

BAM 2025 CONFERENCE

Kent
Business School

Operations, Logistics and Supply Chain Management Track

Track Chairs:

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Globalisation and geopolitical instability have significantly impacted the way that businesses operate from an operations, logistics, and supply chain management perspective. It has provided expanding market and sourcing opportunities, but also generated challenges, such as difficulties in managing increased complexity, diverse risks, and addressing environmental and social responsibilities. To remain competitive within the dynamic globalised business landscape, companies focus on developing robust strategies that foster resilience and adaptability. Therefore, the Operations, Logistics, and Supply Chain Management (OLSCM) track is intricately woven into the overarching theme of the BAM conference – **On the Border: Management Challenges, Business Opportunities and Disrupted Institutional Contexts**.

Our track seeks to explore how OLSCM can identify the opportunities, but at the same time, understand our strategic environments marked by volatility, uncertainty, complexity, and ambiguity (VUCA) as businesses anticipate and mitigate the border-related risks. Our subject area has a critical role in assisting organisations and support our supply chains develop the capabilities that will allow them to efficiently navigate border crossings and remain competitive. Unexpected delays at borders due to some external factors, such as customs inspections and regulatory approvals, influence supply chain lead times and as a result generate disruptions and create an uncertain environment, which affects organisational performance and customer satisfaction. These concerns have raised a range of questions such as, how VUCA and border-related risks influence the global supply chain management strategy? What are the operational capabilities required to mitigate those descriptions and at the same time develop a resilient and sustainable environment? What is the role of technology and innovative approaches, such as Industry 4.0, in developing mitigating strategies? What are the systems to be adopted to assist organisation in identifying opportunities – to name but a few, raising novel value propositions and paradigms leading to new business and productivity models.

This year, we welcome research that contributes to the management operations, logistics and supply chain and the capabilities that businesses, employees and the society need to develop to be able to address the border-crossing challenges or/and use them to identify opportunities for growth. As such, aligned with the thematic structure of the conference, sessions will be organised as follows:

- Transformational leadership and strategy;
 - Sustainability;

- Resilience;
- Relational and Organisational capabilities;
- Transformational business policy, governance, and practice; and
- Transformational innovation, growth, and entrepreneurship.
 - Digital transformation;
 - Adaptability.

This track is dedicated to advancing the goal of maximising benefits, minimising drawbacks, and addressing challenges in the pursuit of ethical, responsible, and sustainable transformations within the domain of OLSCM. Our objective is to provide actionable insights that align with the conference's overarching theme, promoting a narrative focused on deriving positive societal and organisational impacts. To this end, we invite research that encourages **collaboration** among scholars, practitioners, and thought leaders, exploring **transformative** forces that bridge both organisational and individual boundaries. The track serves as a platform for **interdisciplinary** dialogue, challenging **traditional** perspectives, and delivering **practical** insights to navigate the complexities of transformation in today's volatile environment. In line with these aims, we are continuing the practitioner-focused sessions introduced last year, designed to enhance impact, and deepen engagement with practitioners and policymakers.

We welcome **Full Papers** and **Development Papers** from researchers, including PhD students, early-career researchers, and practitioners at all career stages. These contributions will be discussed in an encouraging and supportive environment, enabling robust academic-practice exchange, and fostering a collaborative community dedicated to addressing critical issues in OLSCM.