WICKHAM SKINNER AWARDS

As a leading professional society in the field of production and operations management, POMS has the responsibility to influence and recognize outstanding research and teaching accomplishments. The Wickham Skinner Awards are intended to encourage POM scholarship and publication, to promote significant research in the field, to reward academics who have achieved unusually high accomplishment early in their careers, and to facilitate the sharing of innovative new ideas about teaching POM. The award(s) are announced at the closing ceremony of POMS' annual conference each year.

There are three categories of Wickham Skinner Awards:

   A. Best Paper published in *Production and Operations Management* during the previous year.
   B. Early-Career Research Accomplishments
   C. Teaching Achievements

For each category, there will be at most two winners of an award (first place with a prize of $1,000 and the runner-up with a prize of $500 or both tied for the first place each with a prize of $1,000). Awards will not be given if the submissions do not meet the standards for each award category. Each award includes:

   1. Public Recognition of the award winner(s) at the POMS Meeting
   2. A plaque
   3. A check for appropriate amount.

A. AWARD FOR PAPER PUBLISHED IN *Production and Operations Management*

Basis for Best Published Paper Award

Papers will be judged on overall quality with careful attention given to both relevance and rigor. There is no need to apply for this award as the award committee, in consultation with the journals Departmental Editors, will consider all papers published in *Production and Operations Management* during the previous year.

B. EARLY-CAREER RESEARCH ACCOMPLISHMENTS AWARD

Definition of Early-Career Researcher

An "Early-Career Researcher" will be defined as someone who has received a doctoral degree (or its equivalent outside of the U.S.A.) within the previous six years. Note that previous winners of this award are not eligible to apply again, but unsuccessful applicants may submit materials in a later year, provided they still meet the career stage requirement.

The portfolio to be submitted will include:

   1. A cover letter of no more than two pages applying for the award that highlights the major contributions of the applicant's entire body of research
   2. A copy of the candidate's resume
   3. Copies of one to three key papers

4. A maximum of three letters of recommendation for the award from other academics or area/department chairs describing the applicant's contribution to research, or from practitioners confirming the successful application of research findings.

Basis for the Early-Career Researcher Award

Accomplishments can be measured in many ways, with publications and presentations given primary importance. Work published (or formally accepted for publication) or presented at a conference within the six-year eligibility period will be considered in the evaluation process if properly documented.

The judges will evaluate the impact of the body of work in terms of its ability to broaden, extend, and alter the way that POM is conceptualized, practiced, and viewed. The judges are not required to give awards if applicants do not meet the standards they establish.

C. TEACHING ACHIEVEMENTS AWARD

Definition of Teaching Achievements Award

The purpose of this award is to recognize impact and innovation in Production and Operations Management instruction.

Procedure for Submissions

The applicants are required to send a 3-5 page overview of their teaching achievements (positioned in the context of the teaching environment at the applicant's institution) and favored strategies to committee chair. Beyond this page limit, applicants may attach supporting exhibits, such as those listed below as desired forms of evidence. POMS urges department chairs or peers to encourage worthy candidates to apply.

Award Criteria

In their evaluation of these materials, the judges will give primary attention to:

1. Evidence of *pedagogical excellence*. This evidence may take forms such as student evaluations, letters of support from former students or assessments of knowledgeable colleagues.
2. Evidence of *creativity and/or innovation*, which the applicant might express in approaches to teaching (e.g., team teaching, student teams, action learning, role playing, use of technology, etc.) and/or new ways for understanding actual operations problems and the methods that can be applied to deal with them (e.g., frameworks, software, etc.). This evidence could consist of descriptions of teaching techniques by the applicant, letters from students or other academics, or other materials.
3. Evidence of *impact*. Various types of evidence could be offered to demonstrate that the applicant's teaching has influenced the world of POM. Having taught large numbers of students is certainly one measure of impact. But more important is evidence that the applicant's teaching has influenced behavior. This could be documented via letters from former students, statements from people in industry who have hired former students, letters from other academics who have themselves been influenced by the applicant's teaching (e.g., by adopting a book, case or course structure).