

EMI Elasticity Student Competition

Purpose:

- Increase student involvement in the EMI conference, particularly in the area of Elasticity.
- Expose students to Elasticity related research from different groups.
- Facilitate student interactions with faculty and other students to build a strong network and be ready to take on future responsibilities within the technical community.
- Improve student's technical communication skills, as well as promote high-quality submissions to the conference and journal of the EMI.

Requirements:

1. Be a full-time student at the time of abstract submission and the main contributor to the research.
2. Submit an abstract as the leading author in a thematic area related to elasticity to the EMI abstract submission website by the conference deadline. Submission to an Elasticity Committee-sponsored mini-symposium is encouraged but not required.
3. Participate only in the Elasticity student paper competition. Participation with the same materials in multiple competitions will automatically disqualify you from this competition.
4. Register for the conference, and if selected as an Elasticity Student Competition finalist, present the research at the student competition session during the conference.

Key Dates:

- **January 15, 2026** – EMI Conference abstract submission deadline.
- **March 1, 2026** – Express interest to participate in the Elasticity Student Competition by emailing Prof. John Brigham at brigham@pitt.edu.
- **May 1, 2026** – Submit a **two-page** (excluding any optional references) **extended abstract** and 'regular' EMI Conference abstract acceptance notification to Prof. Brigham at brigham@pitt.edu.
- **May 15, 2026** – Finalists are notified.

Process:

- The extended abstracts will be reviewed for relevance, quality of writing, and overall scientific merit.
- Up to five finalists will be selected for 10-minute presentations in a special session of the conference. Note that this is a second presentation in addition to the presentation associated with the 'regular' EMI Conference submission.
- The abstracts and presentations will be judged by a panel of experts selected from the Elasticity committee membership.
- Winners and runners-up will be announced at the student recognition event during the conference.
- Student finalists will be invited to submit a full-paper version of their abstract for a by-invitation-only special collection of the Journal of Engineering Mechanics.

Contact:

- Email any questions or concerns to Elasticity Committee Chair Prof. Brigham at brigham@pitt.edu.