



## Service Science Section

### **INFORMS Service Science Section Best Student Paper Award Competition Sponsored by: IBM Research**

**(Deadline for Submission: August 20, 2017)**

#### **Purpose**

The INFORMS Service Science Section announces 2017 Best Student Paper Award to recognize excellence among its student members and bring prestige to the Service Science Section as well as to the recipients honored.

The INFORMS Service Science Section promotes and disseminates research and applications among professionals interested in theory, methodologies, and applications in Service Science. The Section provides a forum to exchange new ideas and disseminate new findings in Service Science.

From among nominated student research papers, a panel of Service Science Section leaders will choose a pool of student finalists for the Best Student Paper Award. These finalist students will be invited to present their research findings in front of a panel of judges at the Annual INFORMS Conference in Houston, TX, Oct 22-25, 2017. Note that students must present their research in this session to qualify for an award. The judging panel will then decide the order of winners, which will be announced during the business meeting of the Service Science Section

#### **Awards**

- The **first-place** winner will receive **\$400**.
- The **second-place** winner will receive **\$300**.
- The **third-place** winner will receive **\$200**.
- All finalists will receive a plaque or award certificate.

(If a multiple-author paper wins, the award check will be divided equally among the authors.)

#### **Award Selection Criteria**

The evaluation process will be conducted in two steps:

1. Student finalists will be chosen by the Awards Committee from the pool of student research papers submitted for the competition. Each student can submit only one paper. Each paper will be evaluated for:

- 1) Academic significance (originality, depth, completeness and work's potential impact on future service science research).
- 2) Business relevance (importance of the problem and its impact on service engineering or business practice).
2. Finalists will be invited to present in a live award competition session during INFORMS Houston 2017. A panel of Service Science scholars will determine the final ordering of the award winners.
3. During the Service Science Section business meeting, the award winners will be announced.

### **Eligibility Requirements and Author Guidelines**

- The first author of the paper must be a student at the time of submission, or have been a student during academic year 2016-2017. Students must not have completed their PhD prior to Aug. 15, 2016.
- Student author must be a member of the Service Science Section at the time of submission.
- Paper topic must fit Service Science subject areas.
- A paper can only be submitted to one category award sponsored by the Service Science Section.
- Submitted papers **MUST** represent original work, for which the student was the primary author and majority contributor.
- Because IBM is the award sponsor, co-authors cannot be IBM employees.
- Submitted Paper Format: The paper should be no more than 30 pages, double-spaced (15 pages if single spaced), in 11- or 12-point Times Roman font. Paper format should follow typical INFORMS journal layout conventions. Appendices are excluded from the page limit.
- The submitted paper file (PDF) should be sent by email to the Service Science Award Committee Chair Dr. Robin Qiu ([robinqiu@psu.edu](mailto:robinqiu@psu.edu)) by the due date. Papers received after the due date will not be reviewed for competition.
- Members of the awards committee and officers/council members of the Service Science Section are ineligible to participate in the competition.
- IBM employees are ineligible to participate in the competition.

### **Awards Committee:**

The Awards Committee consists of Dr. Robin Qiu (Chair of Service Science Section), Paul Messinger (Chair-elect of Service Science Section) and Aly Megahed (IBM Almaden Research Center).

### **What to Submit:**

To be considered for this year's competition, please email the following to the Award Committee Chair:

- An electronic version of your paper in PDF format.
- If your paper is under review by any publishers, please let us know where and when you have it submitted.
- A letter in PDF format from one faculty co-author (if any) articulating your role in writing this paper. The letter should confirm that the student is a student at the time of submission, or has been a student during academic year 2016-2017.

**Where to submit:**

Robin Qiu (Award Committee Chair) Professor  
Pennsylvania State University  
Email: [robinqiu@psu.edu](mailto:robinqiu@psu.edu)

**Deadline:**

Deadline for paper submission is **August 20, 2017**.