MISSION AND OBJECTIVES

The Research Group in Operations, Analytics, and Decision Sciences (RGinOADS) is designed to promote research in operations management, analytics, decision sciences, and related fields.

The Group's main objectives are to:

- Encourage research in all areas of operations management, analytics, decision sciences, and related fields.
- Foster multidisciplinary research involving operations management, analytics, decision sciences, and related fields (e.g. data mining, big data, artificial intelligence, machine learning, renewable energy, sustainability); and other disciplines in management such as Management Information Systems, Accounting, Finance, Engineering, Economics, Health Administration, Management of Natural Resources (Mining, Forestry, Fisheries, Renewable Energy), Behavioural Sciences, Public Administration, and other relevant areas.
- Develop research programs in above specific areas of interest and their professions.
- Provide a forum for conferences, seminars, workshops, lectures, and related activities to discuss new developments and ideas in operations management, analytics, decision sciences, and related disciplines.
- Participate actively in the publication and dissemination of research results.
- Project a higher profile for the Department of Finance and Operations, the Faculty of Management, and Laurentian University on the domestic and international scenes in academic and professional forums.
- Promote and support strategic partnerships with private and public organizations.
- Support undergraduate and graduate research in all areas of operations management, analytics, decision sciences, and related fields.
- Identify and explore operations management, analytics and decision sciences-related research topics that are relevant to Laurentian University, the local community (especially the Indigenous communities in Ontario and Canada), and beyond.
- Seek opportunities to augment undergraduate and graduate curricula and programs pertaining to operations management, analytics, decision sciences, and related fields.
- Increase opportunities for research funding, assist with faculty retention/renewal, provide opportunities for graduate education.
- Promote and support the opportunities for the AACSB accreditation and the Laurentian University strategic plan.

The Group will seek funding from sponsors, research partnerships, funding agencies, donations, and paid activities (Workshops, Lecture Series, Special Contracts with the Industry, etc.) The Group is managed by Dr. Mohamed Dia and supported by an Executive Committee tasked with the development of the Group's strategies, policies, and orientations.

Achieving the objectives

To achieve its objectives, the Group will pursue the following:

- Develop comprehensive research programs;
- Organize conferences and symposiums;
- Organize research workshops and lectures by distinguished speakers in operations management, analytics and decision sciences;
- Promote scholarship in the areas of operations management, analytics, decision sciences and related fields using the principles of integrity, intellectual curiosity, collaboration, and capacity development.

The main focus of the Group will be to conduct research in all areas of operations management, analytics, decision sciences, and related disciplines. RGinOADS will support LU's strategic mandate by nurturing scholarship (focusing on interdisciplinary research), community engagement (responding to the needs of the local, regional, and provincial partnerships), and economic development (engaging local and indigenous communities).

The research programs results will be published in academic journals and be available to professionals through the Group. Research results will be disseminated through conference proceedings, research reports, presentations at conferences, and preprints and articles on the web. The purpose is to encourage individuals from a variety of operations management, analytics, decision sciences and related fields to collaborate on a range of research topics and activities.

Workshops and Speakers

The Group will invite well-known academics and practitioners to present their research results. These forums will provide opportunities for the exchange of ideas and the enhancement of knowledge and research methodologies between teams of researchers in the Group and researchers in other institutions. They will also facilitate networking and give the Group a higher profile in research and academic communities.

Potential speakers will include both LU scholars and researchers from other institutions. This will engage the researchers, graduate and undergraduate students at LU with national and international community of researchers and partners in areas of operations management, analytics, decision sciences and related fields, and promote the profile of the RGinOADS within LU, and in local, national and international organizations.

Website

To educate and communicate regarding the work at the Research Group, a website has been created. It will feature the latest information about the Group, including its major activities, conferences, publications, research abstracts, upcoming events, etc.

Infrastructure Enhancement

To focus and support its research activities, the Group will establish a collection of national and international databases. This infrastructure of publications will enhance researchers' access to the latest information for their studies.

Profile and Visibility

The activities that RGinOADS will put in place will contribute to the attainment of a high profile for the Group, the Department of Finance and Operations, the Faculty of Management, and Laurentian University.

The Group will organize research conferences, workshops, lecture series, and will invite guest speakers from universities and professional organizations in Canada and abroad. Research results from the Group will be published in academic and professional journals of many different bodies in many different countries.

A list of publications will be posted in the Group website to show its success in its areas of research.

The Way Ahead

The RGinOADS members are already conducting valuable research and will continue to do so for the reputation of the Group, the Department of Finance and Operations, the Faculty of Management, and Laurentian University.

RGinOADS intends to be the spearhead in high quality research of relevance to the operations management, analytics, and decision sciences professions in the main areas of the disciplines. This will be achieved in conjunction with a world-class team of researchers, a strong network with researchers in Canada and abroad, and strategic partnerships with other organizations concerned with operations management, analytics, and decision sciences.

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