Joe (Guiseppe) Labianca, University of Kentucky, explains what the research committee does and how it works.

The members of the OMT Division Research Committee recently wrapped up our recommendations for the division’s best paper award, best symposium award, the Pondy Award for best paper from a doctoral dissertation, and the division’s nominee for the Academy’s Dexter Award for best international paper. The formal announcement of the awards will take place in August at the OMT business meeting, and we hope you all will join us there to congratulate the winners. (We’ll just let the suspense build on who those winners will be until the meeting.)

The process for choosing these awards is fairly straightforward:

- Each reviewer for a paper or symposium is asked whether the submission should be considered for an award.
- The OMT Program Chair sifts through the reviews to find the pieces that were designated as being recommended for an award most often. Those submissions are then forwarded to the OMT Research Committee chair.
- The 4 to 6 submissions in each category (e.g., best paper, best symposium) were then sent to their respective 8 person sub-committees. These sub-committees were assembled with an eye towards having a balanced representation of OMT membership with respect to level (Chaired professors to senior doctoral students), types of schools, international representation, and theoretical orientation.
- The eight reviewers then ranked the submissions in their category, with the highest ranking submission being suggested to the Program Chair as the winner. There was a surprisingly high degree of consensus, particularly when considering how the sub-committees
were assembled with diversity in mind.

If you would like to volunteer to be involved in the activities of the OMT Research Committee (or would like to nominate someone), please contact the committee chair, Giuseppe (Joe) Labianca, Gatton College Of Business & Economics, University of Kentucky, at joelabianca@gmail.com. Committee membership involves no meetings, and a fairly limited time commitment, and we welcome all OMT members to participate. In addition to assisting with the awards, the committee develops PDWs, symposia and content for the OMT website that promotes member skills in research and theory building, and we would love to receive your suggestions for those irrespective of whether you can join the committee.

Action items:

- Please volunteer to join the OMT Research Committee
- Please suggest PDWs, symposia, and content for the OMT website

Giuseppe (Joe) Labianca, OMT Research Committee Chair