

POMS 24th Annual Conference – Denver

Welcome Message from the Conference General Chair

On behalf of the Planning Committee, welcome to the 2013 POMS Annual Conference. The 2013 Denver Conference is one of the largest POMS conferences with over 1000 abstracts and over 1000 registered attendants from over 45 countries. The impact of POMS is visible through the strong growth of its conference and international participation over time!

Our theme, *Integrating Practice in POM Research and Teaching* is presented through 23 tracks and 2 Plenary Sessions. Of particular interest this year is the development of the half plenary sessions on Sunday, May 5, 2013 that showcase the increasing level of influence that practicing managers have on driving POM research and teaching.



By sharing our research through paper presentations and integrating practitioner perspectives throughout the conference program, 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.

Clearly, the success of the 2013 Denver conference relies on the support of POMS current and new members and the hard work of the Program Chair and Track Chairs for inviting current POMS members and new members to attend this exciting conference. However, this conference is made possible by the tireless effort of the organizing committee members to whom I would like to express my gratitude.

Specifically, I am indebted to each of the planning committee members as follows: Professors Sushil Gupta (Executive Director) and Nagesh Murthy (VP Meetings) for guiding us each step of the way, Professor Mark Ferguson (Program Chair) for organizing all session tracks, Professor Vikram Tiwari (Scheduling Committee Chair) for scheduling different events, Professor Laurens Debo (Doctoral Consortium Chair) for organizing a special program for the doctoral students, Professor Jack Kanet (Emerging Scholars Program Chair) for organizing a special program for young scholars, and Cherry Singhal for managing our invitation letters. Last but not the least, I am grateful to Professors Nagesh Murthy (VP meetings) and Shailesh Kulkarni (Associate VP Sponsorship) for soliciting extra funds to support POMS and many of the special conference activities. Finally, I would like to thank all of the sponsoring organizations for their generous financial support.

Once again, welcome to the 24th Annual Conference of the Production and Operations Management Society. I look forward to meeting you at the conference, and I hope you will have a wonderful time in the city of Denver.

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