**Pierskalla Award**

The Health Applications Society of INFORMS sponsors an annual competition for the Pierskalla Award, which recognizes research excellence in the field of health care management science. The award includes a $1000 honorarium for the best paper presented in a Health Applications Society sponsored session at the annual INFORMS conference. The award is named after Dr. William Pierskalla to recognize his contribution and dedication to improving health services delivery through operations research. Dr. Pierskalla is a Distinguished Professor Emeritus at the Anderson School at UCLA and the Ronald A. Rosenfeld Professor Emeritus, The Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania, and serves as an editor on numerous operations research journals.

**Eligibility**

To be considered for the award, a full paper must be submitted by the application deadline to the Chairs of the Pierskalla Committee (see Application Process details below). The submission can be a working paper, a paper under review, or a previously published paper, and is not restricted to papers written by students. If desired by the authors, the winning paper will be published in Health Care Management Science if it has not been published or is not under review elsewhere.

**Judging**

Papers are judged by a panel of committee members on

* Contribution to operations research/management science in health care
* Readability, clarity and organization of the paper
* Technical content and scope relative to the length of the paper
* Originality

Up to five finalists will be selected and invited to present their work at the INFORMS annual meeting in a session devoted to the competition. The panel judging the papers reserves the right not to award a prize in any given year.

**Application Process**

A complete entry consists of:

1. A **single-page PDF** cover letter containing the following:

* Names and affiliations of all co-authors
* Complete contact information of the corresponding author
* The paper title
* Appropriate keywords for the submitted paper
* The filename of the cover letter should be **CorrespondingAuthorLastName\_CoverLetter.pdf**.

 2. A **completely anonymous paper in PDF format** that meets the following criteria:

* Author(s) names or affiliations should not appear anywhere in the paper.
* At most 32 pages excluding the appendix but including tables, figures, and references. The paper must include all material necessary for judges to assess its technical correctness and confirm the validity of results.
* The formatting standards for submitting a paper to major INFORMS journals (such as Management Science or Operations Research) apply.
* The filename of the submitted paper should be **ShortTitleOfThePaper.pdf**.

The above two documents should be submitted by the entrant at <https://bit.ly/3vdhvAU>.

Complete entries must be received on or before **Monday, June 28, 2021**.

Any question(s) related to the competition should be sent by email to: Pierskalla2021@gmail.com.

The winning paper will not be announced until the Health Applications Society's business meeting at the INFORMS annual meeting.

**2021 Committee Chairs**

Dimitris Bertsimas

Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Agni Orfanoudaki

Massachusetts Institute of Technology