

2015 Emerging Economies Doctoral Student Award Recipients

The Production and Operations Management Society (POMS) created the ***Emerging Economies Doctoral Student Award*** to encourage the development of future scholars in emerging economies and to build connections between these future scholars and POMS. To be eligible for the award, an applicant has to be enrolled in a Ph.D. program in operations management or a related discipline offered by a university in a country belonging to one of the following three regions- Africa, Asia-Pacific, and Latin American and the Caribbean. For 2015, POMS appointed a committee comprised of Professors Janice Carrillo (University of Florida), Chung-Lun Li (Hong Kong Polytechnic University), Ann Maruchek (University of North Carolina- Chapel Hill), Anand Paul (University of Florida), Alfonso Pedraza-Martinez (Indiana University), Gal Raz (University of Virginia), and Leonardo Santiago (Federal University of Minas Gervais-UFMG). The committee evaluated 23 strong applications and is pleased to recognize the following three individuals as the 2015 ***Emerging Economies Doctoral Student Award*** recipients.

Chen Yen-Tsang is a PhD candidate in Operations Management at Escola de Administração de Empresas de São Paulo of Fundação Getúlio Vargas (FGV/EAESP), São Paulo. He received his Master degree at the same institution in 2011 and a Bachelor degree in Mechanical Engineering in 2002 from Escola Politécnica of Universidade de São Paulo (USP). He had worked for 10 years as engineer, project coordinator and manager for a company specialized in railway transportation. Since the pursuing of the Master degree, he had decided to dedicate his career in academic and research activities and published papers in national and international journals. For his dissertation, Yen-Tsang is working on the influence of buyer-supplier relationship in the supplier selection process through controlled experiment, conjoint analysis and cross-national comparisons. During the PhD journey, he had also spent several months at China Europe International Business School (CEIBS) in Shanghai as visiting researcher for data collecting and research exchanging. Apart from the dissertation, his other research interests are in the area of behavioral operations, capability development and operations strategy.



Blessing FunkeAjao is a doctoral student in Technology Management at the African Institute for Science Policy and Innovation, Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife, Nigeria. She holds a Bachelor of Technology's degree in Computer Engineering from Ladoké Akintola University of Technology, Nigeria in 2009, a Master's Degree in Technology Management from Obafemi Awolowo University in 2014 and started her PhD immediately. She became a Cisco Certified Network Professional in 2009. She is currently a Research Officer at the National



Centre for Technology Management, an agency of the Federal Ministry of Science and Technology, located at Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife, Nigeria. Her on-going doctoral research is titled 'E-commerce Innovation for Small Firms in Nigeria'. She presented this work at the 3rdAfricaLics PhD Academy on Innovation and Development in Africa which was held in Kenya, March 2015. Her other research interest are in the areas of Strategic Alliances among Telecommunications Firms, Entrepreneurship and systems Engineering. Her previous research has been accepted for publication in International journals.

Prakash Awasthy is a doctoral candidate in the Production and Operations Management area at Indian Institute of Management Bangalore (IIM B). He received a Master of Technology degree in Electrical Engineering from Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Kanpur (2008) and Bachelor of Engineering degree in Electrical Engineering from Shri G. S. Institute of Technology & Science, Indore, India (2005). He has a work experience of around three years at Tata Steel Limited and Crompton Greaves limited. Presently, he is conducting his dissertation research on sustainable OM and services operations. He has presented his work in various national level conferences. His research interests include sustainable operations, services operations and Health care operations management.

