

## Welcome Message from the POMS President

It is my great honor to welcome you to the 2017 International Conference of the Production and Operations Management Society in Sydney, Australia! This conference in Sydney brings together outstanding plenary speakers, wonderful practitioners, and the best researchers in the world to meet face-to-face, exchange ideas, and engage in innovative POM thinking. During your downtime, you can also enjoy the wonderful attractions of Sydney, one of the truly cosmopolitan cities in the world that has much to offer in terms of cultural and scenic attractions. Having visited this charming city in the past, I know that the cruise on Sydney Harbor will certainly be a social highlight of the conference.

Organizing a conference of this quality and magnitude requires tremendous amount of effort and resources. On behalf of POMS, I would like to express my deepest gratitude and thanks to Norma Harrison, who has been the moving force behind conceptualizing the event and putting together the program team consisting of 6 program chairs from the Americas, Europe, and Asia as well as several track chairs listed on the program committee. I would also like to thank Executive Dean Stephen Brammer and Macquarie Graduate School of Management, Macquarie University, for the generous financial support it has provided for this conference.

Encouraging guidance from Sushil Gupta, Executive Director, POMS; Martin Starr, Director of Strategic Planning, POMS; Janny M.Y. Leung, Regional VP, POMS, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, and Nagesh N. Murthy, Associate Executive Director for Global Initiatives and Outreach, POMS helped tremendously in facilitating this event.

The theme of this conference, “Navigating the Future: Innovative Technologies and Methodologies in Operations Management,” is particularly relevant today given how the rise of machines has changed our world in terms of how we live, how we conduct business, and how we view the future. Technology can connect us across vast distances, while research and teaching in operations can be a force for doing good both socially and economically within the global economy. I believe that the presentations and discussions at the Sydney conference will help us further many new ideas, and position POMS as a thought leader.

Sincerely,



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