

# See You at the Annual Conference

by Kim R. Wallin, CMA, CFM, CPA

Mark your calendars! Why? Because IMA's 85th Annual Conference is coming to Chicago from June 26 through June 30, and you won't want to miss it.

We have gone to great lengths to put together an outstanding program that will give you the tools and knowledge you need to have a competitive advantage. You will be able to earn more than 30 hours of CPE by attending just the Conference. If you attend the pre-Conference workshops, you can earn even more.

On Saturday, we start with three pre-Conference workshops. Find out if you are ready to sit for the exam by attending a CFM review course. Or bring your laptop for hands-on sessions on using financial models and XBRL within the Microsoft Office Suite or a simulation of a balanced scorecard.

This year, for the first time, we will be offering four hands-on concurrent sessions: "Excel Plus Plus," "A Factory Simulation Demonstrating Mass and Lean Production Systems," and "A Choice for Cost Systems and Accurate Sales Forecasting." A laptop will be required for these three sessions. The fourth session, "Capacity Cost Management: Finding the Hidden Profit Potential," will not require a laptop. Space will be limited, so sign up early to ensure your spot.

We will also set up e-mail exchanges for each concurrent session. When you get back to your office, these will provide a resource for questions you may have and a

link to keep in touch with colleagues that you met in the sessions.

There are just so many excellent programs that I can't mention them all, so let me share some of the highlights with you. There will be a presentation by Cynthia Cooper of WorldCom; a debate on various costing methods such as GPK, activity-based costing, resource consumption accounting, and the theory of constraints; and a view of the tools that top CFOs use in their role as business partners. Other session topics will cover Six Sigma, corporate performance management, ethics, information technology issues, and whether diversity has a payback. During lunch on Monday, we will have roundtable discussions to help you find solutions to problems you are facing in your work.



KIM R. WALLIN

For more information, look for the brochure in your mailbox in the next couple of weeks, or go online at [www.imanet.org](http://www.imanet.org). Team Chicago, headed by Carl Menconi and Tom Bohler, are looking forward to welcoming all of you to Chicago. So be there! Otherwise, Carl and his boys will come looking for you. This is one Annual Conference you don't want to miss!

I look forward to seeing all of you there, and, as always, keep in touch at [kwallin@imanet.org](mailto:kwallin@imanet.org).