

Preface to the BPM 2026 Dissertation Award, Doctoral Consortium, and Demonstration & Resources Forum

This volume contains the papers presented at the Dissertation Award, Doctoral Consortium, and Demonstration & Resources Forum at the 24th International Conference on Business Process Management (BPM 2026), organized by the University of Toronto, Canada.

The Dissertation Award recognizes the excellence and innovative contributions of emerging researchers in the BPM community. Eligible candidates include all dissertations officially completed after January 1, 2025. This year's edition received a record number of 14 submissions, all of very good or excellent quality, covering a broad range of topics, from process compliance management to business process simulation and process mining. This breadth reflects the strong interest of emerging researchers in advancing the different areas of the BPM discipline. The winner will receive the award at the BPM Conference 2026 in Toronto, Canada, along with a prize of CAD 2,000. In addition, the winner will be offered the opportunity to publish their dissertation in Springer's LNBIP series.

The Doctoral Consortium aims to help PhD students to find their path through their PhD project, providing them with feedback and guidance and integrating them into the community. Students were invited to submit their PhD proposals, which were each reviewed by three senior researchers. We were happy that we could accept 14 proposals for presentation at the DC. These proposals cover a range of topics, from process automation over process dynamics, predictive process monitoring to object-centric process mining. At the DC, PhD students got together senior researchers to get advice on the individual proposal as well as their overall career.

The Demonstration & Resources Forum at BPM 2026 presents 21 contributions that showcase tools, platforms, datasets, and resources. The program features object-centric modeling and simulation, AI agents and conversational support for process modeling, educational tools for teaching process modeling and process mining, declarative and compliance-oriented approaches, and event data resources together with techniques for comparing and querying models and logs.

The organizers of the Dissertation Award, Doctoral Consortium, Demonstration & Resources Forums would like to express their gratitude to all individuals, institutions, and sponsors that supported BPM 2025. A special thanks goes to all members of the committees who contributed to make the tracks a success.

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