

35<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the  
Decision Sciences Institute  
BOSTON  
November 20-23, 2004  
Boston, Massachusetts



## 2004 Doctoral Dissertation Award

*Searching for the best 2003 dissertation in the decision sciences*

SPONSORED BY MCGRAW HILL/IRWIN AND THE DECISION SCIENCES INSTITUTE

McGraw-Hill/Irwin and the Decision Sciences Institute are cosponsoring the 2004 Elwood S. Buffa Doctoral Dissertation Competition. The purpose of the competition is to identify and recognize outstanding doctoral research in the development of theory or applications of the decision sciences completed during 2003. A monetary award of \$1,500 will be presented at the 2004 Annual Meeting. Submission deadline is April 1, 2004.

### Instructions

1. The dissertation must deal with the development of methodology for, or application of, the decision sciences.
2. The dissertation must have been accepted by the degree-granting institution within the 2003 calendar year. It is not necessary for the degree to have been awarded by the end of 2003. Also, the dissertation may not have been submitted previously to a Decision Sciences Institute dissertation competition.
3. The submission materials consist of the following:
  - a. A nominating letter on university letterhead stationery submitted by the student's major professor. This letter introduces the student, the supervisor of the dissertation, and the degree-granting institution. It also certifies the acceptance of the dissertation by the institution within the required time frame. All contact information for both the author and the major professor should also be stated in the letter.
  - b. Four copies of a separate statement by the major professor about why the dissertation deserves special recognition.
  - c. Four copies of a student-prepared summary of the dissertation. This five-to-ten page double-spaced overview should include a description of the problem, the methodology, and the major findings/conclusions. At the top of the first page, the dissertation's major and minor

fields should be identified. Major fields typically are accounting, economics, finance, information systems, organizational behavior/design/theory, operations management, and strategy/policy. Minor fields are often simulation, optimization, service sector, quality, quantitative analysis, artificial intelligence/expert systems, experimental design, and so on. The summary should include a 250-word abstract.

- d. Four copies of the dissertation, punched and bound using standard Arco flat metal prong fasteners (8.5" center to center) and appropriate report covers (do not use a ring binder or any kind of book binding).
4. Because of the blind-review process, it is essential that the author, degree-granting institution, and supervising professor not be identified in items 3b, 3c, and 3d. All acknowledgments or other references that would identify the author, institution, or professors must be removed from the dissertation and all accompanying documents except the nominating letter.
5. Supervising professor and student materials may be submitted together or separately. If the latter is done, the student will also need to include an identifying cover letter.

*Direct all inquiries and applications to:*

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**Submission Deadline: April 1, 2004**

**T**HE DECISION SCIENCES INSTITUTE provides a forum for the sharing of technological advances across disciplines, and across countries. The interdisciplinary appeal of the Decision Sciences Institute's annual meetings has been widely recognized by researchers, managers, educators, and students from all areas of the business community.

Please plan to join us for the Doctoral Student Consortium and other pre-conference workshops and programs, as well as for presentations on research, teaching, and administration. Enjoy the benefits of networking with friends and colleagues in an intimate, professional setting.

*For more information on DSI and the 2004 Annual Meeting, visit our Web site at <http://www.decisionsciences.org>.*

### Professional Activities at the DSI Annual Meeting

- Best Paper Award Competition
- Case Studies Workshop and Competition
- Elwood S. Buffa Doctoral Dissertation Competition
- Instructional Innovation Award Competition
- Curricular Issues Miniconferences
- Doctoral Student Consortium
- Information Systems Miniconference
- New Faculty and Professional Development Program
- Placement and Academic Recruiting
- Technology in the Classroom Miniconference

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