

EMI Probabilistic Methods Committee Student Paper Competition

Sponsored by: EMI Probabilistic Methods Committee

Purpose:

- To increase the involvement of younger professionals in the EMI/PMC conferences, particularly in the area of probabilistic methods.
- To engage student members with the PMC to promote further growth as engineers, develop working relationships with PMC members, and be ready to take on future responsibilities within the technical community.
- To improve their technical writing skill, as well as to promote high-quality submissions to the flagship journal of EMI, the Journal of Engineering Mechanics.

Requirements:

1. Be the lead author to submit an abstract to the EMI Conference through the EMI abstract submission website. Submission to a PMC-sponsored mini-symposium is particularly encouraged but not required.
2. Express interest in participating in the competition by emailing Prof. Kostas Papakonstantinou (kpapakon@psu.edu) by February 13, 2026. Prof. Papakonstantinou will reply and provide the paper template.
3. Forward the abstract acceptance notification to Prof. Papakonstantinou when provided by the conference organizers.
4. Submit a paper (**maximum 4 pages**) following the template provided, to Prof. Kostas Papakonstantinou (kpapakon@psu.edu) by April 1, 2026. The student must write the paper as the leading author and should conduct the majority of the work associated with the manuscript.
5. Be a student at the time of submission of the full-length paper.
6. Register and, if selected, present the paper in a special session at the EMI 2026 conference.

Deadlines:

- **January 31, 2026** – abstract submission deadline.
- **February 13, 2026** – Express interest in participating by emailing Prof. Kostas Papakonstantinou (kpapakon@psu.edu)
- **April 1, 2026** - Full-length paper due to Prof. Kosta Papakonstantinou, (kpapakon@psu.edu)

Prizes:

- Up to three winners will be selected and named as the PMC student paper competition winners.
- A certificate will be awarded.

Process:

- The top papers will be selected for presentation in a special session of the Conference. Note that this will be a second presentation, in addition to the presentation the student gives as part of the regular EMI Conference.
- The papers and presentations will be judged by a panel of three judges selected from the PMC membership.
- Winners will be selected based on both the quality of the paper and the oral presentation.

Invitation to submit a journal paper for finalists:

- Student finalists will be invited to submit an extended version of their papers for a by invitation- only special collection on Journal of Engineering Mechanics (example from previous years: https://ascelibrary.org/jenmdt/emi_student_finalist_papers).

Contact: Prof. Kostas Papakonstantinou (kpapakon@psu.edu)