
Editorial

Ghassan Abu-Lebdeh

Department of Civil Engineering,
American University of Sharjah,
P.O. Box 26666,
University City, Sharjah, UAE
Email: gabulebdeh@aus.edu

Biographical notes: Ghassan Abu-Lebdeh is currently an Associate Professor of Civil Engineering (Transport) at the American University of Sharjah (AUS). He has over 25 years of industry and academic experience in the USA and the UAE. Prior to AUS, he worked at Michigan State University, University of Kentucky, Champaign County Regional Planning Commission, and Central Massachusetts Regional Planning Commission.

It gives me great pleasure to present to you this special issue, on Transport, of the *International Journal on Engineering Management and Economics*.

With the exception of few, the papers before you were presented in a shortened format at the *International Conference on Modelling, Simulation and Applied Optimisation (ICMSAO'13)*, in Hammamet, Tunisia, 28–30 April, 2013.

Transport is a wide field that encompasses planning, designing, operating and maintaining transport physical facilities and systems. Human behaviour and physiological traits and limitations of humans, and institutional norms and policies are key ingredients of those systems.

To optimally design and operate those systems is both technically and politically challenging. To these ends and for these constraints, simulation and optimisation are tools of great value and potential.

That much diversity and challenge is naturally reflected in the papers of the issue in your hands. As you will see, the papers are from wide-ranging transport topical areas; however, they all share the use of optimisation and/or simulation as tools to analyse and/or design and operate different aspects of transport systems. Authors from areas of transport system operations and safety, finance and taxation, and pavement management contributed to this issue.

The completion of this special issue would not have been possible without the cooperation of the authors and a great many reviewers. The editorial staffs at Inderscience were most helpful and gracious in handling the review process and responding to inquiries from both authors and reviewers: Thank you all for making this issue a reality.