

Welcome Message from the President of POMS

I am pleased to personally welcome you to the 19th Annual POMS Conference in La Jolla, California. With over 700 abstracts and registered attendees, and representation from 45 countries, this is a remarkable event and demonstrates the global strength of our society and the commitment of our members to advance the theory and practice of Operations Management.



As you browse through the program booklet, you will notice the striking growth in the breadth and depth of our field and our contribution to organizations and economies. This year, in addition to standard OM tracks, we also see the emergence of Behavioral Operations Management and Healthcare Operations Management as two new tracks reflecting the formation of two new Colleges within POMS. The conference highlights also include excellent plenary sessions, the Operational Advantage Group (OAG) sessions, program for Emerging Scholars, and a Leadership Seminar for POM practitioners, the last one being a new initiative designed to provide an opportunity to include POM practitioners in our society. Thus, the La Jolla conference will continue the POMS tradition of helping to steer our profession on timely, relevant, important, and emerging topics and interest areas. In fact, you have several choices and perhaps your most difficult task may well be to choose among many attractive sessions and talks to participate in.

There are many people whose dedicated and hard work made this conference possible and successful. The conference team directed by General Chair Nada Sanders and Program Chair Scott Shafer did an outstanding job and I offer our society's special thanks to them for their tireless and enthusiastic work. Our Executive Director, Sushil Gupta and several POMS board members were always available to provide the right answers to the questions and valuable advice to carry us forward. As a result of their hard work, this conference promises to be one filled with ideas exchange, professional networking, friendship renewals and FUN. It is also a conference where research, practice and teaching lessons are to be integrated, shared and acted upon.

Besides the core conference team that Nada leads, I also want to thank our membership at large in every aspect of the conference. A successful conference like this depends on a network of committed individuals, industrial partners and sponsors. I am sure that you will have a productive and enjoyable time. I look forward to seeing you at this conference.

Best wishes,

Jatinder (Jeet) N. D. Gupta

President - POMS

Eminent Scholar and Professor

College of Business Administration

University of Alabama in Huntsville