



Preface

F. Frank Chen¹ · Dong-Won Kim² · Dong-Ho Lee³

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Smart Manufacturing is a broad category of manufacturing with the goal of optimizing concept generation, production, and product transaction. It employs computer control and high levels of adaptability with aims to take advantage of advanced information and manufacturing technologies to enable flexibility in physical processes to address a dynamic and global market. Process Optimization is one of the major quantitative tools in industrial decision-making with goals of minimizing cost and maximizing throughput and/or efficiency. This Special Issue: “Smart Manufacturing Technology and Process Optimization” presents a collection of 13 papers, all received a stringent peer-review process with required modifications and enrichments completed by authors per editor’s stipulations with final acceptance recommended by reviewers. Source of the papers is from authors of top papers, from among 153 peer-reviewed conference presentations in the 2016 International Conference on Flexible Automation and Intelligent Manufacturing (FAIM2016), who were invited to extend and strengthen their work and submit their manuscripts to a standard full-round of review and editorial process for

final publication in the *International Journal of Advanced Manufacturing Technology* (IJAMT).

The International Conference on Flexible Automation and Intelligent Manufacturing (FAIM) is a leading international forum to disseminate recent research, theories, and practices relevant to areas of automation and advanced manufacturing. The conference focuses on transdisciplinary approaches that aim to achieve excellence in intelligent production systems and technology. FAIM2016 is the 26th annual event since its inception in 1991.

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✉ F. Frank Chen
ff.chen@utsa.edu

Dong-Won Kim
dwkim@jbnu.ac.kr

Dong-Ho Lee
leman@hanyang.ac.kr

¹ The University of Texas, San Antonio, TX, USA

² Chonbuk National University, Jeonju, South Korea

³ Hanyang University, Seongdong District, South Korea