



CALL FOR CONFERENCE PROPOSALS Information Packet

The QAI Global Institute is seeking presenters, tutorial instructors, and workshop facilitators interested in sharing their expertise and solutions at the 2009 QUEST Quality Engineered Software and Testing Conferences.

Please read this information packet before using the QUEST Conference Proposals online application.

QUEST Conference Dates

You are invited to submit a proposal for one or both of the 2009 QUEST conferences:

QUEST Chicago: April 20 – 24, 2009
QUEST Toronto: Fall, 2009

Overview

There are several options for participating in these QUEST conferences:

Half-Day Tutorial - Instructor
Full-Day Tutorial - Instructor
Industry Practices Presentation - Presenter
Solutions Benchmarking/ Case Study Presentation – Presenter
Solutions Workshop - Facilitator
Best Practices Workshop – Presenter/Facilitator
Product/Service Demonstration – Presenter in EXPO Theatre

This packet includes a description of each option along with the specific qualifications for each option. Conference instructors, presenters, and facilitators are provided a complimentary registration for the tutorials and 3-day conference. Travel expenses are the responsibility of the participant. To view past QUEST Conferences programs visit:
<http://www.gaiquest.org>.

Tutorial - Instructor

There are half-day tutorials planned for Monday and full-day tutorials planned for Tuesday of the conference week. Tutorials are an in-depth exploration of a specific topic and are conducted as a training class, including lecture and exercises to enhance the learning experience.

Qualifications: Preference will be given to individuals who have expert level knowledge in the topic, including having authored publications and prior teaching experience.

Software Quality Tutorials Topics	Testing Tutorial Topics
Agile Methods	Performance Testing
Inspections	Requirements-Based Testing
Measurement	Security Testing
Process Improvement/Six Sigma	Test Automation
Project Management	Test Estimation
Release Management/Quality Gates	Test Design
Requirements	Test Management
Risk Management	Test Planning



Along with a complimentary registration, tutorial instructors receive \$500 for a half-day tutorial and \$1,000 for a full-day tutorial. Tutorial instructors are also encouraged to submit a proposal for giving an Industry Practices Presentation and offering one-on-one coaching sessions to conference attendees on Wednesday and Thursday of the conference week.

Industry Practices Presentation

Industry Practices Sessions are planned for the 3-day conference (Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday) in four or five concurrent conference tracks. These sessions are 60 minutes in length and give conference attendees the opportunity to learn from the knowledge and diverse experience of IT software quality and testing industry leaders. The focus of these sessions is information sharing, and products or services should not be marketed during these sessions. For marketing opportunities, please see Product/Service Demonstration in EXPO Theatre.

Qualifications: Preference will be given to individuals who have recognized expert level knowledge in the topic, who frequently speak at conferences, and who have authored book(s) or published information on the topic. For the topics marked with an asterisk, the presenters are also required to participate with other track presenters in the end-of-day Solutions Workshop session within their track. Throughout the day of their presentation, presenters are also encouraged to be available for one-on-one expert coaching sessions with conference attendees who sign up for a coaching session.

Software Quality Sessions Topics	Testing Sessions Topics
Quality Management	Test Management
Risk Management	Test Planning *
Defect Management	Test Estimation
Inspections	Test Design
Measurement	Test Techniques
Requirements *	Test Automation *
Assessments/CMMI	Performance Testing
Process Improvement/Six Sigma	Security Testing
People/Team Effectiveness *	Regression Testing
Agile Methods	Integration Testing
Release Management/Quality Gates	

* Indicates topic has an end-of-day solutions workshop

Solutions Benchmarking/Case Study Presentation

There are Solutions Benchmarking Sessions planned for the 3-day conference (Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday) in four or five concurrent conference tracks. These sessions are 60 minutes in length and give conference attendees the opportunity to compare their software quality and testing practices against those of other companies and organizations, by listening to the solutions successfully implemented by their peer managers and practitioners.

Qualifications: Preference will be given to managers and practitioners who have implemented successful, practical solutions within their companies and have proven ability to speak effectively to large audiences. To qualify for this type of session, consultants will need to present a case study of the software quality or testing practices implemented at a client company or their own company. For the topics marked with an asterisk, the presenters are also required to participate with other track presenters in the end-of-day Solutions Workshop session within their track. Throughout the day of their presentation, presenters are also encouraged to be available for one-on-one expert coaching sessions with conference attendees who sign up for a coaching session.



Software Quality Sessions Topics	Testing Sessions Topics
Quality Management	Test Management
Risk Management	Test Planning *
Defect Management	Test Estimation
Inspections	Test Design
Measurement	Test Techniques
Requirements *	Test Automation *
Assessments/CMMI	Performance Testing
Process Improvement/Six Sigma	Security Testing
People/Team Effectiveness *	Regression Testing
Agile Methods	Integration Testing
Release Management/Quality Gates	

* Indicates topic has an end-of-day solutions workshop

Solutions Workshop

The Solutions Workshops are planned for Thursday of the conference week. These sessions are 90 minutes in length and are at the end of the day. Within a track, Solutions Workshops are intense and highly interactive workshops that provide a unique opportunity for conference attendees to focus on a specific topic area in a facilitated environment with a facilitator and track presenters as well as with their peers from other companies.

Collective skills and knowledge will be leveraged to develop pragmatic and achievable solutions to the attendees' top issues within a topic area. The inputs to this workshop will be the uppermost concerns gathered during the track sessions. A prescribed format is used in the workshop for facilitation, group discussions and solutions.

Qualifications: Facilitators are responsible for planning and leading the discussion in the Solutions Workshop following the prescribed workshop format. Facilitators are also required to attend the prior sessions within the track to gather key issues of attendees to be addressed in the workshop. Preference will be given to individuals with proven facilitation skills and knowledge on the topic.

Solutions Workshops Topics
Requirements
People/Team Effectiveness
Test Planning
Test Automation

Best Practices Workshop

The Best Practices Workshops are planned for the conference on Friday in concurrent tracks. These sessions are 2 hours in length. The Best Practices Workshops provide attendees insight into proven practices for improving software quality and testing through processes, people, tools and organizational change. Best practices will be presented through lecture plus group discussion and hands-on exercises in a workshop environment. The attendees will leave the workshop with materials that they can bring back to apply within their own company or organization.

Best Practices Workshops Topics
Organizational Change
People/Team Effectiveness
Process Improvement
Tools Effectiveness



Quality Engineered Software and Testing Conferences

LEARN - ASSESS - APPLY - CONNECT

Qualifications: Workshop leaders are responsible for presenting proven best practices relevant to the topic and structuring a workshop that provides group discussion and exercises that enhance understanding of the best practices. The workshop leaders are responsible for providing workshop materials that attendees can bring back to their companies or organizations. Preference will be given to individuals with proven facilitation skills, expert knowledge on the topic, and a proven practice.

Product/Service Demonstration in EXPO Theatre

Product demonstrations and services discussions are planned for the conference on Wednesday and Thursday within the exclusive QUEST EXPO Theatre. These sessions are 30 minutes in length and give conference attendees the opportunity to learn more about specific software quality and testing tools and services in the marketplace. The QUEST EXPO Theatre provides a forum for marketing products and services. *Preference will be given to vendors who participate in the Exhibitor EXPO and are QUEST sponsors. For information about participating in the Exhibitor EXPO and sponsorships, visit www.qaiquest.org.*

Conference Proposal Selection Process

The QUEST conference program committee selects proposals based upon:

- Fit within the planned conference topics
- Specific qualifications listed for each type of session
- Level of innovation (we are looking for fresh ideas to solve problems)
- Level of practicality and application (theoretical and conceptual presentations are discouraged)
- Proven use in real-world situations
- Facilitators are selected based upon past facilitation experience and topic knowledge

Conference Proposal Schedule

QUEST Chicago 2009

September 10, 2008 – Deadline for submitting Chicago conference proposals

October 10, 2008 – Acceptance notifications are sent

October 31, 2008 – Edited abstract and biography approved (photo needed for tutorial instructors)

January 31, 2009 – Final PowerPoint slides due

QUEST Toronto 2009

December 31, 2008 - Deadline for submitting Toronto conference proposals

January 31, 2008 – Acceptance notifications are sent

February 28, 2008 – Edited abstract and biography approved (photo needed for tutorial instructors)

June 30, 2009 - Final PowerPoint slides due