

Preface

This book is a collection of best papers that were submitted to and presented at the 5th International Public Procurement Conference (IPPC5), which was held in Seattle, USA, August 17–19, 2012, and hosted by the National Institute of Governmental Purchasing, Inc., and Florida Atlantic University Public Procurement Research Center. Initiated in 2004, IPPC has become one of the largest international networks of public procurement practitioners and researchers in the world, a very strong evidence of global interest in this emerging profession.

At its inception in 2004, IPPC began a tradition that no other professional conference could match: All conference papers were reviewed and best papers were selected for publication in special issues of the academic *Journal of Public Procurement*, and an IPPC book. Particularly, these publications are published in time for distribution at the conferences.

This year, after the Great Economic Recession, 171 paper proposals (an unprecedented number) and 105 full papers were submitted. Twelve of those submitted papers did not meet our expected standard and were not accepted for presentation at the conference. Papers published in this book were selected from the pool of 105 qualified papers after subsection of two waves of peer reviews, within 4 weeks, a very short time period for members of the Scientific Committee (listed below) to review at least eight papers (as each paper was reviewed by three peer reviewers). Without their professional services, it would have been impossible to impartially select excellent papers for this volume. As co-editors of this book, we would like to thank the IPPC5 Scientific Committee members for their professional services. We would like also take this opportunity to thank The National Institute of Governmental Purchasing, Inc. that provides generous financial support of the International Public Procurement Conference. We also thank Dublin City University for hosting the conference.

It is important to note that authors of papers selected for this book should be proud of their work as their papers have survived two waves of challenging reviews, and more importantly, their papers were selected from a large pool of papers, at an acceptance rate of 14.3%. We congratulate these authors on their book chapters and the proven quality of their research.

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