

Preface

This book is a collection of selected papers presented at the 2nd International Public Procurement Conference, September 21-23, 2006, in Rome, Italy. Organized by the Public Procurement Research Center, and hosted by the University of Rome “Tor Vergata,” Italy, the conference was sponsored by the following organizations:

- Curtin University of Technology Business School (Australia);
- Florida Atlantic University;
- The National Institute of Governmental Purchasing, Inc.;
- U.S. General Services Administration; and
- The World Bank Procurement Policy and Services Group.

There were eighty papers submitted for presentations at the conference. Through a peer review process, eight papers were selected for publication in the *Journal of Public Procurement* (Issue 3, Volume 5 [2006], Issue 1, Volume 7 [2007]); eight papers for publication in *Rivista di Politica Economica*; twenty-one papers for publication in this book; and the remaining forty-two papers for publication in *Proceedings of Advancing Public Procurement: Practices, Innovation and Knowledge Sharing* (CD-Rom).

We would like to take this opportunity to thank Paola Gaudini, University of Rome “Tor Vergata” for her excellent management skills and effort in many months prior to the conference and during the conference time. We also thank Jeannie Clinton and Paula Pitzer, PrAcademics Press, for their efforts in editing hundreds of pages in a two-week time span. Finally, we wish to thank all authors for their patience and effort without which this book would not be published timely for distribution at the conference. Finally, we thank all members of the Scientific Committee (listed in the next page) for spending many hours on carefully reviewing 80 papers, which are of such high quality that an additional round of review had been needed for several papers. We also wish to thank all members of the Conference Scientific Committee for spending many hours on reviewing the papers and providing recommendations and constructive comments.

Finally, we have tried very hard to meet our publication deadline. Thus, if there are any flaws in this book, we will take our full responsibility for them.

Khi V. Thai and Gustavo Piga
Editors

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Gustavo Piga, 1956

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