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The BRIEFING

PSOR Sessions at the 2019 INFORMS Annual Meeting

There are 21 Public Sector OR (PSOR) sessions with a total of 81 presentations during the 2019 INFORMS Annual Meeting which takes place from October 20-23 in Seattle, WA. The sessions and the session numbers are listed below. Details about the authors and presentations in the sessions can be found by following this [link](#).



Sunday, October 20

- SA39 Community-Based Operations Research I
- SA57 Modeling healthcare equity, access, and outcomes
- SC20 - PSOR Best Paper Competition Finalists
- SC57 Joint Session PSOR/Practice Curated: Decision Analytic Models for Public Health

Monday, October 21

- MB57 Data Driven Disaster Resilience
- MC56 Analytics in Humanitarian Operations Management
- MC57 Joint Session PSOR/DEI: Community-Based Operations Research II
- MD56 Nonprofit Operations Management: Focus on Resource Management
- MD57 Applied Advances in the Field of Emergency Response II

Tuesday, October 22

- TB56 Logistics Models for Disaster Response and Public Health Emergencies
- TB57 Pro Bono Analytics - Providing Analytics Support to Nonprofit Organizations (a panel session)
- TB58 Data-Driven Insights for Decision-Making
- TC56 Joint Session PSOR/Practice Curated: Healthcare Policy Modeling

- TD57 Joint Session PSOR/Practice Curated: Applied Advances in the Field of Emergency Response I
- TD58 Resilient Infrastructure and Community Networks
- TE58 Disaster Management in Preparedness, Response and Recovery

Wednesday, October 23

- WA57 Optimizing Public Policy
- WA58 Humanitarian and Disaster Operations Management
- WB57 Topics in Humanitarian Operations
- WC57 Human Trafficking
- WD57 Joint Session PSOR/Practice Curated: Managing Welfare Delivery Supply Chains

PSOR Best Paper Competition

We received 51 high-quality submissions for the 2019 best paper competition. These papers cover a wide range of applications, from healthcare to politics. The table below summarizes the 51 submissions by topics.

Application Topics	# of Papers
Hospitals, Clinics, Payments	12
Disease Models, Medication	9
Agriculture, Food, Ecology	8
Education, Employment	4
Immigration, Refugees, Vulnerable Populations	4
Transportation, Urban Operations, Sharing Economy	4
Clinical Trials, Pharmaceuticals	3
Nonprofits	3
Environment, Energy	2

Four finalists have been identified by the judging committee. They will present their paper at *SC20 PSOR Best Paper Competition Finalists* at 1:30-3:00pm on Sunday October 20. We encourage you to attend this session. The first-place and second-place prizes will be announced and awarded during the business meeting at the 2019 INFORMS Annual Meeting in Seattle, WA. The four finalists and their paper titles are in the Table below.

Title (in no particular order)	Author
Show or Tell? Improving Agent Decision Making in a Tanzanian Mobile Money Field Experiment	Jason Acimovic (Penn State Smeal) Christopher Parker (American University) David Drake (U of Colorado) Karthik Balasubramanian (Howard University)
An Efficient Frontier Approach to Scoring and Ranking Hospital Performance	Dan Adelman (University of Chicago Booth)
Snapshot Models of Undocumented Immigration	Edward Kaplan (Yale SOM) Scott Rodilitz (Yale SOM)
Tax-Induced Inequalities in the Sharing Economy	Yao Cui (Cornell Johnson) Andrew Davis (Cornell Johnson)

The judging committee is co-chaired by *Fernanda Bravo* (UCLA) and *Elisa Long* (UCLA). We sincerely appreciate their great efforts. We also like to acknowledge all our judges:

- Jason Acimovic (Penn State Smeal)
- Saed Alizamir (Yale SOM)
- Kate Astashkina (Michigan Ross)
- Turgay Ayer (Georgia Tech ISYE)
- Christian Blanco (Ohio State Fisher)
- Keith Chen (UCLA Anderson)
- Prina Feldman (Boston Univ Questrom)
- Chaitra Gopalappa (UMass-Amherst Mech&Ind Eng)
- Sheldon Jacobson (U of Illinois CS)
- Jonas Jonasson (MIT Sloan)
- Cameron Mackenzie (Iowa State Ind Eng)
- Iva Rashkova (Washington Univ Olin)
- Soroush Saghaian (Harvard Kennedy)
- Auyon Siddiq (UCLA Anderson)
- Ravi Subramanian (Georgia Tech Scheller)
- Joline Uichanco (Michigan Ross)

PSOR Elections

PSOR officers include President, President-Elect, Secretary/ Treasurer, Senior Vice President of Programs, Junior Vice President of Programs, and Vice President of Communications. The positions that are to be elected for the year of 2020 are listed in below. Voting is open to PSOR members until Thursday, Oct. 10.

PRESIDENT-ELECT. The President-Elect shall assist the President and substitute for the President as needed, including presiding at meetings. The President-Elect shall succeed to the office of President upon completion of the latter's term of office or if a vacancy occurs in the latter office. Candidates are

- **Jessica Heier Stamm.** Associate professor and the Gisela and Warren Kennedy Cornerstone Teaching Scholar in the Industrial and Manufacturing Systems Engineering Department at Kansas State University.
- **Greg Parlier.** Adjunct Professor of Operations Research at North Carolina State University and President, GH Parlier Consulting. A West Point graduate and retired US Army colonel.

JUNIOR VICE-PRESIDENT OF PROGRAMS. The Junior Vice President of Programs shall assist the Senior Vice President of Programs. The Junior Vice President of Programs shall succeed to the office of Senior Vice President of Programs upon completion of the latter's term of office or if a vacancy occurs in the latter office. Candidates are

- **Justin J. Boutilier.** Assistant Professor in Industrial and Systems Engineering at the University of Wisconsin - Madison.
- **Kayse Lee Maass.** Assistant Professor of Industrial Engineering and leads the Operations Research and Social Justice Lab at Northeastern University.
- **Phebe Vayanos.** Assistant Professor of Industrial & Systems Engineering and Computer Science at the University of Southern California.
- **Muer Yang.** Associate professor at the Opus College of Business in the University of St. Thomas.

VICE PRESIDENT OF COMMUNICATIONS. The Vice President of Communications shall be responsible for maintaining the web site, the newsletter, and any other external or internal communications outlets. Candidates are

PSOR Officers 2019

President

Nan Kong

Purdue University

President-Elect

Shengfan Zhang

University of Arkansas

Secretary / Treasurer

Jessica H. Stamm

Kansas State University

Senior VP of Programs

Jagpreet Chhatwal

Harvard Medical School

Junior VP of Programs

Ronald McGarvey

University of Missouri

VP of Communications

Muer Yang

University of St. Thomas

- **Gemma Berenguer.** Assistant Professor at the Krannert School of Management, Purdue University.
- **Xiaolei Xie.** Associate Professor in the Department of Industrial Engineering at Tsinghua University.

SECRETARY-TREASURER. The Secretary-Treasurer shall (a) support the President in the preparation of meeting agendas and subdivision budgets, (b) take minutes, (c) keep financial and other records, (d) receive membership applications, (e) maintain contact with the INFORMS, and (g) perform other duties usual to the offices of Secretary and Treasurer, including disbursing, receiving, managing and overseeing funds, in accordance with the rules and procedures of INFORMS.

- **Ashlea Bennett Milburn.** Associate Professor in the Department of Industrial Engineering at the University of Arkansas.

PSOR Business Meeting

We will hold the PSOR Breakfast/Business Meeting at S - Aspen, 2nd Floor on Monday from 8:00 am to 9:30 am at the 2019 INFORMS Annual Meeting. Our Breakfast/Business Meeting is sponsored by the Department of Industrial and Operations Engineering at the University of Michigan.

We invite all to join us. The topics that we are going to discuss in the meeting are

- Introduction of our vision, mission, and current officers (PSOR President and President-Elect)
- Words on Michigan IOE (Representative of Michigan IOE)
- Election results
- Award presentation (Judging committee co-chairs)
- Other business

From the Editor

Dear members,

I hope it has been a good semester for you both personally and professionally so far. As the 2019 INFORMS Annual Meeting is fast approaching, I hope you all are getting ready for the conference and in-conference activities of our section. Hope to see you all at the 2019 INFORMS Annual Meeting in Seattle!

Please consider letting me, the VP of Communications know about your successes (e.g., awards, milestones, publications, calls for papers) so that the Breakfast/Business Meeting in the annual conference and future issues of "The Briefing" can highlight your accomplishments.

Please also consider letting our board members know how we can make the section truly a professional forum for you, our dearest members, to showcase operations research as a scientific approach to public sector issues and problems concerning how to design and operate systems, usually under conditions requiring the allocation of scarce resources.

Best,

Muer Yang

VP of Communications, PSOR

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