2013 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 begin to build connections between these future scholars and POMS. To be eligible, an applicant has to be enrolled in a Ph.D. program in operations management or related disciplines offered by a university in a country belonging to one of the following three regions – African, Asia-Pacific, and Latin America and Caribbean. For 2013, POMS appointed a committee comprising Professors Yih-Long Chang (Georgia Institute of Technology, Haresh Gurnani (University of Miami), Vernon Hsu (Chinese University of Hong Kong), Ann Marucheck (University of North Carolina), Johnny Rungtusanatham (Ohio State University), and Srinivas Talluri (Michigan State University) and charged the committee with recommending recipients for the award. The committee evaluated 14 strong applications and is pleased to recognize the following five individuals as the 2013 Emerging Economies Doctoral Student Award recipients.

Mostafa Abdelrahman Moussa is currently a Lecturer Assistant and Researcher for several engineering schools in Egypt where he teaches courses on operations management, project management, facility planning, time and motion study, and quality management. He received a Bachelor of Science degree and a Master’s degree from the Design and Production Engineering Department, Faculty of Engineering, Ain Shams University, Cairo, Egypt, and is currently pursuing his Ph.D. in industrial engineering from the same institution. For his Master’s degree, he considered the industrial problem of multi-objective optimization of supply chain network design. He has published a paper in this area to introduce an advanced genetic algorithm for solving this problem. His research interests continue to focus on applying different meta-heuristic techniques to solve different industrial problems such as scheduling, supply chain management, assembly line balancing and facility layout. He has also worked on several projects to apply lean manufacturing concepts for a number of reputed organizations in Egypt. He is currently participating in efforts to establish an industrial engineering society in Egypt in order to raise awareness about industrial engineering and to act as a liaison between industry and research in Egypt.

Prashant Chintapalli is a Ph.D. (FPM) student in the Department of Production and Operations Management, Indian Institute of Management, Bangalore (IIMB). He received a Master of Science (Hons.) in Mathematics and a Bachelor of Engineering (Hons.) in Computer Science, both from the Birla Institute of Technology and Science (BITS), Pilani (Rajasthan) India, in 2004. He stood first among the class of 2004 of the Department of Mathematics, BITS, Pilani. He was the recipient of first prize in a paper presentation contest (Mathematics stream) at the all India Science festival (APOGEE 2002) organized by BITS, Pilani. The Government of Andhra Pradesh conferred on him Pratibha’99, the award for academic excellence in high school and undergraduate studies. He has worked with Oracle Inc. in the capacity of Senior Applications Engineer for a term of 5 years and pursued the executive programme in international business at the Indian Institute of Management, Calcutta (IIMC), in 2008. In 2010, he received the EADS-SMI scholarship awarded by the EADS-SMI center of Production and Operations Management department at IIMB. His current research interests include revenue management, pricing, and inventory management.
Tianxiao Gong, Ph.D. candidate of the Guanghua School of Management, Peking University in China, received a Bachelor degree in industrial engineering from Shandong University. During his bachelor study, he worked part-time job as an industrial engineer for Bluesword Logistics Co., a 4PL logistics technology company in China. His Ph.D. research focuses on OM issues in innovating firms in the presence of strategic consumers. His research has been presented at the 2012 INFORMS International Conference and will be presented at the 2013 POMS Annual Conference. Gong has also published in Chinese journals. In addition, Gong has participated in research programs and industry-academic cooperation programs like the distribution networks planning and design for agricultural products in Beijing, the modern logistics park planning and design in the Xinjiang and Chongqing provinces. He currently serves as an academic assistant in the Department of Management Science and Information System at Peking University. As a student volunteer, he helped organized the sixth international annual conference of the Chinese scholars association for management science and engineering and the national doctoral forum in management science and engineering. Gong will be visiting the Graduate School of Business at Columbia University between 2013 and 2014.

Vinay Kumar Kalakbandi, a Ph.D. candidate from the Productions and Operations Management (POM) area of the Indian Institute of Management Bangalore, holds a Master's degree in industrial engineering and operations research (IE&OR) from the Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay. His master's thesis dealt with assembly line optimization in a network equipment manufacturing company. His research interests include behavioral operations management, supply chain management, assembly line design and ad-response analytics. For his Ph.D. dissertation, he is conducting research on supply chain contracting from a behavioral decision-making perspective. He intends to examine factors affecting supply chain contract choice and the impact of contractual flexibility on supply chain performance. He has also worked on various freelance projects with Pricewaterhouse Coopers' Government Reforms and Infrastructure Practice, IBM's Integrated Supply Chain Management Practice, and AdoRoi Marketing Science. He is an avid traveler, an amateur photographer, and a nature enthusiast.

Giuliano Marodin is a Ph.D. candidate in the Industrial Engineer Graduate Program at the Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul in Brazil. He is currently a lecturer for several Master degree's programs in Brazil and a project manager for the Lean Institute Brasil, a partner organization of the Lean Enterprise Institute and a member of the Lean Global Network. He received his Master's degree in industrial engineering and a BBA degree from the same institution, where he also worked as an assistant professor for the Business School Department (2007-2009). In 2003, Marodin completed a one-year bachelor exchange program at the École Superieure des Affaire at the Université Pierre Mendes, France. More recently, with funding from the Coordination for the Improvement of Higher Level Personnel (CAPES), a national governmental institution, he was a visiting scholar at the Fisher College of Business, The Ohio State University. His research has appeared in proceedings of POMS and INFORMS, and a paper from his Master's thesis has been published in the International Journal of Production Research. Since 2002, he has worked as a consultant to implement lean production systems in firms in diverse industries.