

CALL FOR PAPERS

INFORMS 2021 QSR Best Student Paper Award

The Quality Statistics and Reliability (QSR) Section of INFORMS announces the Best Student Paper Award to recognize excellence among its student members. The award program brings prestige to the QSR Section as well as to the recipients honored.

Four finalists for the Best Student Paper Award will be selected to make presentations at the 2021 INFORMS Annual Meeting. The winner will be announced at the QSR business meeting later at the conference. All finalists will receive an award certificate. The winner will also receive a plaque of recognition. The broad criteria for selecting the recipient of the QSR Best Student 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). Specifically, papers will be assessed in six aspects: originality of ideas, depth of study, thoroughness of literature review, importance of problem, expected impact on future research, and potential impact on engineering or business practice.

Eligibility Requirements:

- The award nominee **must be a student member of the QSR Section.**
- The submitted paper for the competition can be in any status (e.g., submitted or published elsewhere).
- Paper topic should fit the QSR themes.
- The student must be the first author. **A formal, signed statement by the student's advisor should be submitted along with the paper affirming that the majority of the original results presented in the paper are due to the student rather than the advisor or other collaborators involved in the work.**
- Previous finalists who wish to compete again should submit an entirely different paper. However, past winners are not eligible for the competition.
- The student must be committed to presenting the paper at a special session at the INFORMS Annual Meeting (the session schedule will be announced later).
- Finalists may not be announced until other sessions are already organized. Thus, papers considered for this competition could be simultaneously submitted to other sessions at the INFORMS Annual Meeting. If a finalist is scheduled to present in another session, then they will present the paper twice: once in the QSR Best Student Paper Competition session and once in their previously scheduled session.
- QSR Section does NOT own the copyright of the paper.

Application Process: The paper should be up to 6 pages, single-spaced, and 10 point-size font in PDF format. Margins should be 1 inch or more. The paper should begin with a 50-word abstract. Please submit a **blinded and an unblinded version**. The submitted paper must follow the format or will be returned without review. Please also complete and submit **the attached submission form** including four suggested reviewers and the signed affirmation of the advisor.

To enter the contest, please submit via email **the two versions of the paper and the completed submission form** to contest organizers, Dr. Bianca Maria Colosimo (biancamaria.colosimo@polimi.it, Chair), Dr. Tapas Das (das@usf.edu), Dr. Qiang Huang (qiang.huang@usc.edu), and Dr. Ran Jin (jran5@vt.edu), with the email subject as "QSR Best Student Paper Competition" by the designated submission deadline below. Late or incomplete submissions will NOT be eligible for the contest. One can visit the QSR website <http://connect.informs.org/qsr/home> for updates regarding the contest.

Timeline:

Paper submission deadline (Submitter's local time): July 1, 2021

Decision notifications to authors: September 15, 2021

Contest Organizers:

Dr. Bianca Maria Colosimo, Politechnco Milano, Chair

Dr. Tapas Das, University of South Florida

Dr. Qiang Huang, University of Southern California

Dr. Ran Jin, Virginia Tech