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From the Editor

In 2003, the Academy of Finance began publishing a meeting Proceedings in addition to the blind-refereed *Journal of the Academy of Finance* (which was renamed the *Journal of Finance Issues* in 2011). The Proceedings is a non-refereed publication of the Academy of Finance including papers and summaries of research reports presented at the annual meeting of the Academy of Finance. Authors are not permitted to submit identical papers appearing in the Proceedings to the *Journal of Finance Issues* for publication consideration. If you need a letter indicating your participation in this activity, please let me know.

The *2017 Academy of Finance Meeting Proceedings* presents a total of twenty-five manuscripts, seven complete papers and eighteen research summaries. The total is up significantly from the average of seventeen manuscripts over the past three years. The number of completed papers is two more than that found in the *2016 Proceedings*. Over the prior three years, the average number of completed articles was 5.67. In terms of page length, the 131-page *2017 Academy of Finance Meeting Proceedings* is twenty percent longer than the 108-page average over the prior three years. The lack of 2016 Program leadership is quite evident.

This year's Proceedings issue is much longer than the *2012 Academy of Finance Meeting Proceedings* which had fourteen manuscripts. The 24-page *2012 Proceedings* consisted solely of research summaries. In terms of total manuscripts presented, the highest number was the *2007 Academy of Finance Meeting Proceedings*, which held 37 manuscripts.

In the early years a hard copy of the Proceedings was produced. In 2007, the Proceedings were made available in a CD format, with the assistance of Dr. Robert Balik, who also served as the Academy of Finance's webmaster at that time. This year, the Proceedings are available for the fifth time in a flash drive format. Due to the ability to include longer articles, a decision was made to eliminate any "excess page fees" in 2014. If you have any suggestions for improving the Proceedings process, please contact me at thomas.krueger@tamuk.edu.

Dr. Raj Kohli was the Proceedings editor in 2003 and 2004, in addition to his role as editor of the *Journal of the Academy of Finance*. I became editor in 2005 and have been editing (essentially compiling) the Proceedings issue ever since. This year, the publication reaches the "crystal," fifteen-year milestone.

The winners of the 2017 MBAA International McGraw-Hill Education Distinguished Paper Award in Finance are Haiyan Yin (Indiana University South Bend) and Jiawen Yang (George Washington University). The title of their paper is "Bank Globalization and Efficiency: International Evidence." Congratulations!

Finally, this publication was greatly enhanced through the effort of Ms. Crystal Le, my graduate assistant. Thanks to her and Dean Delcours (Texas A&M – Kingsville) for making her available.

I hope you enjoy the *2017 Academy of Finance Meeting Proceedings*,

Thomas M. Krueger, D.B.A.
2017 Proceedings Editor
Professor of Finance & Chair of ACFN Department
J.R. Manning Endowed Professor of Innovation in Business Education
Texas A&M University-Kingsville

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