

# Call for Papers

## Best Paper Competition INFORMS QSR Cluster Refereed Sessions

The Quality Statistics and Reliability (QSR) cluster of Institute for Operations Research and Management Sciences (INFORMS) announces the Best Paper Award to recognize excellence among the high-quality papers submitted to INFORMS QSR refereed sessions. This award program brings prestige to the QSR Section as well as to the recipients honored.

**Conference dates:** November 4, 2018 - November 7, 2018

**Location:** Phoenix, AZ

**Conference website:** <http://meetings2.informs.org/wordpress/phoenix2018/>

The QSR cluster of INFORMS is organizing refereed sessions at INFORMS Annual Conference. The main objective of organizing refereed sessions is to present a collection of key research papers on the state-of-the-art methodological development and applications in the area of Quality, Reliability, Statistics, and Data Sciences that cater to the next-generation intelligent systems for advanced manufacturing and smart healthcare.

**Topics of interest include, but are not limited to:**

- System and Process Informatics in Additive Manufacturing
- Predictive Modeling and Control for Additive Manufacturing
- Predictive Modeling and Control for Energy Systems
- Complex Systems Sensing, Modeling and Optimization
- Data Analytics for Reliability Evaluation and Maintenance Optimization
- Data Analytics in Manufacturing and Service Industries
- Game-theoretical Models in Maintenance and Reliability
- Modeling and Analysis of Data with Complex Structure
- Decision Theory and Predictive Modeling to Managing Uncertainty in Design and Operations of Manufacturing and Service Systems
- Bayesian Data Analytics for Quality and Reliability Assurance
- LoT-enabled Data Analytics for Manufacturing System Informatics and Control
- Image and Functional Data Analysis
- Reliability Analysis of Complex Engineering Systems
- Quality Monitoring in Complex Manufacturing Processes
- Integrated Nanomanufacturing and Nanoinformatics
- System Informatics for Operations Research and Operations Management
- Design and Analysis of Modern-day Scientific Experiments (including Computer Experiments) in Advanced Manufacturing.

On behalf of the organizing committee, we would like to invite you to submit a short paper (**not exceeding six pages**) for a peer-review process. The primary author of a selected paper will be invited to give a presentation in a refereed session at the 2018 INFORMS Annual Conference. All submitted papers and oral presentations will be reviewed and ranked by external referees. The winner will be announced during the QSR business meeting at the conference. The QSR Best Paper Award is to be presented annually at the INFORMS annual conference. The broad criteria for selecting the recipient of the QSR Best Paper Award are: (a) Academic significance (originality, depth, and completeness of the work and its potential impact on future research); (b) Engineering or business relevance (importance of the problem and its impact on engineering or business practice).

## Eligibility Requirements and Application Process:

- Award nominees **must be a member of the QSR Section**.
- Previous finalists or winners who wish to compete again should submit an entirely different paper.
- The submitted paper should be unpublished work.
- The submitted paper should not be selected as the winner of past competitions in IISE and INFORMS conferences.
- The primary author or one of co-authors must be committed to present the paper at a special QSR session of the annual INFORMS conference.
- Finalists may not be announced until other INFORMS sessions are already organized. Thus, papers considered for this competition **MAY** be simultaneously submitted to other sessions at the INFORMS conference. If a finalist is scheduled to present in another session, they need to present the paper twice: once in the QSR Best Paper Competition session and once in their previously scheduled session.
- QSR Section does NOT own the copyright of the paper. However, the paper must be available to the QSR Section to be posted on their web page.
- **Required Format for Submission:** The paper should be 4-6 pages long, single-spaced, with two columns in 10 point Times Roman or Times New Roman typeface. Margins should be 1 inch or more. Papers should begin with a 50-word abstract. The submitted paper must follow the required format or will be returned without review.

To enter, **a blinded as well as an unblinded version** of the paper in MS WORD or PDF format should be emailed to the contest coordinators ([liao@uark.edu](mailto:liao@uark.edu); [tirthankar.dasgupta@rutgers.edu](mailto:tirthankar.dasgupta@rutgers.edu)) prior to the designated deadline (**July 1, 2018**). Please note the deadline. Late submissions will not be reviewed and will be ineligible for the contest.

### Timeline:

July 1: Paper submission deadline  
Sep 15: Decision sent to authors  
Nov 4-7: Presentation in the refereed sessions

For inquiries, please contact **co-chairs** of INFORMS QSR refereed sessions:

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### **Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) about the INFORMS QSR Refereed sessions:**

- 1) Can I submit a paper that I have already submitted an abstract for an invited session in INFORMS 2016?  
Yes, you can submit a 4-6 page paper to the refereed session and participate in the best paper competition.
- 2) Will there be a template for the paper format?  
Yes. The paper should be 4-6 pages, single-spaced, with two columns in 10 point Times Roman or Times New Roman typeface. Margins should be 1 inch or more. Papers should begin with a 50 word abstract. Please submit **a blinded as well as an unblinded version**. The submitted paper must follow the format or will be returned without review.
- 3) How will the winner be determined? Only on the basis of rankings by external reviewers? Or like the student-paper competition will there be a panel of judges who will compare the shortlisted papers to determine the winner?  
The winner will be determined by a panel of expert judges.
- 4) Who will review/judge the papers and what are the criteria for acceptance?  
The panel of Judges will be senior QSR members, who will conduct a “fair” comparison for the award. The broad criteria for selecting the recipient of the QSR Best Paper Award are: (a) Academic significance (originality, depth, and completeness of the work and its potential impact on future research); (b) Engineering or business relevance (importance of the problem and its impact on engineering or business practice).
- 5) Can I submit the same paper to both best student paper competition and best paper competition?  
No, the same paper is not allowed to be submitted to both competitions.
- 6) Can I submit a paper that has been published?  
No, the submitted paper should not have been published in a journal.
- 7) Can I submit a paper that was selected as a winner in past competitions of IISE or INFORMS conferences?  
No, the submitted paper should not be selected as the winner of past competitions in IISE and INFORMS conferences.
- 8) I have not submitted an abstract to any QSR-sponsored session. Can I submit a paper to the refereed track?  
Yes, you can submit the same paper to the refereed track. If selected, you will be invited to present the paper in one of the refereed sessions.