CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS
69th Midwest Academy of Management Conference

Host: Metropolitan State University, St. Paul, Minnesota
Conference Dates: October 8-10, 2026
Submissions Deadline: Friday, May 22, 2026 @ 11:59pm (CST)
https://www.mwaom.org

Conference Theme:

People, Ideas, and Purpose: Building Bridges for Research and Community

This year's conference theme, **"***People, Ideas, and Purpose: Building Bridges for Research and Community,***"** invites attendees to explore how meaningful connections can emerge between and among scholars, practitioners, and students. We encourage submissions that help to drive impactful management research and strengthen the communities we serve. Management scholarship thrives when diverse perspectives come together—when innovative ideas are shared across disciplines, when research is guided by a clear sense of purpose, and when academic inquiry extends beyond the university to create real-world value. Our theme encourages participants to engage collaboratively, think boldly, and build bridges that link theory to practice, research to relevance, and people to one another.

Submission Types and Descriptions *(adopted/modified from AOM and EAOM)*

- *Traditional Paper***:** a fully developed manuscript (up to 30 pages) on a scholarly topic. Accepted traditional papers will be invited for presentation at the conference and will be eligible for consideration in the JMI-MWAOM Special Issue.
- *NEW: Case Study Track*: Empirical or teaching case studies that illustrate management challenges, decision-making processes, or organizational outcomes in real-world contexts. Submissions should clearly describe the setting, key issues, analytical framework, and insights for practice or pedagogy (see below for further details).
- *Extended Abstract:* concise and structured summary of research, limited to 1250 words. Accepted extended abstracts will be invited to present during specialized sessions at the conference.
- *Professional Development Workshop (PDW)***:** This is a platform for colleagues to share knowledge and expertise and foster the professional development of workshop participants.
- *Symposium/Panel***:** several speakers discuss a common topic or theme in a manner that brings new insights to the subject.
- *Poster***:** submitted as a 250-word abstract and presented as a visual/illustration that summarizes information and research concisely and attractively in a poster display for conference attendees to view. Please be sure to include a draft poster in your submission.
- *NEW: Research Roundtable:* submitted as a 300-400-word abstract and presented as a short discussion and description of your research plan. This is an interactive session in which the scholar briefly presents a work-in-progress to a small group of peers, who provide feedback and help with idea development (see below for further details).

To Submit a Paper/Proposal: https://www.openconf.org/mwaom2026/account/signup.php
Submissions Deadline: Friday, May 22, 2026 @ 11:59pm (CST)
Acceptance Decisions: Friday, July 10, 2026

• *Accepted papers/proposals must have at least 1 author to register for the conference and to present. All participants who plan to attend and/or present in a session must register for the conference.*

2026 Program Chair: Marcia Hagen (marcia.hagen@metrostate.edu)

Midwest Academy of Management Tracks for 2026

Conference Tracks	Track Chairs
Entrepreneurship, Small Business Management, & Innovation	Kristin Burton (burto122@pnw.edu) Al Fattal Anas (aalfatta@crk.umn.edu)
Human Resources, Diversity, & Careers	Crystal Saric Fashant (crystal.fashant@metrostate.edu)
Leadership & Ethics	Eric Grube (grube@csp.edu) Krysten Plautz (krysten.plautz@my.metrostate.edu)
Management Education & Innovative Instruction	Lesley Page (pagele@lewisu.edu)
Organizational Behavior	Jennifer Malarski (jennifer.malarski@minneapolis.edu) Jim Schultz (james.schulz@my.metrostate.edu)
Organizational Development	Velvet Landingham (vweemsl@kent.edu) Ifey Ajaiyeoba (ogunyomi@uwp.edu)
Case Studies (new for 2026)	Erica Berte (Erica.berte@metrostate.edu)
Strategy	Allan Bernard (Allan.Bernard@wartburg.edu)
Supply Chain, Information Systems, & Technology	Deepa G Iyer (d.iyer@csuohio.edu) Apo Oguz (a.oguz@csuohio.edu)
Toward Impactful Research – *Extended Abstracts*	Rachel Lundbohm (rlundboh@crk.umn.edu) Ronda Smith (ronda@fit.edu)
Posters	Scott Stone (scott.stone@my.metrostate.edu) Joy Kanu (joy.ibedionu@uta.edu)
Research Roundtables (new for 2026) - Good for works-in-progress	Suanne Barthol (suanne.barthol@metrostate.edu) Shoptorshi Rahman (shoptorshi.rahman@metrostate.edu)

Reviewers play a key role in academic conferences by providing authors with constructive feedback on improving their work, and this feedback is used to determine submissions selected for acceptance at the conference.

To sign up to review submissions, go to:
https://www.openconf.org/mwaom2026/account/signup.php, enter the keycode *reviewer2026* in the "Sign Up- Keycode" section, click Enter, and fill out the requested information. Any questions or issues with signing up as a reviewer can be sent to Carla Flores, Director of OpenConference **(ccflores@bsu.edu).**

CONFERENCE EVENTS and SPECIAL PROGRAMS

Doctoral Consortium – Thursday, October 8, 2026

The Midwest Doctoral Consortium will be held on Thursday, October 8, 2026. If you are a currently enrolled doctoral student in business or a related area and are interested in attending, please email **MWAOMconsortium@mwaom.org** the following information:

• Name
• College/University
• Program description (DBA, Ph.D., etc.)
• Program area (i.e., OD, OB, HR, Strategy, etc.)
• Program Status or expected completion date (e.g., May 2026)
• Your specific area(s) of interest

JMI-MWAOM Scholarship

The Journal of Managerial Issues (JMI), which partners with MWAOM to publish a special issue featuring top papers from our annual conference, has graciously provided a scholarship on behalf of the journal. This scholarship provides funding for conference registration to support scholarly engagement and knowledge exchange. Eligible scholars are invited to apply—please watch for details and the application link on the MWAOM website.

Midwest Academy of Management Mentoring Program

The Midwest Academy of Management Academic Mentorship Program is designed to connect aspiring academics with established professionals in the field. This program focuses on research, teaching, and administrative aspects of career development for MWAOM members. The mentorship program aims to provide structured guidance and support to mentees, fostering their growth and success in academia.

The primary objective of the MWAOM Academic Mentorship Program is to facilitate the professional development of early-career academics. Mentees will benefit from the valuable experience, knowledge, and insights of their mentors, who will guide them in navigating the complexities of research, teaching, and administration. By fostering these key areas, the program aims to enhance the mentees' career prospects and academic growth.

Participating as a mentor or mentee in the MWAOM Academic Mentorship Program offers numerous benefits. For mentees, it provides a unique opportunity to receive personalized guidance from seasoned professionals, gaining valuable insights that can shape their academic journey. Mentors have the chance to make a significant impact by sharing their expertise, contributing to the growth and development of the next generation of academics. Both mentors and mentees will have the chance to build lasting professional relationships and expand their networks within the Midwest academic community.

The MWAOM Academic Mentorship Program welcomes participants who are passionate about research, teaching, and administration. Mentees should demonstrate a strong commitment to their career development, along with the willingness to actively engage with their mentors. Mentors should possess extensive experience in academia and be willing to dedicate their time and knowledge to guide and support mentees.

For more information, contact Jakari Griffith or Hanna Kalmanovich-Cohen at (membership@mwaom.org).

NEW: Case Study Track:

The Case Study Track invites submissions of instructional case studies in all business disciplines, and at any level of development. These are factual, research-based narratives of real organizational situations, designed to support learning by engaging students or participants in management-related analysis, discussion, and decision-making. Case studies submitted to the Case Study Track may be decision-focused (in which students are placed in the role of a decision-maker and asked to recommend actions) or descriptive (in which learners are challenged to evaluate whether an issue was handled effectively), based on primary field research or substantial secondary sources.

Cases should be factual, grounded in real organizational contexts, and free of fictional or

fabricated elements. Case studies at three levels of development are accepted: Embryo cases, Cases without Instructor's Manual , and Cases with Instructor's Manual. Please see Submission Guidelines for further details.

NEW: Research Roundtable:

Research round table sessions are intended for research that is in-process. They are a highly interactive conference format designed to support works in progress and to foster constructive scholarly dialogue. Rather than delivering a formal paper presentation, presenters are seated at tables and briefly introduce their research project, explaining study design, current literature, and planned methodology—to a small group of attendees. Audience members rotate among tables at set intervals, allowing each presenter to receive feedback from multiple perspectives over the course of the session. This format emphasizes conversation, clarification, and critique, and it is particularly well suited for students and early career faculty who are refining research questions, methods, or theoretical contributions.

Submissions for a research round table should be made in a form similar to that of an extended abstract, not a full paper. The extended abstract should clearly describe the purpose of the study, relevant literature or theoretical grounding, methodology or proposed approach, and expected or preliminary contributions. It should be written concisely and focus on what feedback would be most valuable at this stage of the project. For this session, submissions are limited to 1,250 words. Please see Submission Guidelines for further details.