



*POMS 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Conference*  
*“Socially Responsible Operations”*  
*April 20 – April 23, 2012*  
*Chicago, IL, U.S.A.*

On behalf of the Planning Committee, welcome to the 2012 POM Annual Conference. We come together this year with the potential to be the largest POM conference to date with more than 1,000 abstracts submitted. Our theme, **Socially Responsible Operations** will be developed through 29 tracks. We are truly an international society of scholars, as we will welcome presenters and attendees from approximately 45 countries. By sharing our research through paper presentations we fulfill the POMS fundamental purposes:

- to extend and integrate knowledge that contributes to the improved understanding and practice of production and operations management (POM);
- to disseminate information on POM to managers, scientists, educators, students, public and private organizations, national and local governments, and the general public; and
- to promote the improvement of POM and its teaching in public and private manufacturing and service organizations throughout the world.

If you have never been to Chicago, you are in for a surprise. This city is among the most populous, yet friendliest cities in the U.S. From the Navy Pier and its boardwalk, to the famous Millennium Park and the mammoth stainless-steel Cloud Gate sculpture, Chicago has plenty of history and activities to keep you entertained. It is also famous for its theatrical scene and the legendary Chicago Theatre, whose famous C-H-I-C-A-G-O marquee lights up State Street. The city's wide variety of ethnic food (ranging from Mediterranean, Indian, to Middle Eastern, and Pacific Islands), astonishing architecture, and 29 miles of lakefront paths, which makes it one of the world's most walkable and beautiful cities, are simply a few reasons to visit Chicago.

Our conference hotel is the Chicago Marriott Downtown Magnificent Mile located in the heart of Chicago, Illinois, U.S.A. The hotel is magnificently situated amongst world-class shopping and dining. It is within walking distance of top attractions including the Navy Pier, American Girl Place, Shedd Aquarium, Millennium Park, Theater and Museum Districts.

The Chicago Marriott Downtown Magnificent Mile is a contemporary 46 floor hotel with 1,173 rooms, 25 suites, and various eating options including the Rush Bar & Lounge, the Harvest Restaurant, and the Starbucks Coffee House.

Dr. Christopher (Chris) Tang  
Conference Chair  
Professor, UCLA  
U.S.A.