Welcome to the 7th South American International Conference on Industrial Engineering and Operations Management
Panama City, Panama, August 4-6, 2026

To All Conference Attendees:

The IEOM Society International is pleased to welcome you to the 7th South American International Conference on Industrial Engineering and Operations Management, Panama City, Panama, August 4-6, 2026. It is hosted by the Universidad Latina de Panamá and co-hosted by Quality Leadership University (QLU), Universidad Tecnológica de Panamá (UTP), Universidad de Panamá, and University of Central Florida (UCF). This year's conference highlights key and emerging areas, including artificial intelligence, supply chain management, logistics, Industry 4.0, the Internet of Things (IoT), lean systems, six sigma, simulation, data analytics, automation, and interdisciplinary research. The event serves as a global platform for academics, researchers, and industry practitioners to exchange ideas, present innovations, and discuss advancements in Industrial Engineering and Operations Management. The conference aims to foster collaboration, networking, and joint initiatives while advancing both the theory and practice of IEOM. We are delighted to share that the conference received about 200 submissions from 30 countries, with 145 papers and abstracts accepted for presentation. The event includes four panels and five workshops.

This year's program features a distinguished lineup of keynote speakers representing academia, industry, and global leadership. Their expertise and insights will provide valuable perspectives on contemporary challenges and future directions in industrial engineering and supply chain.

1. **Dr. Ying Xie –** Director of Logistics Cluster, University of Central Florida, USA
2. **Dr. Luis Rocha Lona** – Professor in Operations Management, National Polytechnic Institute of Mexico
3. **Dr. Ivan Garibay** – Associate Professor; Director, AI and Big Data Initiative, University of Central Florida
4. **Dr. Dario Solís** – Business Development Director for Innovation and Technology Partnerships, Arizona State University, Tempe, USA
5. **Dr. Juan Marcos Castillo** – Professor, Universidad Tecnológica de Panamá (UTP), Panamá
6. **Mr. Cristian Rincon** – Associate Professor and Researcher, UNIMINUTO, Colombia
7. **Dr. Miguel Torres Miranda** – Director, Center for Innovation in Technology and Electronics (CITEP), Panama
8. **Dr. Mariana Leon** – Academic Vice President, Researcher, and Professor, Quality Leadership University – University of Louisville Panama
9. **Dr. Maria Auxiliadora Cannarozzo Tinoco** – Assoc. Prof., Industrial Eng., Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul (UFRGS), Brazil
10. **Dr. Waldemar Karwowski** – Pegasus Professor and Chairman, University of Central Florida, USA
11. **Dr. Elida de Obaldía** – Prof., Universidad Tecnológica de Panamá and Representative of Panama's Adv Semiconductor Technology Center
12. **Dr. Enitza George** – Physician Executive; Health Systems Program Ambassador, STFM; Binghamton University, USA
13. **Dr. Fernando Gonzalez Aleu** – Professor and Researcher, Universidad de Monterrey (UDEM), Mexico
14. **Dr. Alfonso Sarmiento** – Associate Professor, Industrial Engineering**,** University of La Sabana, Colombia
15. **Dr. José Carlos Flores Molina** – Director, Quality Institute, Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú (PUCP), Peru
16. **Dr. Luis Rabelo** – Professor, Department of Industrial Engineering & Management Systems, University of Central Florida, USA
17. **Dr. Lindsay Alvarez-Pomar** – Associate Professor of Industrial Engineering, Universidad Distrital Francisco José de Caldas, Colombia
18. **Dr. Charles W. Davis, Jr.** – Associate Professor of Engineering, **Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University, USA**
19. **Dr. Edgar Gutierrez-Franco** – Associate Professor, Externado University of Colombia

IEOM Society International continues to expand its global footprint, now operating in 188 countries, with more than 50,000 community members worldwide and supporting 307 student chapters across 60 countries. We remain committed to promoting student engagement, research excellence, and international collaboration.

We extend our sincere appreciation to José Barrios Ng, Oscar León, Dr. Maximiliano E. Jiménez Arbeláez, and Dr. Luis Rabelo for their dedicated support. Thanks to SENACYT for their scholarships to students and faculty. We also thank our keynote speakers, sponsors, partners, authors, reviewers, track chairs, advisors, committee members, and volunteers for their invaluable contributions in making this conference possible.

We are confident that this conference will be an intellectually enriching and collaborative experience for all participants.

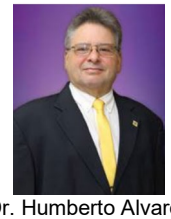
We wish you a successful conference and an enjoyable, memorable stay in Panama.



José Barrios Ng
Universidad Latina de Panamá
(Chairman)



Oscar León
President, Quality Leadership
University (QLU), Panama



Dr. Humberto Alvarez
Universidad Tecnologica de
Panamá (UTP), Panama



Dr. Luis Rabelo
University of Central Florida,
Orlando, FL, USA



Dr. Maximiliano E. Jiménez
Arbeláez, Past Decano,
Universidad Católica Santa
María La Antigua de Panamá



Dr. Ahad Ali
Lawrence Technological
University, Michigan, USA



Professor Mario Chauca
National Technological University
of South Lima, Peru



Professor Don Reimer
Chief Operating Officer
IEOM Society International, USA