



Council of Supply Chain
Management Professionals

Educating and Connecting the World's Supply Chain Professionals.™

MEET A MEMBER



James Stock

Education:
University of South Florida

Company/Title:
University of South Florida/Distinguished
University Professor

When and why did you join CSCMP?

Joined NCPDM in 1976 and attended every conference until 2018 when my wife was in the hospital. The networking with business professionals is outstanding. It allows me to bring real-world illustrations and best practices into the classroom so that I can influence young people to consider logistics and supply chain careers. The educational sessions in the general conference are excellent resources for classroom material, potential guest speakers and research projects. My 43 years of NCPDM/CLM/CSCMP have been a blast and I anticipate making it to 50 conferences attended.

What advice do you have for new CSCMP members on how they can maximize their membership value?

Early in my career I had to pay my own membership fees. I did so because the ROI is so positive. There is not another conference where academics can meet and interface with so many practicing logisticians and supply chain executives. Combining conference attendance with a local roundtable (mine is the Central Florida Roundtable) involvement is an unbeatable combination for staying abreast of the latest developments in the discipline.

How did you get into supply chain management/logistics?

Influenced by my college mentor, Bud La Londe, who introduced me to the field as a PhD student at Ohio State. That was not my planned area of study, but he and his colleagues at the university were so passionate about the area, it rubbed off on me. I have never regretted my decision to make logistics/SCM my career choice.

Describe your job in a tweet (i.e. 140 characters or less)

I teach both marketing, logistics and supply chain courses, primarily at the graduate level. I am Co-Director of the Monica Wooden Center for Supply Chain Management & Sustainability at the University of South Florida. My research is primarily in reverse logistics and supply chain sustainability. I love what I do and will continue doing it for as long as my students keep enjoying my classes, I remain research active, and I am able to provide value-added to our Center industry partners.

What are your top three job responsibilities?

1. Teaching graduate-level students in the logistics and supply chain field.
2. Working with the Monica Wooden Center for Supply Chain Management & Sustainability.
3. Providing leadership to other faculty in the department who teach and research in logistics and supply chain management.

What is the biggest challenge you face on the job, and how are you managing it?

The pace of change is challenging, but it's always exciting to have to learn new things. Graduate students are demanding and I have to keep on top of the changes occurring in SCM. Working in a university environment, with its bureaucracy and slowness to change can be frustrating, but with a long-term perspective, positive things can be accomplished.

What technology, trends or disruptive forces do you see having the biggest impact on supply chains?

Blockchain, AI and robotics would top my list. Also, there will likely be new approaches to managing functions and processes in SCM which can come from anywhere. Academicians and practitioners will have to be lifelong learners and keep up with what's going on in the profession.

If you were to start a company from scratch, what values would you build it on?

Hard work by everyone, but also people who can relax and "play together"
Relationship building in all employees
Customer oriented culture
Visionary as to what can be accomplished with the right people and vision

What are you proudest of?

I am proudest my the many students I have influenced over my career to enter logistics or SCM careers. I am proud of the influence that my research has had on the profession, both academic and practitioner sectors. I am also proud, yet humble, in being one of the pioneers of reverse logistics and publishing two books through CLM. While I don't seek recognitions, the awarding of the DSA to me by CSCMP in 2011 was special and indicated to me that my efforts to impact the discipline have had some impact in businesses and individuals. Finally, I am proud to know so many great people in the logistics and SCM profession. It is always the people that make the difference!

If you could interview anyone, who would it be and why?

Any of the Fortune top 50 companies, both manufacturers and retailers, would be on my list of companies to talk to their CEO/COO's. I would love to interview Fred Smith of FedEx, who changed the transportation landscape with his company. On one of my ongoing research projects, I am interviewing notable academicians who have significantly influenced our profession and will continue to do so; some of the people that I have interviewed include Bowersox, La Londe, Mentzer, Speh, Coyle, Langley, and Heskett. Each of them has had significant influence on the discipline, as well as NCPDM, CLM, and now CSCMP.



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333 East Butterfield Road, Suite 140, Lombard, Illinois 60148-5617 USA
phone +1 630.574.0985
fax +1 630.574.0989
cscmp.org