



Welcome Message from the Program Chair

Welcome to Chicago and the 23rd Annual Conference of the Production and Operations Management Society

We have received more than 1,200 abstracts from 40 countries and have placed the accepted ones into 28 tracks that cover various areas of operations management and related fields. Supporting this year's theme of "*Socially Responsible Operations*" we have specific tracks that invite research on this theme. Building on last year's theme of "*Operations Management: The Enabling Link*", we have tracks that link operations with finance and marketing. Recognizing the importance of globalization in operations, we have new tracks on operations management in China & East Asia, India & South Asia and Latin America & the Caribbean. To highlight the importance of manufacturing and retailing in the global economy, we have introduced new tracks on Manufacturing Operations and on Retail Operations. To emphasize the importance of effective teaching of operations management, we have a new track on Teaching in Operations Management. Finally, well-established tracks such as Supply Chain Management, Health Care Operations Management, and Service Operations continue to be very popular.

In the process of developing these tracks, I have received enormous support from the track chairs. They have invested lot of time and effort in this conference. I offer my deepest gratitude and thanks to the track chairs:

Aydin Alptekinologu, Aruna Apte, Vlad Babich, Achal Bassamboo, Fernando Bernstein, John Birge, Felipe Caro, Kyle Cattani, Jian Chen, Soo-Haeng Cho, Thomas Choi, Chih-peng Chu, Charles Corbett, Laurens Debo, Nicole DeHoratius, Ling xiu Dong, Feryal Erhun, Srinagesh Gavirneni, V. Daniel R. Guide, Jr., Cagri Haksoz, Sarvanan Kesavan, Ken Klassen, Gurhan Kok, Beste Kucukyazici, Chung-Yee Lee, Janny M.Y. Leung, Chung-Lun Li, Suman Mallik, Sriram Narayanan, Tava Olsen, Ozalp Ozer, Rodney Parker, Carrie Queenan, Karthik Ramachandran, Saibal Ray, Gal Raz, Guillaume Roels, Sergei Savin, Steve Smith, Mohan Sodhi, Martin Starr, Xuanming Su, Jay Swaminathan, Chung Piaw Teo, Sergio Maturana Valderrama, Rohit Verma, Liana Victorino, Yaozhong Wu, and Candi Yano.

I would also like to thank Sushil Gupta (Executive Director POMS), Nagesh Murthy (Vice President Meetings), Christopher Tang (Program Chair), and Vikram Tiwari (Scheduling Committee Chair) for their guidance and leadership.

I hope this conference fosters linkages with new ideas and friends. I look forward to seeing you and I wish you a very productive conference.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Kumar Rajaram". The signature is fluid and cursive, written on a white background.

Kumar Rajaram
Program Chair
Professor of Operations Management
UCLA Anderson School