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IN THIS ISSUE

Dear CORS members,

In this issue, we present the first Bulletin of 2026, featuring a message from our President, Dr. Marco Bijvank, along with updates from the CORS Council highlighting recent discussions and decisions of interest to the Society. This issue includes important information about the 2026 CORS Annual Conference in Kingston, including a brief extension of the abstract submission deadline, as well as a call for proposals to host the 2027 CORS Conference.

We also invite members to engage with numerous opportunities to contribute to and be recognized by the Society. These include calls for nominations for the 2026–2027 CORS Council, CORS awards such as the Award of Merit, EDI Excellence Award, Student Member Leadership Award, and Student Chapter Recognition, as well as applications for competitions including the Practice Prize, Student Paper Competition, and several Special Interest Group student paper awards. In addition, this issue highlights funding opportunities available to members, including the Traveling Speaker Program, graduate student conference funding, and the EDI Event Fund.

Further updates include news from Special Interest Groups, Sections, and Student Chapters, details on upcoming meetings and conferences, and announcements related to CORS membership renewal and the CORS Diploma. Together, these items reflect the breadth of activities, opportunities, and community engagement across CORS.

Cheers,
Niloofar

Council

President
Vice-President
Secretary
Treasurer
Past President
Councillors

Marco Bijvank
Houra Mahmoudzadeh
Majid Taghavi
Kent Kostuk
Anjali Awasthi
Carlos Zetina (25–26)
Eman Almehdawe (24–26)
Salimur Choudhury (25–27)
Amir Ardestani-Jaafari (25–27)
Hamid Arzani
Joe Naoum-Sawaya, Nadia Lahrichi

Student Councillor
Standing Committee Chairs

Standing Committees

Membership
Education & Student Affairs

Amir Ardestani-Jaafari
Nadia Lahrichi (Education),
Eman Almehdawe (Student Affairs),
Hamid Arzani

Program

Houra Mahmoudzadeh, Marco Bijvank,
Kent Kostuk, conference co-chairs
Amir Ardestani-Jaafari, Marco Bijvank
Joe Naoum-Sawaya, Niloofar Akbarian-
Saravi, Amir Ardestani-Jaafari

Public Relations
Publications

Ad-Hoc Committees

Awards
Award of Merit

Houra Mahmoudzadeh
Anjali Awasthi, Jim Bookbinder
Vedat Verter

Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion

Anjali Awasthi, Eman Almehdawe (co-
chairs), Hamid Arzani

Practice Prize Competition

Peter Vanberkel

Student Paper Competition

(Open) Sébastien Le Digabel
(Undergraduate) Alexander Rutherford

Past Presidents Advisory Board

Anjali Awasthi, Marco Bijvank, past
presidents

SIG Relations

Eman Almehdawe, Salimur Choudhury,
Marco Bijvank

Financial Planning

Kent Kostuk, Anjali Awasthi, Marco
Bijvank, Houra Mahmoudzadeh

Industry

Marco Bijvank, Salimur Choudhury

Micro Events

Amir Ardestani-Jafaari, Marco Bijvank

Nominating
Traveling Speaker Program

Anjali Awasthi
Anjali Awasthi

Appointed Positions

INFOR Editor
Bulletin Editor
IFORS Representative

Joe Naoum-Sawaya
Niloofar Akbarian-Saravi
Majid Taghavi

Administrative Coordinator

Erla Anderson (members@cors.ca)

2025–2026 CORS COUNCIL

President	Marco Bijvank, University of Calgary, president@cors.ca
Vice-President	Houra Mahmoudzadeh, University of Waterloo, vicepresident@cors.ca
Secretary	Majid Taghavi, Saint Mary's University, secretary@cors.ca
Treasurer	Kent Kostuk, Engcomp, treasurer@cors.ca
Past President	Anjali Awasthi, Concordia University, pastpresident@cors.ca
Councillor (2025–2026)	Carlos Zetina, FICO, carloszetina@fico.com
Councillor (2024–2026)	Eman Almehdawe, University of Regina, eman.almehdawe@uregina.ca
Councillor (2025–2027)	Salimur Choudhury, Queen's University, s.choudhury@queensu.ca
Councillor (2025–2027)	Amir Ardestani-Jaafari, UBC Okanagan, amir.ardestani@ubc.ca
Student Councillor	Hamid Arzani, University of Toronto, hamid.arzani@rotman.utoronto.ca
Standing Committee Chair	Nadia Lahrichi, École Polytechnique de Montréal, nadia.lahrichi@polymtl.ca
Standing Committee Chair	Joe Naoum-Sawaya, Western University, jnaoum-sawaya@ivey.ca

SECTION AND CHAPTER PRESIDENTS

Atlantic	Claver Diallo, Dalhousie University, claver.diallo@dal.ca
Quebec	Irène Abi-Zeid, Université Laval, irene.abi-zeid@osd.ulaval.ca
Montreal	Nadia Lahrichi, Polytechnique Montréal, nadia.lahrichi@polymtl.ca Anjali Awasthi, Concordia University, anjali.awasthi@concordia.ca
Ottawa	Onur Ozturk, University of Ottawa, ozturk@telfer.uottawa.ca
Kingston	Salimur Choudhury, Queen's University, s.choudhury@queensu.ca
Toronto	Vahid Roshanaei, University of Toronto, v.roshanaei@utoronto.ca
Southwest Ontario	Joe Naoum-Sawaya, Western University, jnaoum-sawaya@ivey.ca
Saskatoon	Mohammadreza Nematollahi, University of Saskatchewan, nematollahi@edwards.usask.ca
Calgary	Marco Bijvank, University of Calgary, marco.bijvank@haskayne.ucalgary.ca
Edmonton	Armann Ingolfsson, University of Alberta, armann.ingolfsson@ualberta.ca
Vancouver	Elaheh Ghasemi, University of British Columbia, elaheh.ghasemi@ubc.ca Salar Ghotb, University of British Columbia, salar.ghotb@ubc.ca
Quebec Student	Razieh Mousavi, Université Laval, razieh.mousavi.1@ulaval.ca
Waterloo Student	Atahan Bayir, University of Waterloo, abayir@uwaterloo.ca
Montreal Student	Camille Pincon, Polytechnique Montréal, camille.pincon@etud.polymtl.ca
Toronto Student	Bradley Hallett, University of Toronto, bradley.hallett@mail.utoronto.ca
Hamilton Student	Maryam Mashayekhi, McMaster University, masham3@mcmaster.ca
Okanagan Student	Paria Rostamian, UBC Okanagan, pariaros@mail.ubc.ca
Alberta Student	Erfan Rafieikia, University of Alberta, rafieiki@ualberta.ca
Kingston Student	Tasnim Ahmed, Queen's University, tasnim.ahmed@queensu.ca

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear members of CORS, colleagues, and friends,

We are well underway in the new year. After several unusually warm weeks in Alberta, with temperatures reaching as high as 18°C, and the days gradually lengthening, it is a pleasure to share this latest CORS Bulletin with you. While Council has been working diligently behind the scenes to streamline processes and strengthen continuity across roles, many of our members are also busy preparing for the 2026 CORS Conference, taking place June 8–10 at Queen's University in Kingston.

We are delighted that Martin Puterman (UBC) will deliver the Harold Larnder Memorial Lecture and Craig Boutilier (Google) the IFORS Distinguished Lecture. The organizing committee has also arranged a Thousand Islands Cruise (tickets sold separately), adding a memorable social highlight to the program. My sincere thanks to Vedat Verter, Salimur Choudhury, and the entire organizing committee for putting together what promises to be an outstanding conference - the first CORS Conference ever held in Kingston.



Please mark your calendars and register starting March 1 (<https://site.pheedloop.com/event/cors2026/home>).

The conference will once again showcase the exceptional work of our students. In addition to the traditional Student Paper Competition Open and Undergraduate Categories, a record of seven Special Interest Groups are hosting their own competitions. This growth reflects the increasing strength and maturity of our Society in recognizing and celebrating student excellence. Please encourage your students to apply and watch for the various deadlines outlined in this Bulletin. Note that CORS/SCRO continues to offer financial support to graduate students attending CORS 2026. The application deadline is March 27, 2026. More information is available at <https://cors.ca/content/graduate-student-funding-attend-cors-conferences>

I am also pleased to announce the launch of the new CORS/SCRO Rising Star Award. This award recognizes early-career members who demonstrate exceptional promise and impact in Operational Research across academia, industry, government, or the not-for-profit sector. It celebrates emerging leaders whose work advances the visibility and application of OR. Eligible members are encouraged to apply by April 15, 2026; details are provided in this Bulletin.

If you are looking for ways to contribute to the Society, I encourage you to consider serving on CORS Council for the 2026–2028 term. Students can also get involved by applying to become Student Representative or by joining the leadership team of a Student Chapter. These roles provide meaningful opportunities to shape the future of the Canadian OR community and to turn ideas into action. We also remain open for proposals to host the 2027 CORS Conference.



Your engagement is essential to the vibrancy and continued growth of CORS/SCRO. Thank you for your ongoing commitment, and I wish you an enjoyable read of this Bulletin and a productive spring. I look forward to reconnecting with the next Bulletin in May.

Warm regards,

Marco Bijvank

President, Canadian Operational Research Society (CORS/SCRO)

marco.bijvank@haskayne.ucalgary.ca

Council Corner

This section of the CORS Bulletin highlights recent discussions by the CORS Council and motions of particular interest that have been passed.

- We had our 4th council meeting in January.

2026–2027 CORS COUNCIL: CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

There are three positions to fill for the 2026–2027 CORS Council.

To nominate a CORS member to serve in one of these positions send their name and contact information to Houra Mahmoudzadeh (vicepresident@cors.ca).

Please make sure your nominee is aware of the nomination. Note that self nominations are welcomed.

For more details regarding the various positions visit: <https://www.cors.ca> in particular, see the Bylaws and Administrative Handbook documents online at <https://www.cors.ca/content/library>

All nominees will be contacted and asked to provide a writeup for the May edition of the Bulletin.

Councillor (Two-year term 2026–2028)

Two open positions

Four councillors sit on council and participate in the management of the society. Often, councillors are called upon to chair or serve on ad hoc or standing committees and to work on special projects.

Student Councillor (One-year term 2026–2027)

The Student Councillor represents the interests of our student members and advocates on their behalf. The Student Councillor has the same voting privileges as other Councillors.

2026 CORS ANNUAL CONFERENCE

If you have already submitted your CORS 2026 abstract, we thank you very much.

For those who have missed the submission due date of February 1st, we would like to announce a brief extension. The **final submission deadline** is **February 16th, 5:00pm EST**.

The conference website will be closed to new submissions after the deadline, while it will still be possible to edit the abstracts already in the submission system.

Please select the most relevant track for your abstract during submission. If you have received an invitation email from a session chair, they will inform the track chair about the presentations in the session.

Looking forward to seeing you all in Kingston on June 8th, unless you will be attending CHOW on June 7th.

Best regards,

Salimur Choudhury & Vedat Verter
Co-Chairs, CORS 2026



Call for Proposals: 2027 CORS Conference

This is a call for proposals to host the CORS Conference in 2027. All proposals will be evaluated by CORS Council. A proposal to host the 2027 CORS Conference should address the following:

1. The name of the conference chair (or one of the conference co-chairs) to serve as the primary contact between conference organizers and the Society officers. The names of other people involved in organizing the conference, such as the program chair.
2. The planned conference dates. The conference shall be held between mid-May and mid-June. Any deviation from this timing must be approved by CORS Council.
3. Information regarding the conference venue. This should include the number of tracks your proposal would be able to accommodate including the number of people in the rooms. CORS Council is required to have their Annual General Meeting (AGM) for all attending CORS members during the conference. This has usually been held over lunch on the second day of the conference. Is there a large auditorium available for the meeting? What is the intended location to organize the CORS banquet? Are there sufficient hotel options available within close vicinity of the conference venue?
4. It is important for the CORS officers that the conference runs on at least a break-even basis. Please provide a rough budget for the conference, including facility charges and catering charges (coffee breaks, lunch for the AGM and dinner for the CORS banquet). Include what you anticipate charging for the conference in order to break even. Note that historically, anywhere between 30 to 45% of attendees are students and thus charged significantly less. In the past couple of years, the average charges were about CAD 650 for regular members (CAD 550 for early registration) and CAD 275 for student members (CAD 200 for early registration). Indicate if your institution will be able to contribute sponsorship money to the conference.
5. Please provide any additional information that you feel would be relevant to CORS Council when evaluating the attractiveness of your proposal to host the 2027 CORS Conference.

Full proposals should be sent to the Secretary of CORS, Majid Taghavi, at secretary@cors.ca before **February 20, 2026**.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

CORS Membership

***Renew your CORS membership for the period 1 April 2026 to 31 March 2027.
Fees are due by 1 April 2026.***

You may be able to use an NSERC grant to pay membership dues for yourself and your graduate students.

Please renew your membership on the CORS website.

CORS Diploma

The CORS Diploma is awarded by the Canadian Operational Research Society, in association with participating Canadian universities, to recognize CORS members who have successfully completed a program of study which has included significant exposure to operational research in the following areas: OR techniques, probability and statistics, computers and systems, and applications of OR. The objective of the Diploma is to encourage students to pursue an educational program in the field of operational research and to recognize their achievement in successfully completing such a program. It benefits the university by highlighting the fact that a student can gain significant exposure to operational research through a particular course of study offered at that university. It benefits CORS by encouraging students to pursue a career in OR and by attracting new members.

For more information, see the CORS website.

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Traveling Speaker Program

The Traveling Speaker Program (TSP) enables local sections to bring OR practitioners and researchers in Canada as speakers to their local events. To keep costs in line while maximizing the CORS national profile, CORS sponsorship will be limited to 50% of the total expenses, up to a maximum of \$500 per speaker or \$1000 for a single event (conference, workshop). Other expenses can be covered by the local section. The program of the event must acknowledge the contribution of CORS. The president of the local section must contact the TSP Coordinator to obtain approval for funding at least one month in advance of the event date. Payment will be made by the CORS Treasurer upon receipt of the Expense Form.

The president of the local section fills out the application form on the CORS website and submits the form to the TSP Coordinator Anjali Awasthi (pastpresident@cors.ca)

Graduate Student Funding to Attend CORS Annual Conferences

Description

CORS partially funds graduate students attending CORS annual meetings.

Eligibility

The candidate must be:

- A Student Member of CORS
- Enrolled in a graduate program in a field related to operational research
- Studying at a Canadian university or a Canadian citizen or permanent resident studying abroad
- Attend the conference and present proof of attendance to receive any funding.

Selection Considerations

The following criteria are to be used to determine the amount awarded to each eligible applicant:

- Whether the applicant is presenting a paper at the conference.
- Travel cost from student's home city to the conference.

Application Process

The application form for funding is available on the CORS website. Applications must be received at least two months before the conference date to receive full consideration. Applicants who meet this deadline will be notified at least one month before the conference date whether their application was successful.

Administration of Funding

The CORS Education Chair determines who will receive funding and the amount of the award. The CORS Treasurer administers the distribution of funds after receiving confirmation that the student attended the conference.

Reimbursement Process

Students must submit proof they attended the conference (e.g., boarding pass, selfie at conference site) within 30 days of the Annual CORS Conference to the CORS Treasurer (treasurer@cors.ca) and must copy their supervisors on the email. The CORS Treasurer administers the distribution of funds after receiving confirmation that the student attended the conference and will notify the student's supervisor.

Applicants fill out the application form (<https://www.cors.ca/content/form/student-funding>)

The application deadline is **27 March 2026**

CORS Education Chair Nadia Lahrichi (nadia.lahrichi@polymtl.ca)

EDI Event Fund

CORS is pleased to announce the opening of applications for the Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) Event Fund. This grant is designed to support individuals, groups, and organizations in creating events that actively promote and celebrate equity, diversity, and inclusion within the OR community. We invite you to submit your innovative event proposals for consideration.

About the fund

The EDI Event Fund is aimed at empowering initiatives that foster a more inclusive and equitable environment within the CORS members community. Through this fund, we aim to encourage and support events that:

- Raise awareness about the importance of diversity, equity, and inclusion.
- Create platforms for underrepresented voices and communities to be heard.
- Educate and engage the community in constructive conversations around EDI topics.
- Celebrate and showcase diverse cultures, perspectives, and experiences.

This event could be applied to any communities (e.g., Indigenous community) in different levels (e.g., university, sections, SIGs etc.) within CORS.

Details

Eligibility: Individuals, and groups within CORS are eligible to apply.

Grant Amount: Funds of up to \$1000 will be awarded to selected proposals.

***Application Deadline:* All proposals must be submitted by 31 March 2026.**

Timeline: Proposed events must take place between 1 April and 30 July 2026.

Evaluation Criteria: Proposals will be evaluated based on their alignment with EDI and CORS goals, innovation, impact, feasibility, and community engagement.

Application Guidelines

Interested applicants should submit maximum **two-page proposal*** that includes the following information:

Event Overview: A brief description of the event, including its objectives, format, and intended outcomes.

Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Focus: Clearly outline how the event aligns with EDI principles and contributes to creating a more inclusive environment within the OR community.

Target Audience: Identify the intended audience for the event and explain how it will be accessible and inclusive to diverse participants.



Event Agenda: Provide a detailed agenda or program outline, including speakers, workshops, activities, and any interactive components.

Budget: Breakdown of how the grant funds will be utilized, including expenses for venue, materials, speakers, promotion, and other relevant costs.

Community Impact: Describe the expected impact of the event on the community, such as any anticipated outcomes, learning experiences, or changes in perspectives.

*Proposals written in French will be allowed to submit an additional half page, “in support of evidence demonstrating that French documents require approximately 20% more space than similar English documents. (ref: <https://cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/29300.html>)”

Submission Instructions

Submit your proposal electronically in PDF format to CORS secretary and EDI chair(s) (secretary@cors.ca, anjali.awasthi@concordia.ca, and eman.almehdawe@uregina.ca) by **31 March 2026**. Late or incomplete submissions will not be considered.

EDI Committee

AWARDS: CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

CORS/SCRO Rising Star Award

As a leading society in the field of Operational Research, CORS/SCRO plays an important role in influencing, recognizing, and rewarding its members for their research accomplishments and impact on the OR community. The CORS/SCRO Rising Star Award recognizes members in the early stage of their career who have demonstrated exceptional promise and impact in the field of Operational Research (OR). The award aims to acknowledge emerging leaders whose work contributes significantly to the advancement, visibility, and application of OR in academia, industry, government, or not-for-profit sectors.

The award will be presented during the 2026 CORS Annual Conference, Kingston, ON, Canada. For this award, there will be at most two winners. The first-place winner gets a prize of \$500, and the runner-up gets a prize of \$250. If there is a tie for first place, each winner will get a prize of \$500. Awards will not be given if the nominees do not meet the standards. A certificate and a cheque for the appropriate amount will be presented to the winner(s) at the awards banquet during the CORS Annual Conference.

Eligibility Criteria

- The applicant has obtained a doctoral degree (or an equivalent degree).
- The applicant is within five years of the date of their first independent research-related appointment, defined as a position in which the individual has the autonomy to conduct their own research. For the 2026 CORS Conference, appointments commencing in 2021 or later are eligible. Career interruptions (e.g., parental leave, medical leave) will be considered at the time of nomination.
- The applicant must hold a non-tenured, research-related appointment at a university or organization within Canada at the time of nomination.
- Previous winners of this award are not eligible to apply again. Applicants who were unsuccessful with a previous nomination may reapply, provided they continue to meet the career stage eligibility requirement.
- The applicant must be a CORS/SCRO member in good standing at the time of nomination.

Award Criteria

Nominees will be evaluated based on evidence of excellence and promise in one or more of the following areas:

- **Research and Scholarship:** Innovative contributions to OR theory, methodology, or interdisciplinary research through journal publications and conference presentations.
- **Practice and Impact:** Application of OR methods to real-world problems with demonstrable impact.



- Leadership and Service: Contributions to the OR community, including mentoring, outreach, or professional service.
- Innovation and Visibility: Advancement of OR through novel applications, tools, or engagement beyond the OR community.

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

Procedure for Submissions

By April 15, 2026, please email copies of the materials listed below to the committee chair, Prof. Houra Mahmoudzadeh (vicepresident@cors.ca). The committee chair will acknowledge receipt and distribute copies to the judges. Additions to the portfolio cannot be made after the April 15, 2026, deadline. The portfolio should include the following:

1. A cover letter of no more than two pages that highlights the major contributions of the applicant's entire body of research.
2. A copy of the applicant's resume.
3. Copies of one to three key papers.
4. A maximum of two letters of recommendation for the award from senior faculty describing the applicant's contribution to research or practitioners confirming the successful application of research findings.

The applicant must submit the materials of the first three items as one single PDF document. The letters of recommendation should be sent directly to the committee chair.

Award of Merit

The Award of Merit is presented annually to a current or past member of CORS in recognition of significant contributions to the profession of operational research.

Significant contributions to the profession of OR can include:

- being specially recognized as an operational research practitioner;
- the development of a methodology relevant to the use of operational research;
- the supervision and development of operational research competence in others;
- the promotion of operational research in Canada through talks, presentations, articles, books, or by other means.
- service to CORS at either the national or local level.

Please submit nominations by **2 March 2026** to
CORS Award of Merit Chair Anjali Awasthi (pastpresident@cors.ca)

EDI Excellence Award

We are excited to announce the call for applicants for the prestigious Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) Excellence Award presented by CORS. This award recognizes individuals, groups, or initiatives that have demonstrated outstanding commitment and achievements in advancing equity, diversity, and inclusion within CORS.

About the Award

The EDI Excellence Award is designed to honor those who have gone above and beyond to create a more inclusive and equitable environment for all members of our society. We are seeking applicants who have made significant contributions to promoting diversity, ensuring equal opportunities, and fostering an atmosphere of respect and understanding.

Eligibility Criteria

- Open to individuals or groups within CORS (nominated or self-nomination).
- Applicants must have made notable contributions to advancing equity, diversity, and inclusion within CORS.

Award Categories

Individual/Group Excellence: Recognizing an individual or group of individuals who has shown exceptional dedication to promoting equity, diversity, and inclusion in the area of Operational Research. Contributions related to teaching, research and service will be considered.

Application Guidelines

Interested applicants should submit a maximum two-page* application letter that includes the following information:

- Provide a detailed description of the applicant/group's contributions to EDI within the area of Operational Research.
- Highlight specific achievements, initiatives, or strategies employed to foster an inclusive environment in the area of Operational Research.
- Include supporting evidence such as testimonials, impact metrics, and relevant documentation.

Submissions should be concise, focusing on key achievements.

*Proposals written in French will be allowed to submit an additional half page, "in support of evidence demonstrating that French documents require approximately 20% more space than similar English documents. (ref: <https://cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/29300.html>)"



Selection Process

The CORS EDI committee will evaluate all applications. Applications will be assessed based on the significance of impact, innovation, sustainability, and collaboration. Award recipients will be notified via email and announced at the CORS annual conference.

Recognition

Award recipients will receive a distinguished certificate and 500\$ award honoring their achievement and will be invited to participate at the annual conference as part of the EDI panel discussion

Application Deadline

Please submit your applications in PDF format to CORS secretary and EDI chair(s) (secretary@cors.ca, anjali.awasthi@concordia.ca, and eman.almehdawe@uregina.ca) by **31 March 2026** to be considered for this award. Late submissions will not be accepted.

EDI Committee

Student Member Leadership Award

Description

Every year, CORS recognizes the outstanding service contributions of individual CORS student members to their local student chapter and the Society. This award is a showcase of exemplary dedication to promoting the field of operational research and the CORS society. Awardees will be acknowledged during the Annual CORS Conference.

Eligibility

- Any student member of CORS can be nominated for this award (undergraduate or graduate students or post-doctoral fellows).
- Self-nominations are welcome.
- Previous winners are not eligible.

Nomination deadline: 31 March 2026

Nomination Process

Nominations should include the candidate's name, activities, positions, and duration of service. The Awards Committee will evaluate the submissions and bring forward potential recipients to the Council for approval. Nominations outlining the contributions of the student member are sent to the Chair of the Awards Committee of the CORS council: vicepresident@cors.ca

Selection Criteria

Nominees are evaluated based on their contributions to the CORS society and/or local student chapters. Most significant service includes contributions made during their term as a student CORS councillor and/or serving on the executive committee of an active student chapter.

Award

- The winner receives \$200 and a certificate at the Annual CORS Conference.
- The Awards Committee reserves the right not to name any winners.

Questions? Please contact Eman Almehdawe at Eman.Almehdawe@uregina.ca



Student Chapter Recognition

Description

Every year, CORS recognizes the contributions of active CORS student chapters in serving the Society through certificates at bronze, silver, or gold levels. These certificates recognize the efforts of the members of the student chapters in promoting operational research in the student membership by organizing events related to the scope of CORS, both at the local and national levels. Awardees will be acknowledged during the annual CORS Conference, and certificates will be awarded to successful chapters.

Eligibility

- Any official student chapter of CORS can apply to receive recognition at the appropriate level.
- The application must be submitted by the President of the local student chapter.

Application deadline: 31 March 2026

Application Process

Student chapters submit an application package to the Chair of the Awards Committee of the CORS council: vicepresident@cors.ca

Entry Requirements

The application package must include:

- The names and roles of the executive committee of the student chapter
- The names of all student members of the chapters during the application year
- A copy of any up-to-date chapter documentation (e.g., bylaws)
- A brief report (maximum two pages) outlining the activities held by the student chapter during the application year. Only Chapter activities during the current fiscal year (April 1 to March 31) will be considered.
- A letter of support from the faculty advisor of the student chapter.

Selection Criteria

The CORS Student Chapter Recognition is non-competitive, and three levels of certificates will be issued to qualifying chapters based on the following criteria:

- **Bronze level:** for demonstration of an active and growing student chapter
- **Silver level:** for continuing contribution to the local chapter through multiple local events per year
- **Gold level:** for exemplary contribution to the local chapter and broader CORS society

Questions? Please contact Eman Almehdawe at Eman.Almehdawe@uregina.ca

COMPETITIONS

Practice Prize

Description

The Practice Prize recognizes the outstanding application of OR by practitioners in Canada, and it attracts quality papers to the CORS Annual Conference.

Award

The Prize Committee will determine, at its discretion, First, Second, and Honourable Mention awards and the distribution of up to \$1800 in prize money according to the extent to which the finalists have reported on a completed, practical application with results that had a significant, verifiable, and (preferably) quantifiable impact on the performance of the client organization. Every member of the winning teams receives a certificate.

Eligibility

The applicant must be a resident of Canada. The submission must include work completed over the last two years, but the entire project may have taken place over a longer period. The project may include published work, but it cannot have been previously submitted to this competition.

The Process

By **2 March 2026**, applicants must submit electronic copies of the following to the **Chair of the Practice Prize Committee Peter Vanberkel** (peter.vanberkel@dal.ca):

- An abstract, not exceeding 500 words, outlining the successful application of OR.
- A letter from an executive of the client organization attesting that the application had an impact and giving permission for the project to be presented at the CORS Annual Conference.
- The names, titles, phone numbers, and email addresses of all authors and of at least one executive of the client organization.

By **30 March 2026**, the judging committee, consisting of three past winners of the Practice Prize, will select up to four finalists according to the following criteria:

- The challenge of the application of OR and the significance of the problem.
- The quality of the analysis and modeling and implementation of the results.
- The impact on the client organization.

By **27 April 2026**, the finalists must:

- Submit a detailed written report, not exceeding 25 pages in the body, presenting a "case history" of the project describing its development from start to finish and focusing on the challenges and results.
- Submit a one-page project summary including key messages and best practices, suitable for publication in the CORS Bulletin and on the CORS website.

Finalists must present the project at the Practice Prize sessions at the CORS Annual Conference. Based on the written report and the oral presentation, the judges will determine the prizes to be awarded and announced at the banquet. The committee reserves the right not to award any prize.

Student Paper Competition

Application deadline: 30 March 2026

Apply on the 2026 CORS Conference website
<https://site.pheedloop.com/event/cors2026/home>

Description

Each year CORS conducts a student paper competition to recognize the contribution of a paper either directly to the field of operational research through the development of methodology or to another field through the application of operational research. The competition serves to showcase the high quality of OR education in Canada as well as the excellence of the new generation of operational researchers. Prizes are awarded in two categories: Undergraduate and Open.

Requirements

The applicant must be enrolled as a full-time student in a Canadian institution, in an undergraduate, masters, or PhD program during the school year **2025–2026**. Canadians who are studying outside of Canada are also eligible. Papers for which all applicants are undergraduates may be submitted to either category: Undergraduate or Open, but not to both. Papers for which some authors are graduate students must be submitted to the Open category. MBA students (and other specialized master students) must submit to the Open category with their applied projects. Published papers are eligible for the competition only if their initial submission date (for publication) is after the previous year's CORS Annual Conference.

Supervisors and industry partners may appear as coauthors on the paper, but the first authors must be the applicants. The applicants must have made substantial contribution to the project and have written the paper with only minor editorial assistance. If the paper includes such non-student authors, the supervisor should include information about the roles of the various authors when confirming the eligibility of the students.

Entry Requirements

- Abstract of 200 words or less. Author's name, address, phone number, and email address. Make sure the abstract clearly highlights the motivation, contribution, and potential impact of the paper.
- Academic institution and supervisor's name, if applicable.
- Indication of whether the team is planning to attend the CORS Annual Conference if selected as Finalists. Note that papers selected as Finalists must be presented at the conference to further be considered for First Prize or Honourable Mention.
- A PDF copy of the paper:
 - No longer than 35 pages (with minimum 1-inch margins, maximum 34 lines per page, and minimum font size of Times 11) including all figures, tables, appendices, and references.



- The submitted paper must not contain any information identifying the authors or their institutions.
- An email from the supervisor indicating that the participant is the first author of the paper should be sent to the Competition Chair. Supervisors must agree to be part of the competition's arbitration committee, which requires the evaluation of three competition documents in April. If this is not possible, the supervisor should designate an appropriate alternate member of the committee.
- The same paper can be submitted to multiple CORS paper competitions in the same year. However, it CANNOT be selected as finalist to multiple CORS paper competitions in the same academic year (either SIGs, Undergraduate Category, or Open Category). If a paper is selected as finalist by multiple competition committees, then the student has to decide in which competition the paper remains as finalist.
- Once a paper has been awarded as Winner or Runner Up in any CORS paper competition (either SIGs, Undergraduate Category, or Open Category), the same paper cannot be submitted again to a CORS paper competition.

Selection Criteria

- Contribution of the paper either directly to the field of operational research through the development of methodology or to another field through the application of operational research
- Originality
- Writing style, clarity, organization, and conciseness of the paper

Awards

- Prizes are awarded per paper. Cheques are sent to the first authors (unless otherwise specified), and allocation of prize money is up to the co-authors.
- Open Category: First Prize \$500, Honorable Mention \$100. One award per team.
- Undergraduate Category: First Prize \$200, Honorable Mention \$50. One award per team.
- All papers selected as Finalists receive a certificate.
- If an undergraduate student wins the open competition, no undergraduate prize will be awarded. Honourable mentions will be provided if there is no winner.



SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

A SIG provides a mechanism to promote CORS, the SIG area, and the SIG members, as well as the opportunity for CORS members with common interests to interact and network. You can find the SIG webpages on the CORS website.

Analytics SIG

Cecilia Ying, 18yly@queensu.ca
Queen's University

Energy, Environment, & Sustainability SIG

Fuzhan Nasiri, fuzhan.nasiri@concordia.ca
Concordia University

Forestry SIG

Mazyar Zahedi-Seresht, mazyar.zahedi@ucanwest.ca
University Canada West

Health Care Operational Research SIG

Vahid Sarhangian, sarhangian@mie.utoronto.ca
University of Toronto

Quantum Computing for Optimization SIG

Mahzabeen Emu, 20me21@queensu.ca
Queen's University

Queueing & Applied Probability SIG

Amir Rastpour, amir.rastpour@uoit.ca
Ontario Tech University

Teaching & Learning SIG

Mengyu Li, mengyu.li@ufl.edu
University of Florida

Transportation & Logistics SIG

Okan Arslan, okan.arslan@hec.ca
HEC Montreal

If you would like to join a SIG, contact the people listed above, or indicate when you renew your CORS membership. CORS encourages members with common interest in an area within or related to operational research to form additional SIGs. More information can be found on the CORS website.

If you are interested in forming a SIG in a particular area
contact Houra Mahmoudzadeh (vicepresident@cors.ca)

SIG NEWS

Special Interest Group Student Paper Competitions

Energy, Environment, and Sustainability SIG Student Paper Competition

This award acknowledges exceptional scientific contributions to the theory, methodology, and practice of Operational Research (OR) in Energy, Environment, and Sustainability by an undergraduate, graduate student, or a postdoctoral fellow.

Entry Requirements

1. The competition is for the best student paper submitted, published, or accepted for publication in a peer-reviewed journal written on the broad topic of Energy, Environment, and Sustainability. If the paper is published, the publication date must be in the year 2025 or after.
2. Supervisors and industry partners may appear as coauthors on the paper, but the first author must be the applicant. The applicant must have made substantial contributions to the paper.
3. Each applicant can apply with one paper only.
4. At the time the paper was written, the applicant should have been an undergraduate student, a graduate student, or a postdoctoral fellow at a Canadian university or a Canadian citizen studying in a university outside of Canada.
5. Papers selected as finalists must be presented at a special session at the annual CORS conference.
6. The same paper can be submitted to multiple CORS paper competitions in the same year. However, it CANNOT be selected as finalist to multiple CORS paper competitions in the same academic year (either SIGs, Undergraduate Category, or Open Category). If a paper is selected as finalist by multiple competition committees, then the student must decide in which competition the paper remains as finalist.
7. Once a paper has been awarded as Winner or Runner Up in any CORS paper competition (either SIGs, Undergraduate Category, or Open Category), the same paper cannot be submitted again to a CORS paper competition.

Submission

Please, complete [this form](#), including your full name, email, and institution. On the following page, you will provide your paper title and abstract. Abstracts should be 200 words or fewer and must clearly highlight the motivation, contribution, and potential impact of the paper. You are required to submit two PDF files:

- **Your paper (submitted via this portal):**
 - The main text must not exceed 35 pages (minimum 1-inch margins, maximum 34 lines per page, and minimum font size of Times 11), including all figures, tables, and references.
 - An appendix of up to 20 pages is allowed (e.g., for theoretical proofs or additional tables).



- The submitted paper must be anonymized, with no identifying information about the authors or their institutions.
- **Supervisor letter (submitted separately):**
 - A signed letter from at least one supervisor confirming that the participant is the first author of the submitted paper.
 - Supervisors must agree to serve on the competition's arbitration committee, requiring the evaluation of three competition documents. If this is not feasible, the supervisor should designate an alternate committee member.
 - Supervisors may email this information to the corresponding category chair (contact information below).

The Chair of the committee is Dr. Mehrdad Pirnia (mpirnia@uwaterloo.ca) and the selection committee is composed of Drs. Fuzhan Nasiri, Miguel Anjos, and Joe Naoum-Sawaya.

Selection Criteria

1. Contribution of the paper to the field of Energy, Environment, and Sustainability, and operations research,
2. The scale of its impact on the Energy, Environment, and Sustainability community and the public,
3. The originality of the problem and the methods, and
4. Style, clarity, and organization of the paper.

Awards

- The winners will be announced at the banquet of the Society by one of the committee members.
- The first prize will be awarded \$200, and the honourable mention will receive \$50.
- All papers selected as finalists will receive a certificate.

Forestry SIG David Martell Student Paper Prize

The Forestry SIG of the Canadian Operational Research Society is pleased to announce the 12th edition of the David Martell Student Paper Prize (DMSPPF). This prestigious award recognizes outstanding scientific contributions in the theory, methodology, and/or practice of Operational Research (OR) in the forestry industry by students and postdoctoral fellows.

Eligibility Criteria

The competition is open to papers submitted, published, or accepted for publication in a peer-reviewed journal within the two years preceding the competition year. Applicants must have been undergraduate students, graduate students, or postdoctoral fellows at a Canadian university, or Canadians studying abroad, at the time the paper was written.

Each paper can be submitted only once to this competition.



Submission

Link: <https://site.pheedloop.com/portal/event/EVEORFTRQVVXE/submission/CAL1GKZ0M1XXUA5/application#start>

Finalists must be prepared to present their work in a special session at the annual conference.

Important Dates

Application Deadline: March 30, 2026

Announcement of Finalists: April 15, 2026

Presentation at CORS Annual Conference: June 8–10, 2026 in Kingston, ON (Exact date to be announced)

Health Care Operational Research SIG Student Paper Competition

Students whose academic research is related to health care are eligible to enter the [CORS Healthcare SIG Student Paper Competition](#). The applicant must be enrolled as a full-time student in a Canadian institution, in an undergraduate, masters, or PhD program during the 2025-2026 school year. Canadians who are studying outside of Canada are also eligible to enter.

Paper Evaluation and Selection Process

The [CORS HCOR SIG executive committee](#) will select four finalists based on the following criteria:

- The paper's contribution to the field of healthcare operations and at least one of operational research/management, economics, business analytics, or artificial intelligence.
- The originality of the methodology.
- The potential real-world impact on health systems or policy.
- The quality of the writing in terms of clarity, coherence, organization, and conciseness.

Entry Requirements

- **Author information:** Name, address, academic affiliation, and email address.
- **Abstract:** 200 words or less, clearly highlighting the motivation, contribution, and potential impact of the paper.
- **Paper submission:** A PDF of the paper that does not contain any identifying information and is no longer than 35 pages (minimum 1-inch margins, maximum 34 lines/page, and minimum font size of Times 11) including all figures, tables, appendices, and references.



- **Supervisor confirmation:** An email from the supervisor attesting that the applicant is the first author of the submitted paper. Supervisors must also agree to be part of the competition's arbitration committee, which requires evaluating three competition documents in **April**. Failure to complete these reviews on time will result in automatic disqualification of their student's paper.
- **Multiple submissions:** The same paper can be submitted to multiple CORS paper competitions in the same year. However, it cannot be selected as a finalist in multiple CORS paper competitions (SIGs, Undergraduate Category, or Open Category) in the same academic year. If a paper is selected as a finalist by multiple committees, the student must decide in which competition the paper remains as a finalist.
- **Resubmission policy:** Once a paper has been awarded as Winner or Runner-Up in any CORS paper competition (SIGs, Undergraduate Category, or Open Category), it cannot be submitted again to any CORS paper competition.

Submissions are due by **March 30, 2026**, and must be submitted through [this platform](#).

In-Person Presentation

To be eligible for either a first prize or an honorable mention, papers selected as finalists must be presented by the student author. Presentations will take place during this year's [CORS Conference](#), scheduled for **June 8 to 10 in Kingston, Ontario**.

Each presentation will have a maximum duration of 20 minutes, excluding question-and-answer time. Evaluation criteria for the presentations include:

- Professionalism of the presenter.
- Clarity and coherence of the seminar.
- Depth of the ideas discussed.
- Overall effectiveness of the talk.
- Adherence to the allotted time.

Paper and presentation evaluations will jointly determine the winner and runner-up.

Prize Details

Winner: \$200

Runner-up: \$50

Prize money will be sent to the first author, and the allocation among co-authors is at their discretion.

All papers selected as Finalists receive a certificate.



Quantum Computing for Optimization SIG **Student Paper Competition**

This award acknowledges scientific contributions to the theory, methodology, and practice of Quantum Computing for Optimization by an undergraduate, graduate student, or postdoctoral fellow.

Entry Requirements

- The competition is for the best student paper submitted, published, or accepted for publication in a conference or peer-reviewed journal on the broad topic of Quantum Computing for Optimization.
If the paper is published, the publication date must be 2025 or later.
- Supervisors and industry partners may appear as co-authors, but the applicant must be the main author and must have made substantial contributions to the paper.
- Each applicant may submit one paper only.
- At the time the paper was written, the applicant must have been:
 - an undergraduate student,
 - a graduate student, or
 - a postdoctoral fellow at a Canadian university, or a Canadian citizen studying at a university outside of Canada.
- **Papers selected as finalists must be presented in a special session at the annual CORS conference by the student author.**
- A paper may be submitted to multiple CORS paper competitions in the same year. However, it may not remain a finalist in more than one competition in the same academic year.
If selected as a finalist by multiple committees, the student must choose one competition in which the paper will remain a finalist.
- A paper that has previously received a Winner or Runner-Up award in any CORS paper competition (SIG, Undergraduate, or Open Category) is not eligible for resubmission.

Submission

To enter the competition, please submit your entry by **March 30, 2026**, using the “**Student Paper Competitions**” link on the conference website:

Detailed Instructions for Participants (Same as Open Category): <https://site.pheedloop.com/portal/event/EVEORFTRQVVXE/submission/CAL1GKZ0M1XXU A5/application#start>

A signed letter from at least one supervisor confirming that the participant is the first author of the submitted paper.

Any questions related to the competition should be sent by email to the committee chair: Mahzabeen Emu (memu@mun.ca)



Selection Criteria

- Contribution of the paper to the field of Quantum Computing for Optimization
- The scale of its impact on the quantum computing operations research community and the public
- Originality of the problem and methods
- Style, clarity, and organization of the paper

Awards

The winners will be announced at the banquet of the Society by one of the jury members.

- First Prize: \$200
- Honourable Mention: \$50
- All papers selected as finalists will receive a certificate.

Transportation and Logistics SIG **Gilbert Laporte Student Paper Award**

This prestigious award acknowledges exceptional scientific contributions to the theory, methodology, and practice of Operational Research (OR) in Transportation and Logistics by an undergraduate, graduate student, or postdoctoral fellow. The award was named in honour of Professor Gilbert Laporte for his outstanding contributions to the development and applications of OR in Transportation and Logistics in Canada and beyond.

Entry Requirements

1. The entrants must be a Transportation and Logistics Special Interest Group (SIG) of CORS member in the year of the competition.
2. The competition is for the best student paper submitted, published, or accepted for publication in a peer-reviewed journal written on the broad topic of Transportation and Logistics. If the paper is published, the publication date must be in the year 2025 or after.
3. Supervisors and industry partners may appear as coauthors on the paper, but the applicant must be the main author and must have made substantial contributions to the paper.
4. Each applicant can apply with one paper only.
5. At the time the paper was written, the applicant should have been an undergraduate student, a graduate student, or a postdoctoral fellow at a Canadian university, or a Canadian citizen studying in a university outside of Canada.
6. Papers selected as finalists must be presented in a special session at the annual CORS conference by the student author.



7. A paper may be submitted to multiple CORS paper competitions in the same year. However, it may not remain a finalist in more than one competition in the same academic year. If a paper is selected as a finalist by multiple competition committees, the student must choose one competition in which the paper will remain a finalist.
8. A paper that has previously received a Winner or Runner-Up award in any CORS paper competition (SIG, Undergraduate, or Open Category) is not eligible for resubmission to any future CORS paper competition.

Submission

To enter the competition, please submit your entry by the deadline **March 30, 2026** using the “*Student Paper Competitions*” link on the conference website: <https://site.pheedloop.com/event/cors2026/home> A supervisor letter must also be submitted certifying that the entrant and the paper satisfy the eligibility conditions. The jury is composed of Maryam Darvish, Borzou Rostami and Okan Arslan. Any questions related to the competition should be sent by email to the committee chair: Okan Arslan.

Selection Criteria

1. Contribution of the paper to the field of transportation and logistics and operations research,
2. The scale of its impact on the transportation and logistics community and the public,
3. The originality of the problem and the methods, and
4. Style, clarity, and organization of the paper.

Awards

- The winners will be announced at the banquet of the Society by one of the jury members.
- The first prize will be awarded \$200, and the honourable mention will receive \$50.
- All papers selected as finalists will receive a certificate.

Teaching and Learning SIG Teaching Competition

The Teaching & Learning SIG will host its Teaching Competition at CORS 2026 in Kingston, Ontario, and this is a friendly reminder to submit your entry by **Sunday, March 1, 2026**.

The competition features a Pecha Kucha–style format (20 slides, 20 seconds each, total 6 minutes 40 seconds) and is open to all CORS members interested in showcasing innovative approaches to teaching and learning in operations research, management science, operations management, and data science.

Submissions should be prerecorded (MP4 or PowerPoint with embedded timing) and emailed to Dr. Mengyu Li, Chair of the Teaching and Learning SIG, at mengyu.li@ufl.edu

Finalists will be notified by **Wednesday, April 1, 2026**, and will present live at CORS 2026, with cash prizes of \$200 for First Prize and \$50 for Honorable Mention.



☀ Teaching Competition Announcement: CORS 2026 ☀

The Teaching and Learning SIG is thrilled to launch the **inaugural Teaching Competition at CORS 2026**, taking place in **Kingston, Ontario**! This exciting new event celebrates excellence, creativity, and impact in teaching and learning across **operations research, management science, operations management, and data science**.

🎯 Why Participate?

This competition is your chance to shine by sharing **research ideas, insights, and outcomes; case studies; innovative teaching tools; assessment approaches; or educational games** in a way that is **clear, engaging, and accessible to a non-technical audience**. Whether you're a student, researcher, or faculty member, we invite you to bring your ideas to life and inspire others through effective communication and creative storytelling.

📄 Competition Format: Pecha Kucha Style

- **20 slides** (including title, affiliation, and acknowledgements)
- **20 seconds per slide**, advancing automatically
- **Total presentation time:** 6 minutes 40 seconds (400 seconds)
- See the video description at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eLgYwqBOM0U>

📁 Submission Details

- **Format:** Prerecorded video (MP4) or PowerPoint with embedded timing
- **Eligibility:** Open to all CORS members
- **Submission deadline: Sunday, March 1, 2026**
- **How to submit:** Email your video (or link) to **Dr. Mengyu Li** (mengyu.li@ufl.edu), Chair, Teaching and Learning SIG
- **Finalists notified by: Wednesday, April 1, 2026**

⏱ Judging Criteria



Submissions will be evaluated based on:

- **Clarity and accessibility:** Transforming complex research/teaching topics into memorable, digestible takeaways.
- **Relevance to education in Operations Research, Management/Decision Science, and Operations Management.**
- **Creativity and audience engagement:** Utilizing strategically selected images and visuals to enhance understanding and convey insights
- **Adherence to the Pecha Kucha format:** Designing 20 slides, each timed for 20 seconds, including the title slide
- **Clear learning objectives:** Highlighting who and how the intended audience will benefit from your topic
- **Effective and compelling delivery style:** Defining the problem and its significance, presenting the solution, and highlighting its impact.



Awards & Recognition

Finalists will present live at the **CORS 2026 Annual Conference** in Kingston, Ontario, competing for:

-  **First Prize:** \$200
-  **Honorable Mention:** \$50

The presentation format will mirror that of the recorded videos. Selected submissions may also be featured on the **CORS Teaching and Learning SIG webpage**, extending the reach and impact of your work.

We can't wait to see your ideas, creativity, and passion for teaching. **Join us in celebrating innovative approaches to teaching and learning at CORS 2026!**

For questions, please contact: **Mengyu Li**, Chair, Teaching and Learning SIG, ✉ mengyu.li@ufl.edu

SECTION & CHAPTER NEWS

Quebec Student Chapter

Faculty Advisor: Maryam Darvish

President: Razieh Mousavi

Vice-President: Maude Gagné

LinkedIn Page Launch

We are excited to announce the launch of our official LinkedIn page! Follow us for updates on events, seminars, and opportunities:

[CORS Quebec Student Chapter LinkedIn](#)

Website Update

Our chapter website has been updated with all recent activities and upcoming events:

[CORS Quebec Student Chapter Website](#)

Recent Activities

📅 December 2025

Seminar: Robust Optimization for Logistic Problems

Presented by: Rafael Ajudarte de Campos, PhD candidate in Operations and Decision Systems at Université Laval. This talk explored how Robust Optimization can incorporate uncertainty into classical logistics problems, including the capacitated p-median and vehicle routing problem variants.

Organizer: Razieh Mousavi



Seminar: Multi-Depot Poultry Production Routing Problem under Production Uncertainty

Presented by: Samuel Gbèya, PhD candidate in Operations and Decision Systems at Université Laval.

This talk addressed optimization challenges in the poultry sector, focusing on multi-depot routing under uncertainty related to mortality rates on farms.

Organizer: Razieh Mousavi



Upcoming Event

February 5, 2026, | 10:00 – 11:00 AM EST

Workshop: CV Writing & Job Search Workshop – Define Your Path Forward!

Speaker: Maude Gagné, PhD candidate in Operations Research at Université Laval and procurement department lead at a pharmaceutical wholesaler.


This workshop will help graduate students leverage their skills and successfully transition into professional roles. Maude's experience in both industry and academia gives her a unique perspective on career pathways and hiring expectations.

Location: Université Laval, Pavillon Palasis-Prince, Room 3313


Organizer: Razieh Mousavi (CORS Quebec Student Chapter)


Define your path forward!

CV Writing & Job Search Workshop



Speaker: Maude Gagné
Maude currently leads the procurement department of a pharmaceutical wholesaler while pursuing a PhD in Operations Research at Université Laval. Her experience in industry and academia gives her a unique perspective on career pathways, hiring expectations, and how graduate training translates to the job market. She is passionate about helping graduate students leverage their skills and successfully transition into professional roles.






Feb 5
10AM- 11 AM EST

Location: Université Laval Pavillon Palasis-Prince, Room 3313
Organizer: CORS Quebec student chapter
Questions: Razieh.mousavi.1@ulaval.ca

Language: English



Montreal Student Chapter

- **Workshop on Robust and Stochastic Optimization – January 29th**

Professor Masoumeh Kazemi presented robust and stochastic optimization for designing reliable decisions under uncertainty. Through examples and applications, we highlighted their key principles, main differences, and the contexts in which each approach is most relevant.



- **Next event: From OR Ideas to Real-World Decisions: An Industry Panel with IVADO Labs – February 5th**

We are organizing an industry panel in partnership with IVADO Labs, an applied AI and analytics team helping organizations worldwide tackle complex decision-making problems using operations research.

This event is aimed at students and early-career researchers interested in how OR ideas turn into real-world industry solutions. The discussion will cover consulting project design, how OR is combined with machine learning and generative AI, real applications (planning, scheduling, routing, resource allocation), and career paths from academia to industry.



MEETINGS AND CONFERENCES

Business Meetings

11 June 2025	Meeting #1, Conference
19 Sep 2025	Meeting #2, Teleconference
14 Nov 2025	Meeting #3, Montreal, Que.
23 Jan 2026	Meeting #4, Teleconference
27 Mar 2026	Meeting #5, Teleconference, Financial Planning Committee
24 April 2026	Meeting #6, Teleconference
7 June 2026	Meeting #7, Conference, Kingston, Ont.
8 June 2026	Meeting #8, Conference, SIGs, Sections, Chapters
9 June 2026	Meeting #9, Conference, CORS AGM

CORS Annual Conferences

8–10 June 2026 Annual Conference, Kingston, Ont.

<https://site.phedloop.com/event/cors2026/home>

WWW Conference Listings

CORS: <https://www.cors.ca/content/cors-annual-conferences>

INFORMS: <https://www.informs.org/Meetings-Conferences>

IFORS: www.ifors.org/web

Netlib Conference Database: <ftp://ftp.cc.ac.cn/netlib/confdb/Conferences.html>

SIAM: www.siam.org/meetings/calendar.php

POMS: <https://pomsmeetings.org>

EURO: www.euro-online.org/web/pages/460/calendar



THE NEXT ISSUE

The next issue of the Bulletin will be published in **May**. Contributions to this issue, especially news on the activities of local sections or CORS members, should be submitted by **5 April 2026** to

Niloofer Akbarian-Saravi
Editor, CORS Bulletin
Email: Niloofer.akbarian@ubc.ca

The preferred method of submission is by an MS Word attachment to an email.

BULLETIN TRANSLATION POLICY

Items that are CORS business will be translated into English and French. All other items will be published in the language in which they are submitted.

BULLETIN ADVERTISING POLICY

Ads cost \$120 per page, proportional for fractional pages. Logos and prepared layouts can be accommodated. This fee also includes distribution of the advertisement on the CORS Mailing List. Direct inquiries to the Editor.

MAILING LIST

As a benefit of membership, members may use the CORS Mailing List to transmit messages, announcements, and job postings to the entire membership or to a targeted subgroup such as a local section. For example:

- messages regarding the activities and business of the society
- announcements about conferences, conference sessions, special journal issues, seminars, or other activities if these are related to operational research in its broadest sense
- job postings of general interest to CORS members

The Mailing List is not used for commercial purposes, and all messages are vetted before they are sent out. To submit items to the Mailing List, please email members@cors.ca

For non-members, a fee of \$60 is charged for the distribution of job postings and other announcements or messages of interest to the CORS membership.

The **Canadian Operational Research Society** was founded in 1958. Its goal is to advance the theory and practice of OR and to stimulate and promote contacts between people interested in the subject.

Publications: A quarterly scientific journal called *INFOR* and a news *Bulletin*.

Meetings: An annual national conference with an award ceremony, occasionally organized jointly with an international society (IFORS, INFORMS), and numerous local events organized by local sections.

Local Sections & Chapters: CORS has 11 local sections and 8 student chapters located throughout Canada.

Awards and Prizes: CORS presents the following annual awards and prizes at its conference:

Award of Merit for significant contributions to OR of a present or past member.

Harold Larnder Award to an individual who has achieved international distinction in OR.

Omond Solandt Award to an organization, private or governmental, that is deemed to have made an outstanding contribution to OR in Canada.

Practice Prize for the challenging application of the OR approach to the solution of applied problems.

Eldon Gunn Service Award for outstanding contributions of time and service to the society.

Student Paper Competition to recognize the contribution of a paper either directly to the field of OR through the development of methodology or to another field through the application of OR.

EDI Excellence Award to recognize outstanding commitment and achievements in advancing EDI within CORS.

EDI Event Fund to support initiatives that actively promote and celebrate EDI within CORS.

Student Member Leadership Award in recognition of exemplary leadership in service to the Society as a student member.

Student Chapter Recognition in recognition of members of student chapters in promoting OR in the student membership at the local and national levels.

Graduate Student Funding: CORS encourages attendance of graduate students at its conference by providing partial funding. Visit the CORS website for details.

CORS Diploma: This diploma is awarded to students graduating from a university curriculum comprising several OR courses. Criteria can be found on the CORS website.

Membership Directory: An online directory of CORS members is available as a membership benefit.

To join CORS: Go to the CORS website and join using the form found under membership.

Fees: Member \$170; Retired Member \$55; Student Member \$65 (including post-doctoral researchers)

[Website](#)

[X](#)

[INFOR](#)

[LinkedIn](#)

[Instagram: cors.scro2025](#)

CORS

Atlantic – Québec – Québec Student – Montréal – Montréal Student – Kingston – Kingston Student – Ottawa
Toronto – Toronto Student – Hamilton Student – Waterloo Student – Southwest Ontario – Saskatoon
Alberta Student – Calgary Edmonton – Okanagan Student – Vancouver

<https://www.cors.ca>