

Yavuz Bozer is a Professor of Industrial and Operations Engineering. He received his B.S. degree in Industrial Engineering from the Middle East Technical University, and his M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in Industrial and Systems Engineering from the Georgia Institute of Technology. After earning his M.S. degree, he worked full-time as a consulting engineer at the SysteCon Division of Pricewaterhouse-Coopers, which was a division concerned with the engineering design and analysis of manufacturing and distribution systems. He returned to Georgia Tech for his Ph.D. studies, and worked as a full-time Research Engineer for the Material Handling Research Center at Georgia Tech. He has been a faculty member with the University of Michigan since 1986.

Bozer's research interests focus on the development of quantitative design and performance evaluation/optimization models for material handling systems used in manufacturing and logistics/service facilities (such as distribution centers, warehouses, container terminals, and cross-docks), and the application of Lean principles in the design and operation of such facilities. He also works on developing computer-based optimization algorithms for the layout design of single-floor and multi-floor manufacturing facilities. His recent work focuses on Lean warehousing and order picking algorithms for the service parts industry, and patient transportation in large, multi-building hospitals.

He is a member of IIE (Institute of Industrial Engineers) and INFORMS (Institute for Operations Research and the Management Sciences). He served on CIC-MHE (College-Industry Council on Material Handling Education)—the education and research arm of MHIA (Material Handling Industry of America), the largest U.S. material handling & logistics association. He served as Associate Editor for Operations Research, the J. of Manufacturing Systems, and the Naval Research Logistics. He received the 1987 Outstanding Dissertation Award from the Institute of Industrial Engineers (IIE). In 1988 he was named a Presidential Young Investigator (PYI) by the National Science Foundation. He was inducted into the Council of Outstanding Young Engineering Alumni at Georgia Tech in 1995, and he received the Technical Innovation Award in Industrial Engineering from IIE in 1999. He is a co-author of Facilities Planning (Wiley), a well-regarded textbook translated into Chinese, Japanese, Korean, and Spanish.

Bozer served as the Ford Motor Company Engineering Co-Director of the Tauber Institute for Global Operations from 1999 to 2010. During this period, the Tauber Institute went through significant growth, providing 20 to 30 summer team projects each year to engineering and MBA students, with projects sponsored by major corporations in a variety of industries. He also served as the faculty director and program advisor of the Engineering Global Leadership (EGL) program, which originated in the IOE department. He was one of the longest serving members of the Manufacturing Council for the Program in Manufacturing (PIM), and he served as the acting Director of PIM. He was a member of the Manufacturing Strategy Planning Group for CoE. He served as a member of the Executive Committee of the NSF-ERC on Reconfigurable Manufacturing Systems, and as the Freshman Counselor. He served as a reviewer for Rackham's Faculty Grant & Fellowships. In the IOE department he served as the faculty advisor for the IIE Student Chapter, the Chair of the Richard C. Wilson prize committee, and several times on the IOE department (executive) committee as well as the curriculum committee. He also served first as a member, and later as the chair of the IOE 5-year review committee. Currently he is the chair of the IOE curriculum committee and the IOE rep on the CoE curriculum committee. He has been serving since 1987 as the DeVlieg Fellowship administrator. He is also the co-founder and co-director of the Lean Manufacturing/Lean Logistics Program at CoE's Integrative Systems + Design department (formerly known as InterPro).