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 QUEST Quality Engineered Software and Testing Conference.

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

QUEST Conference Dates and Location

QUEST Dallas: April 19 – 23, 2010
Dallas / Plano Marriott at Legacy Town Center

Overview

There are several options for participating in the QUEST conference:

Half-Day Tutorial - Instructor
Full-Day Tutorial - Instructor
Industry Practices Presentation - Presenter
Solutions Benchmarking/ Case Study Presentation – Presenter
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 5-day QUEST Conference. Travel expenses are the responsibility of the participant. To view past QUEST Conferences programs visit: http://www.qaiquest.org. For a tentative program by day, visit http://www.qaiquest.org/dallas .

Conference Papers

New for the QUEST 2010 conference proposal process is the submission of a paper. Although not mandatory, we highly encourage you to submit a 2,000 word paper on your topics, along with completing the required on-line proposal information. The paper will be used by the QUEST Program Committee during the proposal selection process. Also papers will be selected for publication in QUEST Magazine or the QAI Journal.

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 training, including lecture and exercises to enhance the learning experience.

Monday Full-Day Classes Topics	Tuesday Half-Day Tutorial Topics
Agile Methods	Test Planning
Measurement	Test Design
Exploratory Testing	People Skills
Test Management	Leadership Skills
Requirements	Requirements-Based Testing
	Risk-Based Testing
	Test Automation (2 half days)
	Process Improvement
	Governance/Quality Gates.

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

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 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. 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. 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
Application Lifecycle Management (ALM)	Test Center of Excellence
Quality/Test Value	Risk-Based Testing
Defect Management	Test Planning
Quality Management	Performance Testing
Leadership/Teams	Web-Based Testing
Process Improvement	Test Design
Personal Excellence	Test Automation
Assessments/Audits	SOA Testing
Release Management	Unit Testing
	Test Data/Environments

Solutions Benchmarking/Case Study Presentation

Solutions Benchmarking Sessions are planned for the 3-day conference (Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday) in 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. 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
Agile Methods	Test Management
Measurement	Scenario Based Testing
Requirements Management	Test Planning
Quality Management	Performance Testing
Leadership/Teams	Regression Testing
Inspections/Reviews	Test Data/Environments
Governance/Quality Gates	Globalization/Outsourcing

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Best Practices Workshop

The Best Practices Workshops are planned for the end of the day on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday in five concurrent tracks. These sessions are 1.5 hours in length on Wednesday and Thursday and 2 hours in length on Friday to conclude the conference. 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.

Software Quality Workshops Topics	Testing Workshops Topics
Agile Methods	Test Management
Measurement	Exploratory Testing
Requirements Management	Test Design
Process Improvement	Test Automation
Organizational Change	Security Testing
Inspections/Reviews	Tools Implementation
People Competency	
Process – Lean/Six Sigma	

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 Dallas 2010

September 14, 2009 – Deadline for submitting conference proposals
October 16, 2009 – Acceptance notifications are sent
October 31, 2009 – Edited abstract and biography approved (photo needed for tutorial instructors)
January 31, 2010 – Final PowerPoint slides due