

2022 POMS Annual Conference Plenary Sessions

Friday, April 22, 2022

10:15 – 11:15 am



Anne Robinson

Chief Strategy Officer, Kinaxis

As Chief Strategy Officer, Anne is responsible for advancing Kinaxis strategic development to add continued value to customers. Her team delivers the strategic roadmap, extensive thought leadership, as well as internal communications and change management. Recognized in analytics and digital transformation, Dr. Robinson has extensive experience managing supply chains for global organizations. At Verizon, she was responsible for the strategic vision of the global supply chains, driving excellence through analytics and process innovation. Previously, Anne managed analytics and business performance teams for Cisco's supply chain. Dr. Robinson is a past president of INFORMS, seasoned industry speaker, and recipient of the 2020 Starr Excellence in Production and Operations Management Practice Award. In 2021, she joined the Creative Destruction Lab as a Supply Chain Mentor. Anne has a BScH from Acadia University, MASc from the University of Waterloo and MSc and PhD from Stanford University.

Inspiration, Credibility and Trust - The Key Tenets for a Strong POM Ecosystem

The domains of POM have experienced an increase in recognized relevance in recent years. Exacerbated by the effects of the pandemic, the demand for our expertise has never been higher. It's natural for us to ask "How can we ensure most recent research is being applied in practice to tackle these opportunities? How can ensure that the most critical industry problems are being considered in academic research and education?"

Drawing on her own academic and career experiences, Robinson will share thoughts on the importance and strength of a healthy academic-industry ecosystem. She will focus on the needs and wants, as well as some best practices, all anchored in inspiration, credibility and trust, to ensure our profession continues to thrive.

Saturday, April 23, 2022
12:45 – 1:45 pm



Ramanan Krishnamoorti, Ph.D.
Chief Energy Officer, University of Houston

Dr. Ramanan Krishnamoorti is the Chief Energy Officer at the University of Houston (UH). Prior to his current position, Krishnamoorti served as the interim Vice President for Research and Technology transfer for UH and the UH System.

During his tenure at the university, he has served as Chair of the UH Cullen College of Engineering's chemical and biomolecular engineering department, Associate Dean of Research for engineering, Professor of Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering with affiliated appointments as Professor of Petroleum Engineering and Professor of Chemistry. Dr. Krishnamoorti obtained his bachelor's degree in chemical engineering from the Indian Institute of Technology Madras and doctoral degree in chemical engineering from Princeton University in 1994.

Energy Transition: The Opportunities and the Challenges

The quest for affordable, reliable and sustainable energy drives the energy transition and requires an approach that embraces all possible solutions. Societal pressure and the consequences of climate change on human development have raised the urgency with which these solutions must be deployed. However, the resources to undertake such a systemic modification and redeployment globally are geographically heterogeneous and in many cases isolated from the locations of highest energy demand. In this talk, I will discuss the challenges and opportunities of the energy transition through four distinct pathways -- carbon management, materials circularity, electrification including energy storage, and the re-invention of hydrogen as a fuel. While there are technological and regulatory barriers in each case, the supply chain and integration of the value chain remain the most significant barriers to their rapid growth. A talented and trained workforce that can address some of the key issues in the energy transition remains an important barrier to the acceleration of the energy transition and requires a re-think of the development of the talent pipeline.

Sunday, April 24, 2022
10:15 – 11:15 am



Martin K. Starr

Director of Strategic Planning, POMS

Martin K Starr, Past President of POMS (1995) is Senior Professor Emeritus of the Graduate School of Business, Columbia University, NYC, and Distinguished Professor Emeritus of the Crummer Graduate School of Business of Rollins College in Winter Park, FL. An MIT undergraduate and Columbia University Ph. D. in OR, Starr has written many books and articles about various POM topics. His present research foci are on Disaster Management (pandemics included) and shaping POM capabilities to solve evolving problems. Starr was Editor-in-Chief of *Management Science* for 15 years. He is now Departmental Editor (DE) for Special Responsibilities of the POMS Journal. This follows years as DE for the Disaster Management Department. His publication activities reflect Starr’s special interest in nurturing research results by means of editorial teamwork. His background as teacher, practitioner, consultant and academic has enabled him to coach students in cross-disciplinary applications of the systems approach.

POM’s Mastery of Emerging Domains

Does POM Mastery exist? History provides a record of considerable achievement. Let us note that the M in POM stands for management that is both *strategic* and *tactical*. POM excels in tactical management (e.g., scheduling, SQC, and inventory management). We are rightly proud of our tactical role model leaders. However, POM failed to excel in dealing with strategic management issues such as offshoring and the advancement of disruptive technology. A watershed moment occurred at the 2001 POMS Conference where the theme was “POM Mastery in the New Millennium.” Plenary speaker Dr. Clay Christensen explained how POM must deal with global strategic disruptions. As if in resonance, we have publication of *Blue Ocean Strategy* (Kim and Mauborgne. 2004), *The Black Swan: The Impact of the Highly Improbable* (Taleb, 2007), and an IPCC Report (2012): *Managing the Risks of Extreme Events and Disasters to Advance Climate Change Adaptation*. There has been a cascade of unanticipated events: The World Trade Center destruction, 2001; COVID-19 pandemic kills millions; war erupts in Ukraine, 2022; major technological upheavals sweep through traditional markets (such as EV’s, social media, space travel). Supply chain disruptions require new management methods for effective strategic systems planning. This includes agility and resilience management. We conclude that POM must become a strategically minded member of the C-suite team. In this way, “all organizations” can gain mastery over challenges posed by emerging domains.