

Welcome Message
from the
President of POMS



Dear POMS colleagues and friends:

It is with great pleasure and anticipation that I welcome you to the 2010 POMS Conference in Vancouver. The single most important function of a professional society is to connect people with shared interests, and the best way anyone has found for doing that is to meeting face-to-face at conferences. So this event is the most important thing we will do all year in POMS.

Fortunately, it is in good hands. Hong Chen (General Chair), Vishal Gaur and Mahesh Nagarajan (co-Program Chairs), James Gilbert (Local Arrangements Chair and VP-Meetings), Sushil Gupta (POMS Executive Director), the other members of the Conference Planning Committee, the college conference and cluster organizers and the many other people involved in planning and managing this conference have worked tirelessly to provide all of us with a world-class experience worthy of this beautiful city. We owe all of them a great debt of gratitude.

The conference theme “Operations in Emerging Economies” is a particularly timely one. Anyone who follows current events cannot help but notice that the number of people participating in the global economy has grown by leaps and bounds over the past two decades. To manage the supply chains that connect these people, as well as address other critical global issues like sustainability and health care, we absolutely must make advances in operations management practices. We will be hearing about leading edge research on these and other topics in the main conference and in the affiliated conferences organized by the Colleges on Human Behavior in Operations Management, Healthcare Operations Management, Service Operations, and Sustainable Operations. On top of these exciting research presentations, we will have the opportunity to attend teaching sessions, industry panels, and plenty of forums for socializing. So I expect a good time will be had by all.

I hope you will take full advantage of the vibrant environment the conference organizers have created for us here in beautiful Vancouver. Attend a session on a topic you know nothing about. Peruse the program to learn about new people doing research in areas that interest you. Take time to make a new acquaintance. Who knows, the connections you make here may change your life, or even the world.

Enjoy!

Wally Hopp,
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Herrick Professor of Manufacturing
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