

**You Said, We Heard!**  
*Important Changes to Student Best Paper Competition*

The Graduate Education Committee would like all interested students and faculty mentors to be aware of the important changes to the Student Best Paper Competition based on your feedback. We hope the following changes improve your ability to meet the requirements for the Student Best Paper Competition and open new opportunities for more members to submit their paper for the competition.

- **New Submission Deadline (April 1, 2017):** A new submission deadline is April 1, 2017, the same as the general call for presentation.
- **Types of Papers:** Student Best Paper Competition now includes all three categories (research, teaching and concept papers), the same as the general call for presentation.
- **Abstract Submission:** In addition to submitting the full paper to the Best Paper Competition, students should simultaneously submit a two-page abstract of the paper to the Research, Concept, Teaching Submission Link. While the full paper is being reviewed for the Best Paper Competition, the abstract will be reviewed as part of the general conference review process for consideration as an oral or poster presentation.

The Student Best Paper Competition is for students at all levels; doctoral, master's, and undergraduate. At each level, first and second place winners will be selected. Conference registration fees will be waived for the first and second place winners. First place winners will receive \$500 toward travel and hotel costs to attend the annual meeting and present their papers. Winners of the Student Best Paper Competition (first and second place) in the doctoral category will be invited to submit the papers to CTRJ ahead of the conference; these will be blind reviewed by CTRJ reviewers for possible inclusion in a conference best papers issue to be published after the conference.

The Student Best Paper Competition is a unique opportunity to recognize excellence in scholarship among our student scholars and recognize effective mentoring relationships between faculty advisors and student researchers. The following thank-you note from Min Jeong Seo, the second place winner at the doctoral level serves as an example for the ITAA community. Dr. Seo received her Ph.D. from Oregon State University and is currently a researcher at the Korean Living Science Research Center, Hanyang University in Seoul, South Korea.

*"I feel truly honored and humbled to be selected as a recipient of the 2016 ITAA Graduate Student Paper Award. I would like to express my thanks to the award committee for their recognition of my dissertation about the relationships among social capital, capabilities, and performance of Korean immigrant-owned fashion firms in the Los Angeles area. In addition, I would like to share this award with everyone who contributed to my dissertation with gratitude. Above all, my deepest thanks go to my Ph.D. co-advisor, Dr. Leslie Burns and Dr. Minjeong Kim, for their sustainable support and help. My sincere thanks go to my survey participants because I got a lot of energy to complete my dissertation from their cheer-up messages. As a fresh Ph.D., I am confident that this Student Best Paper award will benefit me in my future endeavor in the textile and apparel academic field and encourage me in my future research."*

The Graduate Education Committee welcomes your inquiries about Student Best Paper Competition and looks forward to receiving your submission for Student Best Paper Competition. See the Full Call here: [http://c.ymcdn.com/sites/itaaonline.org/resource/resmgr/calls\\_and\\_announcements/2017\\_CALL\\_Student\\_Best\\_Paper.pdf](http://c.ymcdn.com/sites/itaaonline.org/resource/resmgr/calls_and_announcements/2017_CALL_Student_Best_Paper.pdf)

For any questions, please contact [barbara.frazier@wmich.edu](mailto:barbara.frazier@wmich.edu) for Barb Frazier, VP of Education.