

SECTION 18

EDUCATION

NUMBER 18.1 EDUCATION STRATEGY COMMITTEE

REVISED: FALL 2025; WINTER 2024; SPRING 2022; SUMMER 2017

POLICY

The purpose of the Education Strategy Committee is to encourage, propose, and advocate for innovative programs that support and advance the educational mission of INFORMS. It serves as a strategic communication bridge between INFORMS staff and knowledgeable leaders in industry and academia, enabling two-way dialogue that identifies trends, needs, and opportunities. In addition, it functions as a sounding board for education initiatives, coordinates efforts across education-related committees to foster collaboration and offers the VP of Education deeper insights to inform discussions with the INFORMS Board.

PROCEDURES

Membership

The members of the Education Strategy Committee are nominated by the Vice President of Education with approval of the Executive Committee. Committee membership will be comprised of the current chairs of all the active education committees (CTL, Ed outreach, etc.) plus 3-4 additional members recommended by the VP of Education that will represent other important voices in academic and industry areas.

Committee members will be considered and selected based on their expertise and experience and with an awareness that diversity of background and thought is invaluable. All members shall serve for a 2-year term with the possibility of reappointment for an additional term. New members will be appointed annually to stagger the terms and provide continuity. Committee members will be considered and selected based on their expertise and experience and with an awareness that diversity of background and thought is invaluable. The Education Strategy Committee is part of the Education Group cluster of committees whose Board Liaison is the Vice President of Education. The Director of Education and Industry Outreach shall be an *ex officio* member of the committee. The Vice President of Education will serve as Chair.

The Vice President of Education is elected for a two-year term by the membership of INFORMS, normally an INFORMS general election, according to the bylaws of the organization. Candidates for the position should have demonstrated experience in education leadership along with active participation in the functions of INFORMS. The Vice President may run unopposed for a second two-year term.

Functions

The Education Strategy Committee acts as a coordinating body of all the education-related activities of INFORMS. It provides a structure for the incubation of new ideas, the sharing of progress of ongoing projects, and the collaboration across committees, while also providing INFORMS staff with key insights from knowledgeable professionals. Key functions may include:

1. Serve in an advisory capacity, supporting decision-making through informed dialogue
2. Review performance of all the education committees
3. Provide quarterly updates on committee activities, challenges and opportunities
4. Provide INFORMS Staff with valuable insights into industry trends, academic needs, connections

5. Serve as a valuable link for INFORMS to other professional associations, consortia, etc.

Relation to the Board

The Education Strategy Committee will report to the Board through the Vice President of Education. Reporting is by written reports submitted to the Vice President of Education, and the INFORMS staff liaison, at least one month prior to the Spring and Fall INFORMS Board of Directors meeting.

Meetings

The committee will meet at least once per year, typically at the INFORMS annual meeting, with additional meetings scheduled as needed.

The Education Strategy Committee will review the committee's work periodically, but not less than once every four years, to determine whether the P&P and the committee are still aligned and continuing to benefit INFORMS and our members.

RELATED DOCUMENTS:

INFORMS Policies and Procedures Manual, Section 2.1 General Committee Procedures
INFORMS Policies and Procedures Manual, Section 4.3 Nominations and Elections for the Board

NUMBER 18.2 EDUCATION OUTREACH COMMITTEE

REVISED: FALL 2025; SPRING 2022; WINTER 2020; SUMMER 2017; WINTER 2020

POLICY

The primary purpose of the Education Outreach Committee is to encourage students toward eventual careers in OR/MS and analytics, to raise awareness of these disciplines and their relevant applications among K- 12, community college, undergraduate, and graduate students and the faculty who teach these audiences. In addition, the committee aims to support/promote the teaching of OR/MS and analytics in K-12, community college, early college, and graduate curricula.

PROCEDURES

Membership

The Education Outreach Committee shall consist of a chair, , and any other INFORMS member who is interested in developing outreach strategies to students and faculty at all educational levels. The Chair shall be appointed by the Vice President of Education with approval of the Board. The chair shall serve for a 3-year term with the possibility of reappointment for an additional term. The committee may establish subcommittees. Sub-committee chairs are nominated by the Vice President of Education, with the approval of the Executive Committee and membership is open to any INFORMS member. The chair and any chairs of established subcommittees will be responsible for setting and facilitating the implementation of the strategic vision of the committee. The chair, and any chairs of established subcommittees will be the decision-making body of the committee. Chairs will be considered and selected based on their expertise and experience and with an awareness that diversity of background and thought is invaluable. It is expected that at least one member of the Education Outreach Committee be a liaison from the Committee on Teaching and Learning.

As his/her term of office nears its end, the Education Outreach Committee Chair shall poll (in written form) his/her committee members about their interest in chairing the Committee. Based on these responses, the Education Outreach Committee Chair shall make chair recommendations to the Vice President of Education. It is preferred that the chair should have served previously as a member of the committee or another relevant committee(education and/or outreach).

Functions

The committee's emphasis shall be concentrated on providing resources for middle school, high school, community college, undergraduate, and graduate educators to integrate OR/MS and analytics principles into existing courses or to introduce new courses/modules highlighting these disciplines. The committee will recommend activities and, upon consultation with the Education Strategy Committee (and the Board when necessary), will develop creative and innovative educational programs and materials. Part of this recommendation process will involve documenting key aspects of the proposed activities in order to assist stakeholders in the evaluation and approval process. Information related to the objective(s), audience(s), costs, timeline, and alignment to INFORMS strategic goals, will be expected. To foster leadership, reduce redundant workstreams, and encourage widespread member involvement, the Education Outreach Committee shall delegate activities and duties to members of the committee, and should draw upon volunteer efforts from other committees including, but not limited to, the Committee on Teaching and Learning and the Combined Colloquia Committee, as much as possible.

Relation to the Board

The Committee will report to the Board through the Vice President of Education. Reporting is by written reports submitted to the Vice President of Education, and the INFORMS staff liaison, at least one month prior to the Spring and Fall INFORMS Board of Directors meeting.

Meetings

The committee will meet at least once per year, typically at the INFORMS annual meeting, with additional meetings scheduled as needed.

Review

The Education Strategy Committee will review the committee's work periodically, but not less than once every four years, to determine whether the P&P and the committee are still aligned and continuing to benefit INFORMS and our members.

RELATED DOCUMENTS:

INFORMS Policies and Procedures Manual, Section 2.1 General Committee Procedures

NUMBER 18.3 COMBINED COLLOQUIA COMMITTEE

REVISED: FALL 2025; FALL 2024; FALL 2022; FALL 2019; SUMMER

POLICY

The future of the profession is with our students and those who train them. Hence, the Institute annually sponsors a set of colloquia for students and for new faculty. All relevant academic departments are invited to nominate participants for each colloquium.

PROCEDURES

Membership

The Committee shall consist of an overall Combined Colloquia Chair, as well as two co-chairs for each of the individual colloquium who report to the Combined Colloquia Chair. The Combined Colloquia Chair shall serve a two-year term, and the individual colloquium chairs will each serve two-year, staggered terms. The Combined Colloquia Chair shall be appointed by the Vice President of Education with the approval of the Board. The individual colloquia co- chairs shall be appointed by the Combined Colloquia Chair with the approval of the Vice President of Education. If desired, the Combined Colloquia Chair may appoint additional members of the committee with approval of the Vice President of Education. Chairs and members will be considered and selected based on their expertise and experience and with an awareness that diversity of background and thought is invaluable.

Functions

The Combined Colloquia Committee is responsible for putting on these colloquia. Unless otherwise approved by the Board, all of these colloquia take place immediately preceding the start of the INFORMS annual meeting. While admission to these colloquia is handled separately, there may be joint meals and plenary presentations.

Relation to the Board

The Committee will report to the Board through the Vice President of Education. Reporting is by written reports submitted to the Vice President of Education, and the INFORMS staff liaison, at least one month prior to the Spring and Fall INFORMS Board of Directors meeting.

Procedural Notes

1. The colloquia should be held at the main conference hotel if affordable rooms can be assured.
2. If possible, the appointed Colloquia Chairs should attend the prior year's Colloquia
3. It is important to advertise the Combined Colloquia and to send announcements to all OR/MS Ph.D.-granting programs, all OR/MS academic units, and student chapters.
4. Invitation to professional participants (e.g. faculty) should be made early enough that teaching replacements can be found to allow them to attend.
5. Pricing per student and per faculty member for the colloquia will be determined based on the colloquia costs. It is expected that student

pricing will be lower than faculty pricing.

6. Significant changes to the colloquia content, structure, or pricing should be
    i. Submitted for approval to the Education Strategy Committee.
7. INFORMS aims to create an environment that expands opportunities and achievement for all members of our community. This value should be reflected in the programming of the Combined Colloquia.

Meetings

The committee will meet as needed to coordinate the programming of the event. It is expected the colloquia chairs as well as the combined chairs attend the colloquia events in-person.

Review

The Education Strategy Committee will review the committee's work periodically, but not less than once every four years, to determine whether the P&P and the committee are still aligned and continuing to benefit INFORMS and our members.

RELATED DOCUMENTS:

INFORMS Policies and Procedures Manual, Section 2.1 General Committee Procedures
INFORMS Policies and Procedures Manual, Section 11.7 Student Affairs Committee

NUMBER 18.4 ACADEMIC PROGRAM DATABASE

REVISED: FALL 2025 - SUNSET (WORK ASSUMED BY ED STRATEGY); 2017

NUMBER 18.5 UNIVERSITY PROFESSIONAL PROGRAMS COMMITTEE

REVISED: 2025 FALL; 2019; SUMMER 2017

POLICY

The University Professional Programs Committee (UPP) brings together representatives of analytics/data science and similar programs on the undergraduate and graduate level. The goals of the committee are to provide systemization and guidance both to newly forming and established analytics programs, and to provide a forum that will allow program representatives to learn from one another.

PROCEDURES

Membership

The committee shall consist of a chair, a vice chair, and a representative from interested undergraduate and graduate analytics' programs. . The vice chair will be expected to succeed the chair at the end of their term. While not a specific total is not mandated, it's expected that the committee will have 6-8 members in order to effectively and efficiently perform its functions. All committee members shall serve for a 2-year term with the possibility of reappointment for an additional term. Appointments will be made annually to stagger the terms and provide continuity. Officers will be considered and selected based on their expertise and experience and with an awareness that diversity of background and thought is invaluable. The chair shall be appointed by the Vice President of Education with the approval of the Board. The vice chair will be chosen by the committee chair with the approval of the Vice President of Education. Committee members are nominated by the Vice President of Education, with the approval of the Executive Committee.

Functions

1. Support provided by the committee may include: Facilitating the sharing of ideas and information across institutions, including serving as a resource to connect similar programs for best-practice exchange.
2. Overseeing MAPD, including the planning and execution of MAPD event(s).
3. Developing and maintaining benchmarking data (e.g., enrollments, placements, faculty) for use by analytics and data science programs.
4. Increasing awareness of academic programs being developed and offered, which may include maintaining a database or listing of such programs.
5. Establishing additional subcommittees, as needed, to address specific focus areas or short-term initiatives (e.g., student competitions).
6. Providing INFORMS staff with feedback on faculty and student needs and collaborating on initiatives that improve student and program outcomes.

Subcommittees

The committee may establish subcommittees as needed to address specific focus areas or short-term initiatives. In addition, there shall be a standing subcommittee responsible for organizing the Meeting of Analytics Program Directors (MAPD) events. Chairs of all subcommittees are appointed by the UPP Committee Chair, with input from the Vice President of Education.

Relation to the Board

The Committee will report to the Board through the Vice President of Education. Reporting is by written reports submitted to the Vice President of Education, and the INFORMS staff liaison, at least one month prior to the Spring and Fall INFORMS Board of Directors meeting.

Meetings

The committee will meet regularly by teleconference and at least once in person annually, usually at the INFORMS Annual Meeting.

Review

The Education Strategy Committee will review the committee's work periodically, but not less than once every four years, to determine whether the P&P and the committee are still aligned and continuing to benefit INFORMS and our members.

RELATED DOCUMENTS:

To be added

NUMBER 18.6 COMMITTEE ON TEACHING AND LEARNING

REVISED: 2017; 2025 FALL BOARD

POLICY

The Committee on Teaching and Learning brings together individuals interested in the teaching and learning of OR/MS and analytics in all settings and at all educational levels. The goals of the committee are to develop strategies and structures that will allow instructors to network and learn from one another. Additionally, the Committee will facilitate volunteer efforts to support INFORMS education activities.

PROCEDURES

Membership

The committee shall consist of a chair, two vice chairs, and any other INFORMS member who expresses interest in the teaching and learning of OR/MS and analytics. All officers shall serve for a 2-year term with the possibility of reappointment for an additional term. Appointments will be made annually to stagger the terms and provide continuity. The chair shall be appointed by the Vice President of Education with approval of the Board. The vice chairs will be chosen by the chair with the approval of the Vice President of Education. The committee may establish subcommittees. The committee chair, with input from the Vice President of Education, shall appoint the chairs of established subcommittees. Officers will be considered and selected based on their expertise and experience and with an awareness that diversity of background and thought is invaluable. The chair, vice-chairs, and any chairs of established subcommittees will be the decision-making body of the committee.

Functions

The committee will address important aspects of teaching and learning in OR/MS:

1. Promote sharing and dissemination of resources that support effective teaching of OR/MS and analytics, including by organizing sessions at INFORMS conferences.
2. Coordinate with other INFORMS committees, particularly the Education Strategy Committee and the Education Outreach Committee to provide volunteer support for INFORMS education activities.
3. Support the development of effective teaching of new and continuing faculty through activities such as the Teaching Effectiveness Colloquium and coordination with the Combined Colloquia Committee.
4. Provide a mechanism for the involvement of all INFORMS members interested in effective teaching of OR/MS and analytics.

Relation to the Board

The Committee will report to the Board through the Vice President of Education. Reporting is by written reports submitted to the Vice President of Education, and the INFORMS staff liaison, at least one month prior to the Spring and Fall INFORMS Board of Directors meeting.

Meetings

The committee will meet at each INFORMS annual meeting. Other meetings will take place as needed via teleconference and e-mail communication.

Review

The Education Strategy Committee will review the committee's work periodically, but not less than once every four years, to determine whether the P&P and the committee are still aligned and continuing to benefit INFORMS and our members.

RELATED DOCUMENTS:

INFORMS Policies and Procedures Manual, Section 2.1 General Committee Procedures