Call for Papers
INFORMS QSR Best Paper Competition

The Quality, Statistics, and Reliability (QSR) cluster of the 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 of this honor.

Conference dates: October 24-27, 2021
Location: Anaheim, CA
Conference website: http://meetings2.informs.org/wordpress/anaheim2021/

The QSR cluster of INFORMS is organizing refereed sessions at the 2021 INFORMS Annual Meeting. The primary objective of organizing these refereed sessions is to present a collection of key research papers on state-of-the-art methodological developments and applications in the area of Quality, Reliability, Statistics, and Data Science that cater to the next generation of intelligent systems for manufacturing, service and healthcare.

Topics of interest include, but are not limited to:
- System and Process Informatics in Advanced Manufacturing
- Predictive Modeling and Control for Complex Systems
- Complex Systems Sensing, Modeling, and Optimization
- Data Analytics for Reliability Evaluation and Maintenance Optimization
- Data Analytics in Manufacturing and Service Industries
- Maintenance and Reliability Analysis of Complex Engineering Systems
- Modeling and Analysis of Data with Complex Structures
- Decision Theory and Predictive Modeling for Uncertainty Management
- Data Analytics for Quality and Reliability Assurance
- IoT-enabled Data Analytics for Manufacturing System Informatics and Control
- Image and Functional Data Analysis
- Quality Monitoring in Complex Manufacturing Processes
- Integrated Nanomanufacturing and Nano informatics
- System Informatics for Operations Research and Operations Management
- Design and Analysis of Modern-Day Scientific Experiments
- Graph Theory and Network Analysis for Quality and Reliability Applications
- Complex Data Analytics and Data Fusion for Quality Assurance

On behalf of the organizing committee, we would like to invite you to submit a short paper (**not exceeding six pages**) for this peer-review process. The primary authors of the selected papers will be invited to present their work in a refereed session at the 2021 INFORMS Annual Meeting. 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 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 (significance 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 from their previous submissions.
- The submitted paper should be unpublished work.
- The submitted paper should not have been selected as a winner of past competitions in IISE and/or INFORMS conferences.
- The primary author or one of co-authors must be committed to presenting the paper at a special QSR session of the 2021 INFORMS Annual Meeting.
- Finalists may not be announced until other INFORMS sessions are first organized. Thus, papers considered for this competition **MAY** be simultaneously submitted to other sessions of the INFORMS Annual Meeting. 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.
- The 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 submitted 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. The paper must begin with an abstract of at most 50 words. The paper must follow the required format, or it will be returned without review.

To enter the competition, **a blinded as well as an unblinded version** of the paper in MS WORD or PDF format should be emailed to **all Co-chairs** of the QSR Refereed Session, with the email subject line "Name+University+2021 QSR best paper competition" prior to the deadline of **July 15, 2021**. This deadline will not be extended. Late submissions will be ineligible for the competition, and not reviewed.

Timeline:

July 15:	Paper submission deadline
Sep 30:	Decisions sent to authors
October 24-27:	Presentation in the refereed QSR session

The subcommittee of the INFORMS QSR Refereed Session:

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