

**LCI Qatar-QU guidelines for developing and conducting
the first research competition in the area of lean, lean
startup and lean construction in Qatar
(research proposal and case study submission)**

By:

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Lean Competition - Call for proposal and Case Study Submission

Qatar University (QU) College of Engineering and College of Business & Economics (Center for Entrepreneurship & Organizational Excellence) along with the Lean Construction Institute – Qatar (LCI-Qatar) are pleased to launch the First Lean Competition that is open for participation from all QU and non-QU faculty members, researchers, professionals and students. The aim of the competition is to spread the awareness and to promote lean thinking in Qatar and hence support a positive transformation of the relevant industries in Qatar. This transformation includes (but not restricted to) performance enhancement, generating value, eliminating waste, increasing efficiency and maximizing productivity. As such, this competition will not only facilitate the enhancement of the research activities in the lean area, but it will also increase the engagement of faculty members, researchers and students with industry which is a key component for knowledge and practice advancement.

2. Implementation process

The competition starts with a formal announcement through various channels in QU and LCI-Qatar. All faculty members and students from different QU colleges and other institutions as well as professionals from public and private sectors in Qatar can participate in this competition. They will be able to submit their proposals or case studies through: <https://lci.qa/researchcompetition>. The following broad areas explain the scope of the competition.

No	Topic
1	Spreading awareness of lean, lean thinking, lean construction and lean startup in Qatar
2	Helping to promote understanding of the benefits of lean and the tools supporting its implementation
3	Application of lean to startups, construction enterprise management, design, construction, procurement, supply chain management, health & safety, sustainability etc.
4	Challenges to current thinking

It is recommended to add a faculty member as the lead of the submitted proposal for students' submission (not a mandatory), and we encourage industry professionals to participate in this competition as well. A joint committee from QU and LCI-Qatar will screen and assess the proposals and cases, and the proposals/cases submitted by students will be separately evaluated. At least two internal independent reviewers will review each submitted document (double blinded review process) and provide their feedback.

3. Timelines

All proposals and full case studies can be submitted in English or Arabic language during the period from Feb 22, 2023 to March 20, 2023. The selected proposal and case studies (awards) will be announced in May 2023 (the exact date will be announced later).

4. Guidelines and link for proposal/case study preparation

4.1. Research proposal

The research proposal can be about conducting a novel research (practical or empirical) relevant to the topic set forth earlier. The proposal should be at least two pages (in English or Arabic) excluding the list of references (single space, font 11) consist of title, a summary about the topic, problem and gap, proposed approach, method and required data and list of references, if needed.

Please make sure you do not put your name or any identifying information on the proposal. Your name will be appeared through the following submission link or email.

4.2. Case Study

Writing a case study is another option to participate in this competition. "A business case study is a description of an actual situation, commonly involving a decision, a challenge, an opportunity, a problem or an issue faced by a person (or persons) in an organization. Cases contain relevant data about an issue facing the key decision-maker in the case, as well as background information about the organization or event."¹

We expect the submitted cases to be at least five pages (in English or Arabic) excluding the list of references and appendix (single space, font 11) consist of title, abstract (succinct information on the content with a focus being placed towards the dilemma that the protagonist is facing), learning objectives, introduction (background information on the industry/organization/event and the stakeholders involved as well as dilemma faced by protagonist), main body (present the specific area of interest, including events leading to a challenge or problematic situation), the closing or conclusion section (with a recap of the problem addressed and decision-making point), reference list, and exhibits/appendix if needed.

Please make sure you do not put your name or any identifying information on the case study submission. Your name will be appeared through the following submission link or email.

The official registration and submission link is at <https://lci.qa/researchcompetition>. For any further inquiries, please email us at research@lci.qa or CEO@qu.edu.qa.

5. Funding details

It is the intention of the committee to award up to five best research proposals and case studies in total (10,000 QAR for each). As aforementioned, the submissions of students and faculty members/researchers/professionals will be evaluated separately.

¹ Ivey Business School Foundation. (2022): <https://www.iveypublishing.ca/s/case-writing-resources/the-case-writing-process> (20.02.2023).