The SEM Executive Committee together with the SEM Administration have recently introduced a streamlined process for Best Paper Awards that is uniform across all TDs and all SEM conferences. As the Best Paper Award has been a long-standing tradition in our TD, the TD Leadership has decided to continue under the new process. To be considered for an award, authors must indicate so when they submit their abstracts for the SEM Annual Conference, which as we know happens in October of the year preceding the Conference/Meeting. A checkbox on the SEM Abstract submission page will be available for authors to select their preference. Authors must submit a full-length paper (4 pages +) to be considered. The judging will be performed by the TD Leadership and will be based on the written paper only; oral presentation quality will no longer be part of this process. This change was required in order to be able to present the Best Paper Award at the Awards Luncheon at the Meeting where the paper is first presented, which is a change from past years when the Award was given at the following year’s Awards Luncheon. The TD Leadership will select the paper by consensus based on the originality of the work, alignment with the Dynamic TD technical focus area, and writing quality. Following tradition, a Best Paper award does not have to be given out each and every year. SEM has requested be notified of a decision six weeks prior to the conference to allow time for the award certificates and programs to be printed in time for the Awards Luncheon. Finally, if authors opt to submit their conference paper to the Journal of Dynamic Behavior of Materials instead of the proceedings, their paper will not be eligible for the SEM Conference Best Paper Award as the paper requirements are for JDBM are different and manuscripts submitted to JDBM will be eligible for the Journal’s best paper award.