



Service Science Section

**INFORMS Service Science Section
Best Student Paper Award Competition**

**Sponsored by:
IBM Research**

(Deadline for Submission: August 15, 2016)

Purpose

The INFORMS Service Science Section announces the 2015 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 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 students will be invited to present their research findings in front of a panel of judges at the Annual INFORMS Conference 2016 in Nashville, TN. 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.

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 may submit 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 Nashville 2016. 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 2015-2016. Students must not have completed their PhD prior to July 15, 2015.
- Student author must be a member of the Service Science Section at the time of the award presentation at INFORMS Nashville 2016.
- Paper topic must fit Service Science subject areas.
- Submitted papers should not be under review by other journals except Service Science.
- 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.
- The submitted paper file (PDF) should be sent by email to the Service Science Award Committee Chair Dr. Robin Qiu (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-elect of Service Science Section), Paul Maglio (EIC, Service Science) 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.

- 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 2015-2016.

Where to submit:

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

Deadline:

Deadline for paper submission is **August 15, 2016**.