

Chairman's Address

Jaume Ribera (JRibera@iese.edu)

On globalization, outsourcing and offshoring

These words are probable some of the most repeated when you refer to threats on developed countries operations at the macro level. The trend has been there for several years, but still it makes the front pages of local (or national) newspapers when a company that established some operations centre in the region in the past, be it manufacturing or services, decides to relocate it to another country. The concept is also increasingly used in labour negotiations with unions. The pressure is both on manufacturing and services and workers on all industries feel that their jobs are not safe anymore. In "The World is Flat", Friedman describes the drivers that have made it possible and many examples of surprising offshoring and outsourcing, including teaching math to American children over the internet by teachers in India. Maybe our jobs as OM professors are not as safe as we think...

Of course, the figures that appear on the media are only the top of the iceberg. Only when a known multinational company decides to close a plant and lays off hundreds of workers, we get the information from the papers. There are many more small companies which do not get our attention when they continuously reduce the scope of their operations in our countries or decide to expand the operations in Eastern Europe or the Far East instead of doing it in their current locations, in what could be described as "opportunity offshoring", drawing from the opportunity cost concept.

This is an area of crucial importance in Operations Management, an area that is in extreme need of ideas and creative research, to ensure that the competitiveness of the companies is preserved and fostered while ensuring that jobs are maintained and created both in the old industrialized and the developing countries. The problem is not at the macro level (the world GDP is definitely increasing), but at the local level, in the communities where not many options for employment are left after the town main company decides to move East. This is a problem that should concern academics, politicians, business shareholders, labour unions, and everybody who cares about the job future of our children.

I'm sure we will have the opportunity to exchange our views on this and many other exciting topics in Operations Management during the coming annual EurOMA conference in Glasgow in June. I am looking forward to greeting you there!

From your Editor

Dear EurOMA members,

I am delighted to say that with another month to go, the 2006 Annual Conference in Glasgow is showing great signs of being an enormous success, with many past participants returning for some Scottish hospitality!

The EurOMA Board and I all look forward to seeing you all again...

As usual I welcome any contributions to the Newsletter as well as your comments and feedback on what you would like to see in this Newsletter, or on the website.

Audrey O'Connor (audrey@eiasm.be)

WHAT'S NEW in EUROMA?

Thenexom Report

Thenexom survey on OM/SCM/SOM education

As most of you know, THENEXOM is sponsored by EurOMA and was presented to the Socrates community action programme (2003), which approved it while highlighting the importance of the subject and the project for the whole of the European Union.

As was pointed out in the last THENEXOM Report (EurOMA Newsletter 2005), one of the goals of the Network was to chart a European map of OM/SCM/SOM education and carry out research through two online questionnaires (survey and research).

At this point in time, the pilot survey on education is on the way to completion. As a result, in the near future, European OM scholars on the Thenexom census will be requested to complete the survey, which can be accessed on the website (www.thenexom.net).

We encourage you to take part in this important project by filling in the survey (http://www.thenexom.net/cgi-bin/censo_ini/survey.asp).

For this you need to be registered on the Thenexom census of European OM scholars (if you are still not registered, you can do so on the Thenexom website (<http://www.thenexom.net/precensus.asp>)).

2008: Third World OM Conference: OM Tokyo 2008



Co-organized by: **JSPM** (Japanese Society of Production Management), **EurOMA** (European Operations Management Association) and **POMS** (Production and Operations Management Society)

Theme: Manufacturing Fundamentals: Necessity and sufficiency.
Venue: Gakushuin University, Tokyo (Japan).

Tentative Date: 28/8/08-31/8/08 (any change will be within August 18th & August 28th).

Details of OM Tokyo 2008 will be available on the organizing associations' websites: www.e-jspm.com, www.euroma-online.org, www.poms.org and in their respective Newsletters

In year 2000 EurOMA, POMS and JSPM agreed to join their efforts in the OM field coorganizing a World OM Conference every four years, alternatively held in Europe, America and Asia. Previous one (POM Sevilla 2000, Spain and OM Cancun 2004, Mexico were very successful events). We strongly encourage OM scholars and professionals to attend the Third World Conference in Asia: OM Tokyo 2008. The Conference Chairs

ANNUAL CONFERENCES

2006: 13th International Annual EurOMA Conference

Venue: University of Strathclyde, Glasgow, UK, June 18-21, 2006

5th EurOMA Doctoral Seminar

Venue: University of Strathclyde, Glasgow, UK, June 16-17, 2006

<http://www.euroma2006.com>

2007: 14th International Annual EurOMA Conference

Ankara, Turkey

Details of the 2007 Annual conference will be available soon on the EurOMA Website!!

2008: 15th International Annual EurOMA Conference

The location will be decided upon during the next Board Meetings.

2008: Joint Third World OM Conference , OM Tokyo

Venue: Gakusuin University, Tokyo (Japan), end-august 2008

Details of OM Tokyo 2008 will be available on the organizing associations' websites:

www.e-jspm.com , www.euroma-online.org , www.poms.org

■ USEFUL RESOURCES on the WEB, NEW SOFTWARE

All kind of units convert. <http://www.convert-me.com/en/>

This page links to all kind of units converted (weight, length, computer storage ...). It has an appearance somewhat fizzy and has some non-needed commercial links but very useful.

OPERATIONS TEASER: “Igniter Cords

Your job is to measure 45 minutes, if you have only two igniter cords and matches to light the cords. The two igniter cords have the following features:

- They are twisted from various materials and also different parts can burn at different speed (e. g. after ten minutes they will not burn at the same point).
- Every cord burns from ignition to the end exactly one hour.

Describe your way of measuring the 45 minutes.

Solution: next issue

Solution to Previous teaser: “Tunnel traversal with 1 light”

Another classic of logistics: “One family wants to get through a dark tunnel. Dad can make it in 1 minute, mama in 2 minutes, son in 4 and daughter in 5 minutes. Unfortunately, not more than two persons can go through the tight tunnel at once, moving at the speed of the slower one, and they always need the torch to light them. Can they all make it if they have a torch that lasts only 12 minutes and they are afraid of the dark?”

First go the parents: 2 min. And father comes back with torch to children: 1 min. Then, go the children to mother: 5 min. And mother comes back to father with torch: 2 min. Then parents go to children: 2 min. Total = 12 min.

TEACHING in OPERATIONS (A. LAGO)

■ **RECENT USEFUL CASES**

Mercadona-Conservas Ubago: The Intersupplier concept, by Julio Audicana, 22 pages, 9 exhibits, Instituto Internacional San Telmo, Sevilla, Spain

The case describes the proposal made by Mercadona, a Spanish supermarket chain, to Conservas Ubago, a medium size producer of canned food, to become one of its inter-suppliers. In 2002, Mercadona was the leader in the supermarket sector and ranked 4th by revenues in the food distribution industry in Spain. The fastest growing chain in the country, Mercadona was known for its aggressive “lean” supply chain management. Most innovative among the practice undertook by the company is the supplier management– known as the inter-supplier concept –based on long-term relationships, transparency, collaboration and joint continuous improvement and cost reduction. The case describes Mercadona’s operations and the inter-supplier concept in detail. It sets the context under which the top management at Ubago needs to decide whether to accept or not to become an Inter-supplier. The case allows for extensive discussion of the relevant issues in the food supply industry as well as the different approaches to supply chain management in that industry. Special emphasis is placed in supplier relationships over the long run, comparing approaches in other industries like automotive.

CALL FOR PAPERS

International Journal of Internet and Enterprise Management (IJIEM)

CALL FOR PAPERS

Enterprise management has undergone a path of evolution; from material requirements planning (MRP), manufacturing resources planning (MRPII), just-in-time (JIT) production, and flexible manufacturing systems (FMS) to enterprise resources planning (ERP), supply chain management (SCM), and customer relationship marketing (CRM).

Today, more and more enterprises are integrating their legacy systems with Internet-enabled applications. In order to do so, many enterprises are changing their business processes to achieve e-business integration.

The International Journal of Internet and Enterprise Management (IJIEM) is seeking articles that will present data and theory to help executives to manage changes, create sustainability, and improve profitability of their enterprises.

The IJIEM <<http://www.icebnet.org/IJIEM/>> focuses on the emerging changes in enterprise management, its organisational structure, marketing strategies, and management methods, brought about by the Internet and information technology applications, and their implications on the associated process, products, and services.

Emphasis will also be on the related social, political and economic issues as well as emerging issues of interest to professionals, policy-makers, academics, researchers, and managers in IT, business and commerce.

The Journal publishes original and review papers, technical reports, case studies, conference reports, management reports, book reviews, and notes, commentaries, and news.

We welcome both submissions and inquiries from potential authors.

Questions should be addressed to the Editor-in-Chief, Prof. Dr. Eldon Y. Li, at <eli@calpoly.edu>.

To submit a paper, please follow the guidelines in the "Submission of papers" section described on the IJIEM homepage at

<<http://www.icebnet.org/IJIEM/>> or
<<http://www.calpoly.edu/~eli/iceb/IJIEM/>>.

The coverage of IJIEM includes, but is not limited to, the following subjects:

- * Business ethics
- * Business excellence
- * Business infrastructure management
- * Capital markets and the virtual economy
- * Collaborative commerce
- * Customer relationship management
- * Data mining and business intelligence
- * Data quality improvement
- * Decision support and group systems
- * E-business integration
- * Enterprise process management
- * Enterprise reorganisation
- * Enterprise resource planning
- * Enterprise strategies
- * Entrepreneurship and creativity
- * Globalisation issues
- * Human resources management
- * Innovation and product development
- * Innovative financing
- * Internet and emerging technologies
- * Internet economy
- * Internet law and compliance
- * Internet security and privacy issues
- * Knowledge management
- * Operations management
- * Operations and strategy for E-commerce
- * Optimisation models and the Web
- * Process reengineering and redesign
- * Service operations on the Web
- * Service/product quality management
- * Strategic planning and control
- * Structure and organisation of the E-enterprise
- * Supply chain management and E-logistics
- * Total quality management

Willem Selen, Executive Editor IJIE

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MGSM - Where successful people go to go further.

International Journal of Integrated Supply Management (IJISM)

CALL FOR PAPERS

Special Issue on: "The ERP Supply Chains"

Guest Editors: Professor Hans-Henrik Hvolby, Aalborg University, Denmark and Dr. Chee Yew Wong, Cranfield University, UK

Nowadays, Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) becomes an essential planning tool for many enterprises and supply chains. The effectiveness of ERP and its usage has become one of the essential enablers for an effective supply chain. Due to its important role, there have been many studies on ERP, especially the issues of ERP implementation, the planning and scheduling algorithms, and the integration of information.

However, the business process reengineering literature has always commented that off-the-shelf enterprise systems are not often exactly suitable for any enterprise. Most literature regards this as implementation issue. Alternatively, we may also view this problem as ineffective integration of the ERP supply chains. ERP supply chains involve the study of ERP user requirements, design and development of different modules, integration of different modules, validation of the ERP, training and certification the IT partners, configuration to end-user needs, and continuous development of the ERP system. Such a 'supporting' ERP supply chain has not been widely studied.

Hence there arise several interesting research questions:

- * How do ERP vendors come to know the various end user requirements?
- * How do ERP vendors manage their ERP supply chain structure?
- * What are the main business processes of an ERP supply chain and how are they managed effectively?
- * What are the main managerial issues across an ERP supply chain, and how are they managed?
- * How do ERP supply chains compete with other ERP supply chains?

Subject Coverage

Suitable research topics include, but are not limited to:

- * The design of ERP software and ERP supply chains
- * The structures of ERP supply chains
- * The main business processes of ERP supply chains
- * The management issues in ERP supply chains
- * The competitions between ERP supply chains
- * Other supply chain issues on ERP supply chains

Submitted papers should not have been previously published nor be currently under consideration for publication elsewhere

All papers are refereed through a peer review process. A guide for authors, sample copies and other relevant information for submitting papers are available on the Papers Submission section under Author Guidelines

Important Dates

Manuscript submission: 1 June 2006
First review process: 1 June to 15 August 2006
Notification of acceptance: 15 August 2006
Submission of revised manuscript: 1 October 2006
Second review process: 1 October to 15 November 2006
Notification of final acceptance: 15 November 2006
Submission of final manuscript: 15 December 2006

Editors and Notes

You may send one copy in the form of an MS Word file attached to an e-mail (details in Author Guidelines) to the following:

Professor Hans-Henrik Hvolby
Department of Production
Aalborg University
Denmark
E-mail: hhh@iprod.aau.dk

Dr. Chee Yew Wong
School of Management
Cranfield University
UK
E-mail: wong_chee_yew@yahoo.com

with an email copy only to:
Editor-in-Chief
IEL Editorial Office
E-mail: ijism@inderscience.com

Please include in your submission the title of the Special Issue, the title of the Journal and the name of the Guest Editor

22nd EGOS Colloquium 'The Organizing Society'

Bergen, July 6 - 8, 2006

22nd EGOS Colloquium - 'The Organizing Society'

EGOS (European Group of Organization Studies) is a professional association of teachers and researchers acting as a network for the advancement of organizational knowledge.

EGOS organizes annual conferences (Colloquia), which are distinguished by their international participation and intellectual and scholarly contributions to science. Participants in EGOS Colloquia are part of an academic forum and meet with scholars to discuss academic topics at the forefront of Organizational Theory. Researchers are given the opportunity to launch international work groups and the Conference is organized with few plenary sessions and with numerous sub-themes in which working groups, in different sessions, discuss specific topics.

The general theme this year is 'The Organizing Society'. Reflection on the interactions of organizational forms and the sort of society they create are invited. The concern is broad and ambitious, and may embody a wide range of research questions. It is a theme that applies no less to business and economics than to political science and sociology.

Sub Theme 21: "Forms of Organizing in health care services"

On behalf of this general theme a specific sub-theme is dedicated to health care organizations. The healthcare system is a unique setting for organizational studies, given the heterogeneity that characterizes organizational forms and actors. The literature and practices which have followed after the seminal works of Perrow and Thompson show how in health care organizations bureaucratic-rational control mechanisms often conflict with professional rules and the physicians' quest for autonomy. At the same time, regulating authorities are setting definitions for institutions which in turn limit the heterogeneity of the organizational forms and actors. As such, both technical and institutional factors affect organization evolution and dynamics. The presentation of empirical works is strongly encouraged, however case study analyses will also be considered for presentation.

Call for abstract available at: http://www.egosnet.org/conferences/collo22/sub_21.shtml

For information:

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**The 11th International Symposium on Logistics (11th ISL)
Competitive Advantage through Global Supply Chains
Beijing, China 9-11 July 2006**

SYMPOSIUM AIMS

The fundamental goals of good logistical operations are punctuality, accuracy and quality. Achieving these goals requires fast and efficient management of both materials and personnel. Industry recognises that, due to increased levels of International competition and the opening of new markets there are significant gains to be had through focusing attention on efficient management of logistics.

The 11th International Symposium on Logistics aims to provide a forum for discussion between leading academics, researchers and practitioners who specialise in the area logistics and supply chain management and to promote excellence in this field. The chosen theme for ISL2006 is "Competitive Advantage through Global Supply Chains". This theme represents an emerging and highly challenging area of research and practice for both academics and practitioners alike. The current industrial context is characterised by increasing global competition, decreasing product life cycles, flexible structure of manufacturing, increased levels of global outsourcing, collaborative networked organisations, higher levels of uncertainties and above all customers are demanding higher levels of service. This means that the challenges to supply chain management have never been greater. With this background in mind the 9th ISL aims to assemble experts from around the globe to focus on how to secure competitive advantage through global supply chains.

Papers will represent the latest in academic thinking and case examples of successful logistical implementations. The wider audience will therefore benefit from the knowledge and experience of leading practitioners and academics in this area.

PUBLICATION OF PAPERS

The Symposium Proceedings will be distributed to the participants at registration. Selected papers may be invited for submission to a leading International Journal in the area of Logistics and supply chain management.

SCHEDULE

SUNDAY, July 9, 2006: Registration, Get-together Reception,

MONDAY, July 10, 2006: Registration, Opening Ceremony and Keynote Address, Parallel Scientific Sessions

TUESDAY, July 11, 2006: Keynote Address , Parallel Scientific Sessions, End of Symposium

RIRL 2006 **Rencontre Internationale de Recherche Logistique**

September 3 - 6, 2006 – Pontremoli, Italy

The series of International Meetings for Research in Logistics started in Marseille France in 1996, as an opportunity to bring together university researchers and enterprise managers who deal with logistics techniques, procedures and models. The five previous meetings had an increasing number of submitted and/or accepted papers concerned with logistics research and the management of logistics processes.

The Sixth International Congress of Logistics Research (RIRL 2006) will be held from 3rd to 6th September, 2006 at Pontremoli, in the North of Tuscany, Italy.

The 2006 edition of the Congress addresses logistics topics at large, focusing in particular on the following streams:

- RFID and ICT applications to supply chain management
- Outsourcing and off-shoring
- Postponement and demand driven supply chain
- Value chain management and organisational issues.

Researchers and practitioners are invited to submit papers on topics addressed by the conference by December 15th 2005. The official paper format is an A4-size page, Garamond type, 12pt, 3 cm margins, maximum 12 pages not numbered. Scanned pictures or photos (bitmap images) mean heavy files and should be avoided whenever possible. The number of colors should also be reduced. Papers must be submitted following the procedure reported on the website. You may download from the Congress homepage (www.rirl2006.com) the model which should be followed in order to properly format your submitted paper. All submitted papers will be reviewed on the basis of their technical quality, industrial relevance, consistency with the topics of RIRL 2006, and clarity.

The presentations will be given in English, while papers can be produced either in French, English or Italian. The papers accepted by the Scientific Committee will be published in the RIRL 2006 Proceedings, in the language chosen by the authors (French, English or Italian).

We thank you for your interest and look forward to meeting you and all the other authors.

SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE

Emilio BARTEZZAGHI (Politecnico di Milano); Luigi BATTEZZATI (Politecnico di Milano); Dominique BONET (CRET-LOG Université de la Méditerranée - Aix-Marseille II); Armando BRANDOLESE (Politecnico di Milano); Pierre CHOLLET (CRET-LOG Université de la Méditerranée - Aix-Marseille II); Sophie CLAYE-PUAUX (CRET-LOG Université de la Méditerranée Aix-Marseille II); Jacques COLIN (CRET-LOG Université de la Méditerranée - Aix-Marseille II); Nathalie FABBE-COSTES (CRET-LOG Université de la Méditerranée - Aix-Marseille II); Marc FILSER (Université de Bourgogne); François FULCONIS (CRET-LOG & Università di Avignon); Corynne JAFFEUX (Université d'Orléans); Christelle LEDI (CRET-LOG Université de la Méditerranée - Aix-Marseille II); Laurent LIVOLSI (CRET-LOG Université de la Méditerranée - Aix-Marseille II); Jean MARRET (Université de Bordeaux 4 – IUT); Hervé MATHE (ESSEC); Roberto MOSCA (Università degli Studi di Genova); Carlo NOÈ (Università Carlo Cattaneo di Castellanza); Gilles PACHÉ (ERFI & CRET-LOG Università Montpellier I); Arrigo PARESCHI (Università degli Studi di Bologna); Marco PERONA (Università degli Studi di Brescia); Carole POIREL (CRET-LOG Université de la Méditerranée - Aix-Marseille II); Alessandro POZZETTI (Politecnico di Milano); Remigio RUGGERI (Politecnico di Milano); Nathalie SAMPIERI-TEISSIER (CRET-LOG Université de la Méditerranée - Aix-Marseille II); Michel SAVY (LATTIS-ENPC); Andrea SIANESI (Politecnico di Milano); Gianluca SPINA (Politecnico di Milano); Daniel TIXIER (Essec – Cergy Pontoise France); Mario TUCCI (Università degli Studi di Firenze)

**7th International CINet Conference
CI and Sustainability - Designing the road ahead**

Lucca, Italy, 8-12 September 2006

The 7th CINet Conference Continuous innovation is the ongoing process of initiating, developing, operating and improving new and existing configurations of products, market approaches, processes, technologies and competencies, organisation and management systems.

The theme of the 7th CINet conference is "CI and Sustainability - Designing the road ahead". Papers addressing the organisational, strategic, social and environmental aspects of sustainable innovation are invited.

Who should attend? Practitioners, academics and consultants involved in managing or studying innovation and change are invited to submit papers relevant to the conference theme and the various tracks, or simply register for conference attendance to gain access to leading research outcomes in this key area.

PhD Workshop In addition to the main conference there will be a PhD Workshop (on 8 and 9 September) designed for doctoral students at all stages of their dissertation. The workshop provides PhD students with a forum for presenting and discussing their research with fellow PhD students and experienced researchers in the field.

More and regularly updated information can be found on the conference website:
<http://www.continuous-innovation.net/Events/CINet2006.html>

ORGANISING COMMITTEE: Dr. Mariano CORSO, Dr. Antonella MARTINI, Dr. Luisa PELLEGRINI

**CALL FOR PAPERS: A SPECIAL ISSUE OF THE
*International Journal of Production Research***

TO BE PUBLISHED APRIL 2007.

THE TOYOTA PRODUCTION SYSTEM: THIRTY YEARS OF RESEARCH, AND BEYOND.

2007 sees the thirtieth anniversary of Sugimori et al's seminal paper in IJPR on the Toyota Production System (TPS) - the first article on the subject in an English language journal. The TPS is one of the most extraordinary innovations in the history of manufacturing, and under a variety of labels (Just-in-Time, Lean) has been widely copied throughout the world. But there remains healthy debate regarding the extent to which the approach is applicable. Is the system really only suitable for the automotive industry, or for Japanese firms, or even just within the unique corporate culture of Toyota?

To celebrate this anniversary, this special issue will examine the past and future of the Toyota Production System. Papers are sought which address a wide range of related issues. Papers must conform to the standards of excellence of the IJPR, and will be subject to normal refereeing processes.

Potential topics include (interpreting TPS to include 'lean', JIT etc):

- the application of the TPS in diverse settings
- TPS and scheduling
- TPS and kaizen
- quantitative modelling of the TPS
- the role of visibility in production control
- the significance of the 'respect-for-human-system'
- criticisms of TPS
- the environmental consequences of the TPS
- the role of information technology in the TPS
- TPS and maintenance
- supplier relations within TPS
- TPS in developing countries
- production levelling
- implementing the TPS.

This list is not comprehensive; papers are sought from diverse perspectives. However, they must make a substantial contribution to knowledge by combining rigorous theoretical development with original empirical research, validated mathematical models or simulations, or insightful synthesis and analysis of appropriate literatures.

Key Dates:

Submission of Papers: June 1st 2006.

Submission of Final Revised Copy: December 1st 2006.

Publication: April 2007.

The Special Issue Editor is Dr Steve New, Saïd Business School, University of Oxford, Oxford OX1 1HP. Tel: +44 (0)1865 288922; steve.new@sbs.ox.ac.uk, who is delighted to discuss potential submissions.

Information for authors: <http://www.tandf.co.uk/journals/authors/tprsauth.asp>

IJOPM

- **Special issue of International Journal of Operations and Production Management:**
"Supply chain management theory and practice - the emergence of an academic discipline?"
 Guest Editor: Paul D. Cousins. Co-Editors: Benn Lawson, Brian Squire Volume 26 Issue 7.
 Publication date: 28 July 2006.
www.emeraldinsight.com/ijopm.htm

Is Supply Chain Management an emerging academic discipline? Supply Chain Management (SCM) has continued to grow in prominence within the field of Operations Management and also within the broader discipline of management. Practitioners have begun to adopt and adapt new techniques to supply management that improve firm performance. Organisations in both the public and private sectors are becoming increasingly aware of the pivotal role that SCM can play in their business success. This is a challenging special issue aimed at stimulating debate rather than providing a definitive answer to the question posed. The first three papers examine the theoretical development of the supply chain management (SCM) discipline; while the remaining three papers address the development of SCM in practice.

- **Literati Awards for Excellence and Leading Editor awards:**

Every year since 1992, Emerald has rewarded its outstanding authors and editors through the Literati Awards for Excellence. Emerald recognizes the best papers in every journal with Outstanding Paper awards and Highly Commended awards. Emerald also supports the work undertaken by the editors and advisory boards through the Leading Editor awards and outstanding contribution awards.

Outstanding paper

Pagell, Katz and Sheu, "The importance of national culture in operations management research"

Highly Commended

Cousins, "The alignment of appropriate firm and supply strategies for competitive advantage"

Laugen, Acur, Boer and Frick, "Best manufacturing practices - what do the best performing companies do?"

Fynes, Voss and de Burca, "The impact of supply chain relationship dynamics on manufacturing performance"

Attending authors will be presented with their awards at the EurOMA AGM.

The Leading Editor Awards:

Professor Andrew Taylor and Dr Margaret Webster (editors of IJOPM) have been chosen as Leading Editors this year due to their hard work in improving the journal enormously since the beginning of 2005 in terms of speed to review and improved communications with authors.

They will be presented with their Leading Editor awards at the EurOMA AGM.

CALENDAR of EVENTS

■ **18-21 June 2006**

13th International Annual EurOMA Conference on "Moving up the Value Chain"

Hosted by the University of Strathclyde & co-hosted by the University of Glasgow & the University of Heriot-Watt.

Venue: University of Strathclyde, Glasgow, Scotland

Doctoral Seminar:

The Doctoral Seminar will be held on 16-17 June 2005 immediately prior to the Conference. The seminar will provide the doctoral students with a forum to present their research and receive feedback from fellow students and senior researchers in the field.

For further details please visit the conference website: <http://www.euroma2006.com>

■ ***SBM 2006 5th International Conference***

"Management of Small and Medium Business: Information Technologies"
September 4-8th, 2006, Sevastopol (Ukraine)

■ ***PMA 2006 Conference***

Performance Measurement and Management - Public and Private
London, 25-28 July 2006

The 5th International conference on performance measurement and management of the PMA (Performance Measurement Association) is being held at the New Connaught Rooms in London's Covent Garden on 25-28 July 2006.

Keynote speakers are Professors Rajiv Banker (Fox School of Business), Paul Boyle (Financial Reporting Council) and Greg Hackett (Found of the Hackett Group).

The Conference Call for Papers, Workshops and Participation has now been released.
The deadline for extended abstract submission is 16 January 2006.

New for 2006, we are also inviting proposals for Panels and Workshops.

An electronic copy is available at

<http://www.som.cranfield.ac.uk/som/research/centres/cbp/pma/PMA 2006 Call for Papers A4.pdf>.

The conference website also contains this information at

<http://www.som.cranfield.ac.uk/som/research/centres/cbp/pma/PMA2006.htm>

■ ***14th International Symposium on Inventories***

August 21-25, 2006 - Budapest, Hungary

<http://www.isir.hu>

■ ***EuroCHRIE Conference, Thessaloniki, Greece, October 2006.***

<http://www.eurochrie.org>

RECENT PUBLICATIONS

■ **RELEVANT BOOKS**

Researching Business and Management

by Harvey Maylor and Kate Blackmon

Researching Business and Management is an introductory text on the process of research in business and management. It will enable undergraduate, taught postgraduate and MBA students to develop the skills to carry out rigorous research, using a structured approach to the research process and focussing on the practical issues. Acknowledging the chaos, uncertainty and sometimes complexity inherent in research projects, the authors provide support and guidance by drawing on illustrations from student projects rather than professional research. Research methodologies are explained with great clarity, relating theory to practice throughout. There is a comprehensive website to accompany this text including both lecturer and student resources.

<http://www.palgrave.com/products/Catalogue.aspx?is=0333964071>

■ **RECENT WORKING PAPERS**

Faculty of Economics and Business Administration - Ghent University: (<http://www.ugent.be>)

A full text version can be downloaded from: <http://fetew.rug.ac.be/fac/research/WP/Index.asp>

DRUID Working Paper Series: <http://www.druid.dk/wp/wp.html>

Authors: Machuca, J.A.D. y Pozo Barajas, R.
 Title: The impact of electronic data interchange on reducing bullwhip effect and supply chain inventory costs.
 Review: Transportation Research Part E. ISSN: 1366-5545
 Editorial: Elsevier.
 Vol. 40E, nº 3. May. 209-229, Year: 2004.

Authors: Ferdows, K., Lewis, M. and Machuca, J.A.D.
 Title: Rapid-Fire Fullfillment
 Review: Harvard Business Review ISSN: 0017-8012
 Editorial: Harvard Business School Publishing
 Vol. nº November. 104-110, Year: USA, 2004.

Authors: Machuca, J.A.D., Sacristán Díaz, M. and Álvarez Gil, M.J.
 Title: Adopting and implementing advanced manufacturing technology: new data on key factors from the aeronautical industry.
 Review: International Journal of Production Research ISSN: 0020-7543
 Editorial: Taylor & Francis.
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 Editorial: Palgrave ISBN: 1-4039-9858-2
 Year: UK, 2006

PERSONALIA

■ ***New Staff for the OM Group at Warwick Business School***

Mihalis Giannakis and Jannis Angelis have recently added an international dimension to the existing strengths of the Operations Management Group at Warwick Business School. Jannis, with a Swedish and Greek background, holds a PhD from Cambridge and has worked for a venture capital firm, as well as holding posts at Harvard, Cambridge and Oxford Universities. Earlier this year he received the prestigious Shingo Prize for Excellence in Manufacturing. This research prize was awarded for his work in developing new knowledge in understanding manufacturing processes. Mihalis, who was born in Greece, has his PhD from Warwick University. Previously an engineer he has taught at the Universities of Brighton and Middlesex. Mihalis was awarded the Chris Voss Highly Commended Award for his paper at the recent European Operations Management Association conference held in Budapest.

Jannis and Mihalis join the well established team of Nigel Slack, Bob Johnston, Simon Croom, Stuart Chambers, Rhian Silvestro, Zoe Radnor (a recent recipient of the prestigious Warwick Teaching Excellence Award), Mike Shulver, and Paul Walley together with Senior Research Fellow, Hilary Bates, Teaching Fellow, Alistair Brandon-Jones, and Group Coordinator, Mary Walton.

Professor Bob Johnston, the head of the OM Group, commented "These appointments bring our group up to full strength. The demand for operations management teaching in the School has increased dramatically as a result of the quality of our teaching and our research and text books that underpin and inform our teaching." The group has no intention of standing still. Two new undergraduate courses in Advanced Operations Management and Operations Design are due to be launched in a few months time and the group is also planning the development of a new Executive Masters in International Supply Chain/Global Operations in conjunction with SDA Bocconi and University of San Diego's Supply Chain Management Institute. On the research front, in collaboration with Warwick Manufacturing Group, Dr Simon Croom is leading a study into world class logistics performance funded by the Royal Bank of Scotland, one of the OM Group's long terms sponsors and supporters.

JOB OFFERINGS

Lakehead University

Application Deadline: June 30, 2006

Lakehead University invites applications to fill a vacancy for a two year limited term appointment in the Faculty of Business Administration, commencing August 1, 2006.

Qualifications will include a Ph.D. or equivalent (completed or near completion) in Operations Management. Individuals with business education at the graduate level are preferred.

The ability of delivering courses in Information Systems is considered an asset.

The successful candidate is expected to teach and develop undergraduate and graduate level courses and conduct research in the area of specialization.

Detailed information on our undergraduate programs is available on our homepage on the Lakehead University website at <http://business.lakeheadu.ca>.

Applicants should submit a curriculum vitae, a statement of their teaching and research interests (including course outlines and teaching evaluations from previously-taught courses), copies of publications, and letters from three referees to:

Bahram Dadgostar, Dean of the Faculty of Business, Lakehead University, 955 Oliver Road,
Thunder Bay, ON P7B 5E1
or bahram.dadgostar@lakeheadu.ca.

A completed Confirmation of Immigration/Citizenship Status should accompany your package. This form is available on our website at <http://www.lakeheadu.ca/~humanres/forms.html>.

All qualified candidates are encouraged to apply; however, Canadian citizens and permanent residents will be given priority.

Lakehead University is committed to employment equity, welcomes diversity in the workplace and encourages applications from all qualified applicants, including women, individuals within visible minorities, Aboriginal persons, and persons with disabilities.

MEMBERSHIP

■ NEW BOARD MEMBERS WELCOME

Margaret Webster and Andrew Taylor, IJOPM Editors from Emerald Insight have been co-opted to the EurOMA Board, and will attend board meetings alternatively.

European Operations Management Association

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