Creating a Research Agenda: Where Do Good Topics for OM Research Come From?

by

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Abstract: Every OM researcher has to decide what problems or issues their research should address. While technical competence and expertise are essential to obtain research results, the wider impact of the research findings depends on the relevance of the issues addressed. How to choose good research topics? This talk is based on over 50 years of experience in research. I will describe some of the different ways I arrived at a topic and then try and identify which ways were more effective in achieving research visibility.

Bio: John Buzacott was born in Sydney, Australia. He was educated at the University of Sydney and the University of Birmingham. He has taught at the University of Toronto, the University of Waterloo and York University. He has been President of the Canadian OR Society, Chair of the ORSA Section on Manufacturing and Operations Management (the predecessor of MSOM) and President of the Production and Operations Management Society. He is a Fellow of INFORMS and of POMS and was awarded an honorary doctorate by the Technical University of Eindhoven.