

Citation for
Professor Victoria Jane Mabin
Recipient of the Hans Daellenbach Award
ORSNZ, Dec 2017

We have great pleasure in announcing that Professor Victoria Jane Mabin, from Victoria University of Wellington, has been awarded the ORSNZ Hans Daellenbach Award for outstanding contributions to Operational Research in New Zealand. This award is made particularly for “Applied OR”, and Professor Mabin has been active not only as an academic but, along with her students, in a variety of applied contexts, for over 30 years. She has also been an active contributor to the OR Society, of which she is a Past President.



Professor Vicky Mabin

Professor Mabin has made significant contributions to the Theory of Constraints, and also to broader OR/MS areas including Multiple Criteria Decision Analysis, Soft OR and Systems Thinking. Rather than attempting to summarize her long list of New Zealand and international contributions, we would like to highlight some (lightly edited) comments from others.

*Reviewing and reflecting on Vicky’s academic contributions over a period spanning almost 40 years, it is clear to see that she has been a pioneer of multi-methodology and mixing methods, having long sought to integrate ideas from Goldratt’s Theory of Constraints (TOC) with both soft and hard OR methods in theory and in practice. The breadth of this work is very impressive, from a conceptual perspective with regard to the wide range of OR methods that it addresses, and from a practical one in relation to the many different domains in which it has been applied and appreciated. **Professor Valerie Belton, University of Strathclyde, Scotland***

*I have known Vicky Mabin for over two decades. She is one of the few academics that is exceptional at teaching, research and service activities. She is also one of a few academics that is comfortable in both an academic and a practitioner environment. She is a Socratic teacher involving most of the class in her presentations. Vicky is also very active with her involvement in academic and practitioner organizations and in the community. Dr Mabin has been a keynote speaker for the annual conference of the Theory of Constraints International Certification Organization, an organization primarily comprised of the top TOC consultants in the world. **Emeritus Professor James Cox, University of Georgia, USA***

Other colleagues and former students have praised the effectiveness of Professor Mabin's OR work, and the extra effort and care she provided in their development as academics, consultants or professionals in NZ, Australia, and beyond. She has also published extensively in both OR/MS and application area journals. Accordingly, we have no hesitation in concluding that Professor Mabin is a worthy recipient of this award.

Nominating Members: Dr Bob Cavana, Victoria Business School
Dr John Buchanan, Waikato Management School

Prize Award Panel: Dr Michael O'Sullivan, President of ORSNZ
Dr Golbon Zakeri, Past President of ORSNZ
Dr Grant Read, Past President of ORSNZ and Daellenbach Prize awardee