

Welcome Message from the Program Chairs

Welcome to Orlando FL and the 27th Annual Conference of the Production and Operations Management Society (POMS)!

The theme of POMS 2016 Conference is *“Innovative Operations in an Information and Analytics Driven Economy.”* It highlights the challenges and opportunities emerging from the extensive data that has become available in the last few years. The plenary sessions, tutorials and technical talks are designed to help convey and expand the relevance and impact of these data in our teaching, research and practice.

We especially thank all the presenting authors – you make this another unique conference in POMS history. Over 1800 abstracts were submitted, and we have registered participants from at least 49 different countries. This is yet another record setting conference for our vibrant community. We are confident that you will find many interesting talks from which you will learn about the latest developments in your field from researchers around the globe.

This excellent program is the result of countless hours of dedicated effort by the following team of track chairs, to whom we express our great appreciation: Anupam Agrawal, Tolga Aydinliyim, Burcu Balcik, Rahul Basole, Christoph Bode, Amelia Carr, Zhi-Long Chen, Howard Hao-Chun Chuang, So Yeon Chun, Eren Cil, Sarang Deo, Sinan Erzurumlu, Gokce Esenduran, Vidyaranya Gargeya, Bilal Gokpinar, Paulo Goncalves, H. Sebastian Heese, Gregory Heim, Dorothee Honhon, Ozge Islegen, Michael Katehakis, Ken Klassen, Paolo Letizia, Yen-Ting Lin, Lauren Lu, John Macdonald, Vidya Mani, Benny Mantin, Ann Maruchek, Amit Mehra, Suresh Muthulingam, Anand Nair, Xiajun Pan, Ali Parlakturk, Anand Paul, Olga Perdikaki, Tobias Schoenherr, Bradley Staats, Fabian Sting, Robert Swinney, Larry Taube, Chung-Piaw Teo, Anita Tucker, Kaitlin Wowak, and Yanchong Zheng.

We would also like to thank the following colleagues for their support and contributions: Conference chair, Nitin Joglekar; Leaders in Practice Session Chairs, Nichole DeHoratius and Mohan Sodhi; Emerging Scholars Program Chair, Jack Kanet; Proceedings Editors, Amit Kakkad and Christian Rossetti; Vice President of Meetings, Bharat Kaku; Doctorial Consortium Chair, Rachna Shah; and Associate Vice President of Sponsorship, Shailesh Kulkarni. Very special thanks go to Ken Klassen, Scheduling Chair, who has been a reliable asset for every track chair, session chair and author, and to Sushil Gupta, Executive Director of POMS, on whom every one of us relies. Without all of their help, this conference would not have been possible. Finally, we thank all of the volunteering doctoral students for helping increase the presence of our community in Social Media. Follow us in Facebook (POMSociety) and Twitter (@POMSSociety) for conference updates and individual track discussions.

Again, welcome to the meeting, and enjoy your time in Orlando, FL. We hope you enjoy the warm weather and the hospitality of the sunny state.

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