

It is our pleasure to announce that Rommel Carvalho, a SEOR PhD student, received one of the top 12 student travel awards given at the 12th International Conference on Information Fusion ([Fusion 2009](#)). Each award carried a \$800 cash prize for travel expenses to attend the conference and present the paper. There were close to 400 submissions to the conference, of which more than 100 student papers participated in the award competition.



Rommel Carvalho with his Best Student Paper Travel Award Voucher.

Fusion 2009 was held in Seattle, Washington, at the Grand Hyatt Seattle Hotel. The objective of the conference was to provide a forum to discuss advances and applications in Information fusion technologies. The theme was "From Low to High Level Information Fusion in the 21st Century!" This year the Conference featured both regular and student paper awards.

Rommel Carvalho is a GRA working for both the Predictive Situation Assessment with Multi-Entity Probabilistic Ontologies (ONR contract) and Information Fusion and Performance Modeling with Distributed Sensor Networks (AFOSR contract) projects at the [Sensor Fusion Lab](#) since Fall 2008, when he arrived from Brazil after finishing his M.Sc. at the University of Brasilia ([UnB](#)). He was co-advised by Dr. [Paulo Costa](#) at that time, when he implemented Dr. [Kathryn Laskey](#)'s Multi-Entity Bayesian Network ([MEBN](#)) as part of the open-source project [UnBBayes](#).

The award ceremony was held at a night reception after the conference and among the attendees were Dr. Kathryn Laskey, Dr. [Kuo-Chu Chang](#), Dr.

Paulo Costa, Dr. [Avi Pfeffer](#), Dr. [Erik Blasch](#), and other GRAs from the SEOR department.



Fusion 2009 award ceremony.

The paper, [A Performance Evaluation Tool for Multi-Sensor Classification Systems](#), can be accessed from Fusion 2009 website, and there is a video tutorial of the proposed system also available, [UnBBayes Performance Evaluation Tool](#).



From left to right, Dr. Avi Pfeffer (CRA), Ashwin Samant, Vikas Kotari, Dr. Kathryn Laskey, Dr. Paulo Costa, Dr. KC Chang, Dr. Erik Blasch (AFRL), and Rommel Carvalho at the Fusion 2009 award ceremony.