

Academic director receives honorary doctor degree and achieves the Five-Fecta

By the INSEAD Humanitarian Research Group

On 28 June 2018, Professor Luk van Wassenhove, Academic Director of the INSEAD Humanitarian Research Group, received an Honorary Doctor Degree from the Department of Mechanical Engineering in the Polytechnic School of the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki in Greece for his profound and enduring contributions in Management Science and Engineering.

The Department of Mechanical Engineering were unanimous in their decision, and stated: *“Professor Luk Van Wassenhove has repeatedly worked with all Industrial Management Teachers in research programs and has provided post-doctoral research and work at INSEAD with many graduates of our Department. In these ways he has contributed substantially to the international recognition of the Department and to the scientific and research development of academic staff and graduates”.*

Following his recognition in June, Professor Van Wassenhove was named Fellow of INFORMS during the INFORMS Annual Meeting in November in Phoenix, USA. Professor Van Wassenhove was elected to the INFORMS Fellow Award because of his pioneering work on closed loop supply chains (sustainability) and humanitarian operations.

INFORMS Fellows are examples of outstanding lifetime achievement in operations research and the management sciences. They have demonstrated exceptional accomplishments and made significant contributions to the advancement of OR/MS over a period of time.

Luk is one of the top academics in the world in the field of Operations Management. He is one of the most prolific scholars in the field, credited for being a pioneer in sustainable and humanitarian operations. Luk’s research stands at the intersection of high standards of academic rigor and deep practical relevance. The importance of his research has been well recognized... and he will forever be an inspiration to the coming generations of scholars at INSEAD and elsewhere.

Sameer Hasija, INSEAD Area Chair of Technology and Operations Management

The acknowledgement from INFORMS makes Professor Van Wassenhove the first professor to be recognized by five major professional Operations Management and Management Sciences societies. His other major professional society awards include a 2013 Honorary Fellowship from EUROMA, a 2009 MSOM Fellow Award, a 2006 EURO Gold Medal from the European Association of Operational Research Societies and a 2005 Fellow of POMS Award.

With an extensive and growing body of work and record number of citations, Professor Van Wassenhove is one of the most impactful members of our exemplary INSEAD faculty. Luk is an innovator of sustainability solutions and consistently produces research that is remarkably rigorous and relevant. He collaborates with leading academics and mentors promising scholars. With his research towards a practical path to sustainable social and economic development, Luk has profoundly impacted the field of Operations Management – and helped set the world on course to a brighter future.

Ziv Carmon, INSEAD Dean of Research