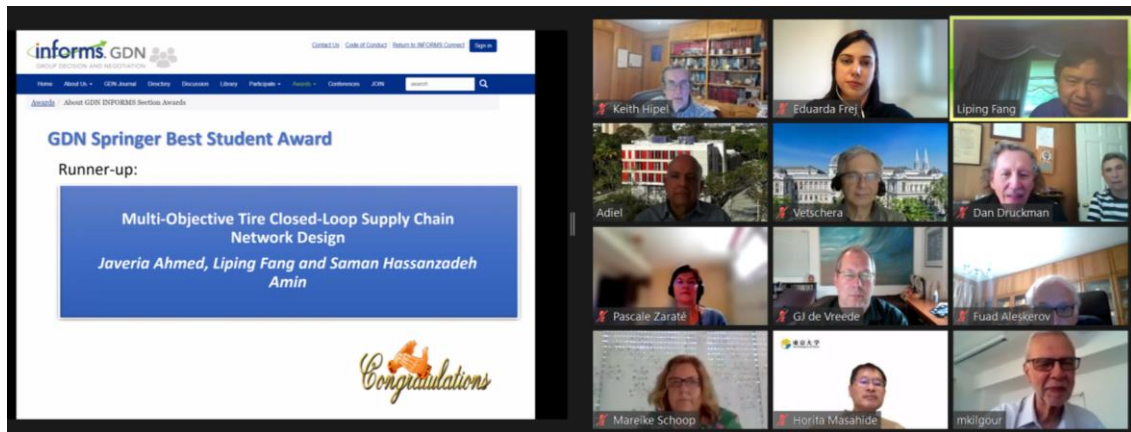

Business Meeting, GDN Conference 2022

Runner-up:
Authors: Javeria Ahmed, Liping Fang and Saman Hassanzadeh Amin
Paper: Multi-Objective Tire Closed-Loop Supply Chain Network Design

Business Meeting, GDN Conference 2022

More information about the awards and awardees, and past and future GDN Conferences is available at the GDN INFORMS website.

1.3. GDN 2023

The 23rd International Conference on Group Decision and Negotiation (GDN 2023) will be held in Tokyo, Japan, from June 11th to 15th, 2023. It will be the first time for GDN conferences that the conference is held in a 'hybrid' format: all technical sessions can therefore be participated either in person or online. The venue of the conference is the Hongo Campus of the University of Tokyo, located in the city center and within an easy distance of many places of interest. For those attending the conference in person, there will also be social programs being arranged for exploring the traditional and modern elements of the city. For further information, see http://gdnconference.org/gdn2023/. We look forward to seeing many participants enjoy a long-missed reunion in Tokyo.

Masahide Horita
University of Tokyo

Call for papers

You are cordially invited to submit papers to the 23rd International Conference on Group Decision and Negotiation, GDN 2023, 11-15 June 2023, Tokyo, Japan.

The field of Group Decision and Negotiation focuses on decision processes with at least two participants and a common goal. Such processes are complex and self-organising and constitute multi-participant, multi-criteria, ill-structured, dynamic, creative, and often evolutionary problems. Major approaches include:

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1. Information systems, in particular negotiation support systems (NSSs) and group decision support systems (GDSs)
2. Cognitive and behavioural sciences as applied to group decision and negotiation
3. Conflict analysis and resolution
4. Applied game theory, experiment and social choice
5. Artificial intelligence
6. Management science as it relates to group decision making and negotiation. Many research initiatives combine two or more of these approaches.

Group Decision and Negotiation can be performed in an intra-organisational as well as an inter-organisational context. Both consist of complex processes, including preference elicitation, proposals and counter-proposals, preference adjustment, and choice. Communication and decision making are the two key process steps in Group Decision and Negotiation and thus require sophisticated support in many ways.

Application areas of Group Decision and Negotiation include intra-organisational and inter-organisational coordination (as in operations management and integrated design, production, finance, marketing and distribution functions, such as coordination of all phases of the life cycle of a product), computer-supported collaborative work and meetings, electronic negotiations including negotiating agents and negotiation support systems, labour-management negotiations, inter-organisational, intercultural negotiations, environmental negotiations, and many others.

Papers can be submitted as full papers to be published either in Conference proceedings by Springer in the Book series of LNBIP (Lecture Notes in Business Information Processing) or as abstracts/extended abstracts/full papers to be published in Local Proceedings.

In the Local Proceedings the authors will keep the copyright. After the reviewing process, the authors could choose to replace their full paper in the Local Proceedings for abstract only. However, to be considered for the Conference Awards evaluation process, those papers should be available as full papers in the Local Proceedings, which will be on a stick that is given only to conference participants, at the beginning of the conference.

The topics are organized in conference streams that can be found on the conference website (http://gdnconference.org/gdn2023/streams/). Research in Group Decision and Negotiation has continued to expand, and many new research directions have been proposed. At GDN conferences, we encourage researchers to

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present research in Group Decision and Negotiation even if (in fact, especially if) it does not fit into any of the above areas. We particularly invite Bachelor and Master students to submit their work to the dedicated Student Stream.

Important dates:

1. Deadline for Proposals of sessions, streams, panels etc: **October 15, 2022** (send your proposal to gdn2023@gdnconference.org).
2. Deadline for the submission to the Springer Proceedings: **December 15, 2022**.
3. Deadline for the submission to the Local Proceedings: **January 31, 2023**.
4. Deadline for the submission to the Doctoral Consortium: **March 16, 2023**.

1.4. New Special Student Application for GDN Conference

During the GDN 2022 business meeting was proposed a Special Student Application for GDN Conference. This special application is for students who want to apply for free registration in GDN conferences.

It will be offered the opportunity to waive the registration fee for PhD/Master Students in the GDN field who are not authors/co-authors/presenters of papers in the conference. The main purpose is to increase the visibility of the community among students that would have the opportunity to get the first contact with the area. This is a strategy to increase participation of young researchers in our community.

The process consists of invite PhD/Master students to participate, waiving their registration fees. In that case, they could not be author, co-authors nor presenters of papers in GDN conference. The invitation for students can be done by Section officers, Stream Chairs and Program Chairs of the conference and Senior members of GDN community.

This opportunity is also announced in general in the GDN conference website and the applications must be evaluated by the Conference Chairs.

All invited students must fill out the "Special Student Application Form", informing the research interest: title of PhD Theses/Master Dissertation and name of advisor; and motivation to attend the GDN Conference. Besides, the students should state who is supporting their subscription for waive conference registration fee. After the evaluation, the student will be informed if his/her application was approved or not.

Take this opportunity to GDN 2023 Conference!

1.5. Group Decision and Negotiation Cluster at INFORMS 2022 Annual Meeting

The INFORMS 2022 Annual Meeting will be held in Indianapolis (Indiana), from October 16 to 19, 2022. The 2022 INFORMS Annual Meeting is a unique opportunity to connect and network with the more than 5,000 INFORMS members, students, prospective employers and employees, and academic and industry experts who compose the INFORMS community.

In 2022, the GDN cluster will have two sessions at the INFORMS Annual Meeting:

1. MCGDM: Multicriteria Group Decision Making Models;
2. Negotiation Models and Analysis.

1.6. Job Announcement

The Department of Business Decisions and Analytics at the University of Vienna has an open PhD position in a project on service integration. This topic involves a combination of OR methods in an application field to be chosen in accordance with the candidate (such as logistics, financial services or other fields where services by different providers are integrated) and topics of mechanism design and collective decision making.

Further details can be found in the university job portal at: https://univis.univie.ac.at/ausschreibungstellensuche/flow/bew_ausschreibung-flow;jsessionid=166F7533DE672BBE80AD6E02B15A6156?_flowExecutionKey=_c040647BC-B0EC-0715-22C2-4CE00D9C6E11_k0D42B6B3-8D61-6669-64FD-7212A42767CA&tid=91573.28&_language=en

2. MEMBERS NEWS AND AWARDS

2.1. D. Marc Kilgour elected GDN Section Honorary Chair

We are pleased to announce that D. Marc Kilgour has been elected GDN Section Honorary Chair. The GDN Section Bylaws states that "The title of the Honorary Chair may be offered to a member in recognition of her/his professional activities and service to the GDN community and the Section. The Honorary Chair must be an exceptional and long-standing member of the Section, who does not hold any position in the Section and who distinguished herself/himself through commitment and extraordinary service to the field of group decision and negotiation and GDN Section. The Honorary Chair is elected for lifetime."

In accordance with the procedure described in the Bylaws, D. Marc Kilgour was nominated by the GDN Section Award Committee and subsequently elected by the GDN Section Council in 2022 to serve as GDN Section Honorary Chair.

On behalf of the GDN Section, we would like to extend our heartiest congratulations to Marc for achieving this significant distinction.

Adiel Teixeira de Almeida
President, GDN Section, INFORMS

Liping Fang
Vice-President for Meetings, GDN Section, INFORMS

July 6, 2022

2.2. Professor Adiel de Almeida receives "The Georg Cantor Award" from the International Society on Multiple Criteria Decision Making (MCDM)

It is our great honor to share that Professor ADIEL TEIXEIRA DE ALMEIDA was honored with The Georg Cantor Award from the International Society on Multiple Criteria Decision Making (MCDM). The Georg Cantor Award "is the highest form of recognition that the International Society on Multiple Criteria Decision Making bestows upon a researcher who has personified the spirit of independent inquiry in developing innovative ideas in the theory and methodology of MCDM, significantly expanding the tools available to MCDM practice."

The award was conferred on Professor Adiel de Almeida during the International Conference on MCDM that took place from June 26 to July 1, 2022, in Portsmouth, UK.

Adiel currently serves as President of the Group Decision and Negotiation (GDN) Section, INFORMS. We warmly congratulate Adiel for his new achievement!

Liping Fang and Danielle Morais
Vice-President for Meetings and Secretary of GDN Section, INFORMS

3. NEW BOOKS, PUBLICATIONS AND SYSTEMS

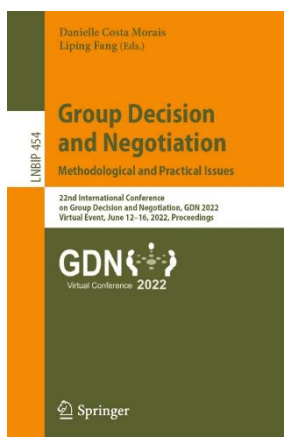## 3.1. Negoisst: slot open for new partners

On being awarded the GDN Section Award 2022 for my research on electronic negotiations, I gave my keynote on „Digital Transformation of Negotiations". Our negotiation support system Negoisst shows the implementation of various aspects of digitalisation of negotiations.

Negoisst is a web-based system with various support features such as communication support, decision support, document management, and conflict management. It offers gamified negotiation training as well as complete support of negotiation processes.

We run international negotiation simulations twice a year (May/June and November/December). Over the past 18 years, thousands of students from around the globe negotiated via Negoisst with much enthusiasm and fun. These simulations have now open spots for new partners. If you want to join these great events with your students, just drop me a line (support@negoisst.de).

Mareike Schoop
University of Hohenheim, Germany

3.2. GDN 2022 Springer Proceedings

The Springer Proceedings of GDN 2022 is published:

- Morais, D. C., Fang, L. Group Decision and Negotiation: Methodological and Practical Issues. Springer Lecture Notes in Business Information Processing LNBIP 454, 2022.

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3.3. Recent Publications

This section presents a short list of recent publications of members of the GDN community who expressed their interest in mention their publications in this newsletter. This list is by no means exhaustive. If you want your recent publications to appear in the next issue of the GDN newsletter, please send an email to **newsletter@gdnconference.org.**

- García-Lapresta, J.L., Marques Pereira, R.A. (2022). An extension of Majority Judgment to non-uniform qualitative scales. European Journal of Operational Research. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ejor.2021.11.002.

- García-Lapresta, J.L., Moreno-Albadalejo, P., Pérez-Román, D., Temprano-García, V. (2021). A multi-criteria procedure in new product development using different qualitative scales. Applied Soft Computing. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.asoc.2021.107279.

- Kosmopoulou, G., & Nedelescu, D. M. (2022). The effect of a larger contract zone on agreement rates under arbitration. Journal of Behavioral and Experimental Economics, 100, 101901. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.socec.2022.101901

- Merlone, U., & Lupano, M. (2022). Third party funding: The minimum claim value. European Journal of Operational Research, 296(2), 738-747. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ejor.2021.04.059

- Nwogugu, M. I. (Ed.). (2021). Complex Systems and Sustainability in the Global Auditing, Consulting, and Credit Rating Agency Industries. IGI Global.

- Nwogugu, M. I. (2021). Geopolitical Risk, Sustainability and" Cross-Border Spillovers" in Emerging Markets, Volume I. Springer International Publishing.

4. GDN JOURNAL: FROM THE DESK OF THE EDITORS-IN-CHIEF

In this newsletter, we would like to share two items with you: news on the journal's 2021 metrics and a call for special issue proposals.

When we assumed the editorship of GDN, one of our key goals was to lower the time to make an initial review decision on new submissions and bring the overall time to publication down. In 2021, the time from submission to first decision came down to 64 days (down from 76 in 2020 and 92 in 2019). The time from acceptance to online publication was 19 days. Also, we are happy to report that journal's impact factor increased from 2.648 to 2.928; the five-year impact factor increased to 2.527. The journal's CiteScore is 4.1. These are excellent numbers and we would like to thank all Board members and reviewers for their support. We also want to encourage everyone to submit to the GDN journal.

As many of you know, GDN has hosted various special issues. The SI in memory of Gregory Kersten has just been published online. We would like to see more SIs and thus welcome proposals for a special issue. Please send these directly to us. We are looking for topics that are currently gaining interest but have yet to become widely studied (in which case an SI can serve as a foundation point for our community) as well as for well-researched topics (in which case an SI shows the current state-of-the-art and current research advances).

We are happy to discuss potential paper submissions or ideas for a special issue and help you develop them, so just reach out. We love to hear from you!

We wish everyone a relaxing holiday season!

GJ de Vreede & Mareike Schoop

gdevreede@usf.edu & schoop@uni-hohenheim.de

5. IMPRINTS

Eduarda Frej: newsletter@gdnconference.org; eafrej@cdsid.org.br

We are working on publishing the newsletter of the Group Decision and Negotiation Section of INFORMS two times a year, July and December. The deadline for contributions for the July issue is June 30, and the issue is intended to be published by the end of July. The deadline for the December issue is November 30, and the issue is intended to be published by the end of December. Contributions can be sent at any time to the editor (please see the address provided above).