

## PREFACE

The Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering Graduate Research Symposium (IMEGRS) is an annual event where Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering (IME) graduate students present their research in front of invitees and peers. The goals of the symposium are to improve the quality and visibility of ongoing research in the department, to create a networking opportunity between participants and to create a platform for easy sharing of ideas and feedback among peer researchers.

The First IMEGRS is being held on April 21, 2006 in Manufacturing Engineering Building of Wayne State University, Detroit. IMEGRS 2006 sponsors from Wayne State University include “Division of Research”, “Graduate School” and “Industrial and Manufacturing Engineering Department”. The keynote speakers of this event are Prof. Romesh Saigal of the University of Michigan and Dr. Kurt Godden of the General Motors. Prof. Kenneth Chelst, Chair of IME, provides an update on current and future research of IME.

The rest of the symposium includes an oral and a poster presentation session. The presented papers are indicated in the Table of Contents. All together, there are sixteen papers on different topics of Industrial Engineering. They are all working papers, some with preliminary results, and some with advanced studies. Abstract of the keynotes are also included in this proceedings.

We thank Prof. Saigal and Dr. Godden for their keynote address. We thank Prof. Ratna Babu Chinnam and Prof. Alper Murat for their help in inviting the keynote speakers and industry delegates. We thank all the invitees for being present in the symposium. We deeply appreciate the participation of presenters and support of IME faculty members and IME staff members.

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Lead organizer, IMEGRS