

Welcome Message from the Program Chair

Welcome to Denver and the 24th Annual Conference of the Production and Operations Management Society.

Thanks to the overwhelming support of our members, we have broken the abstracts submitted record for the second year in a row with over 1300 abstracts submitted from 53 different countries. This is a great sign for the growth of our society as well as our field. The theme of the conference this year is Integrating Practice in POM Research and Teaching. As you look through the sessions in each track, I think you will see this theme reflected in every track. One area of focus this year was to increase the number of speakers from industry. This was presented as a challenge to our track chairs and they were certainly up for it, as almost every track has at least one session that includes speakers from industry.

If you enjoy the talks during the conference, be sure to thank our team of dedicated track chairs. This distinguished group of subject matter experts worked tirelessly to recruit and organize a great set of speakers for you. I offer my deepest gratitude and thanks to the entire team:

Canan Savaskan, Cindy Wallin, Nektarios Oraipoulos, Ken Klassen, Eda Kemahlioglu Ziya, Ravi Behar, Kate Hughes, Manpreet Hora, Lingxiu Dong, Santosh Mahapatra, Mike Galbreth, Fernando Bernstein, Itir Karaesmen-aydin, Sanjay Ahire, Aravind Chandrasekaran, Meltem Denizel, Sebastian Heese, Amit Eynan, Brian Tomlin, Stephan Wagner, Vishal Agrawal, Fred Glover, Qi Annabelle Feng, Natalia Santamaria, Hari Balasubramanian, Gang Li, Nezih Altay, Rob Klassen, Tim Huh, Farzad Mahmoodi, Glen Schmidt, Rich Metters, Michael Lapre, Tevhide Altekin, Yimin Wang, Feryal Erhun, Chris Tang, Gary Kochenberger, Jayarath Jayaram

I'd also like to thank my colleague and Program Chair, Manoj Malhotra, and Executive Director, Sushil Gupta, whose visions defined the conference and whose leadership kept the conference planning on track. The Vice President of Meetings, Nagesh Murthy, continues to find fantastic locations for our meetings. If you enjoy the location and the facilities, be sure to thank him for another year of dedicated service. My biggest thanks goes to the Scheduling Committee Chair, Vikram Tiwari, who carried the bulk of the program design load and was always available to answer questions about the conference management system.

Finally, all of our efforts would be for naught without the fantastic support of our members. This is your conference and I hope it proves to be an enjoyable and fruitful experience for you.

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