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## Message from the Program Chair

Welcome to the 2012 SE INFORMS conference in wonderful Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. This is the 48<sup>th</sup> annual meeting of the Southeastern Chapter of the Institute for Operations Research and Management Science. I hope that you have an enjoyable and informative conference. After the sessions are done for the day, please make sure to find time to enjoy beaches, restaurants, and attractions in Myrtle Beach.

A total of 90 papers are being presented along with 12 workshops, tutorials, and panels. There is certainly something that will be of interest for everyone and probably more than one thing. This is a great time to visit with old friends and meet new friends. Make sure you take time to say hello to someone that you don't know while you are saying hi to those you know. Please invite someone to join us next year at the conference and to submit a paper.

Please attend the business meeting on Thursday from 5:00 – 6:00 pm. At the meeting you can learn how SE INFORMS operates and can volunteer your help to make SE INFORMS successful. Following the meeting is the President's reception. This is a great opportunity to meet people and enjoy refreshments.

Thank you to everyone who reviewed papers, volunteered to discuss papers, and act as session chairs. The track chairs did a great job coordinating the reviewers, assigning papers to sessions, and finding discussants for papers. Your efforts make this conference the success that it is. Also, thank you to the SE INFORMS officers who have provided guidance over the last year.

Al Avery needs a big thank you for all he did to enable the conference to be a success. His knowledge about the conference management system and his willingness to modify it to help SE INFORMS is greatly appreciated. And finally I very much appreciate his patience in working with me as I learned how to use the CMS and plan the conference. This conference would not have been possible without Al's hard work and dedication.

Thank you to the many individuals at Georgia Southern University for their support and help that enabled me to have the time and resources necessary to be the program chair. A special thanks to Art Gowan, Chair of the Department of Information Technology, and Mohammad Davoud, Interim Dean of the Allen E. Paulson College of Engineering and Information Technology for their support over the past year.

A final thanks to all the participants. You are the reason that this conference exists and will continue to grow in the future. Please attend as many sessions as you can. There is so much that we can learn from each other and the work that has been done by authors and session leaders. Thank you for coming to the conference.

If you have any problems, please see me so that the problem can be resolved. And if I haven't met you before, please introduce yourself so I can meet new friends.

I hope you have a great conference.

John R. O'Malley Jr.  
2012 Program Chair

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