

POMS 2012 Annual Conference, Chicago, IL, USA, April 20 – 23, 2012

Welcome to the 23rd Annual POMS Conference!

A Message from your Vice President for Meetings

On behalf of the entire planning committee, it gives me great pleasure to welcome you all to the 23rd Annual POMS Conference at Chicago Marriott Downtown Magnificent Mile. In addition to experiencing an exciting line up of events at the conference, it is also a tremendous opportunity to enjoy the city of Chicago at a nice time of the year.



It is indeed a momentous year for POMS as we experience a surge in attendance. Our planning team has done a fantastic job under the direction of our President, Luk Van Wassenhove and our Executive Director, Sushil Gupta. Our General Chair, Chris Tang and Program Chair, Kumar Rajaram have worked with great energy and enthusiasm to line up exciting plenary speakers and assemble a wonderful team of track chairs to offer you a high quality experience.

Most of us who have enjoyed POMS conferences over the years would not be able to fathom the dedication, energy, and time put in by Jim Gilbert, our previous Vice President for Meetings, in his meticulous planning and impeccable ground operations for the POMS Meetings. In addition, he prepared a detailed operating manual prior to the end of his second term to create a repository for the institutional knowledge and make the transition easier for an incoming VP for Meetings. One cannot say enough about Sushil Gupta, who with his deep institutional knowledge has the knack of handling any situation with poise. Experiencing about a forty percent increase in abstracts after having signed the contract for the venue did not throw him off balance. While I stepped into this role with some understanding of the enormity of the task, I discovered very soon that I could not have done it without the able advice and immense support from both Sushil Gupta and Jim Gilbert, particularly in this rookie year.

The core planning team, along with the track chairs and various award committees has worked tirelessly to organize all facets of this meeting. Thanks to the leadership in the POMS community, we have had an incredible sponsorship support at premier levels from several schools. I would like to express my sincere thanks to Shailesh Kulkarni for his critical role as the Associate VP Sponsorship, Laurens Debo for doing a wonderful and pivotal job as the Local Arrangements Chair (notwithstanding securing a Platinum Level support from Chicago Booth School), Vikram Tiwari for his sustained and highly responsive involvement as the Scheduling Committee Chair, and Tobias Schoenherr for shouldering the time consuming and meticulous needs of being the Proceedings Coordinator. Lastly, a special thanks to Jack Kanet for his institutional leadership for the Emerging Scholars Program, Vinayak Deshpande for his role as the Doctoral Consortium Chair, and Cindy Ferguson at the Lundquist College of Business for offering immense support to take care of countless tasks for this meeting.

It is my great pleasure to have served as your VP for Meetings in Chicago. Once again, have a wonderful conference!

Nagesh N. Murthy
VP for Meetings
Lundquist College of Business,
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