

MICCAI Young Scientist Award

Definition and Guidelines; Last Updated: January 15, 2019

Purpose of the Award

The MICCAI Young Scientist Awards (YSA) recognize the highest quality papers that are first-authored by young scientists at the main MICCAI conference. A maximum of five YSA are issued each year. The monetary value of the YSA is \$500 USD, each.

Award Eligibility

MICCAI Young Scientist is someone who is or was a student at a recognized university at most two years prior to the paper submission deadline of the conference.

The paper must be presented in person by the Young Scientist author at the conference. If the paper is selected for both oral and poster, the Young Scientist author must present both.

If a paper is accepted to the conference and the first author is a Young Scientist, then the author should be automatically considered for MICCAI Young Scientist Award. There is no need for a separate application process.

(Note: For the purpose of travel awards Student authors need to be differentiated from Young Scientist authors. The conference's paper submission site should be configured to allow for self-identification as Student or Young Scientist. The site should also include a link to this document defining the award and process.)

Written proof of eligibility under the above definition will be requested if the status of the author is challenged. The final decision of eligibility will be decided by the Conference Chair in consultation with the Award Coordinator and/or MICCAI Society President.

Award Coordinator

The Award Coordinator is appointed by the MICCAI Board; should be is a member of the Board or a senior member of the MICCAI community. The role of the Award Coordinator in the process is administrative, he/she does not vote and refrains from influencing the result. If the Award Coordinator has a conflict of interest with any of the candidate papers, the coordinator is replaced by the MICCAI Board with someone who is free of conflict.

Adjudication

Long List of Candidate Papers

Program chairs select ~30 papers, by review score and recommendations from reviewers and program committee members.

Committee Selection

The Award Coordinator invites preferably 5 cmte members from the conference Program Cmte or senior members of the MICCAI community. None of the cmte members shall have conflict of interest with any of the candidate papers. The cmte shall be balanced in areas of expertise, to cover the topical range of the candidate papers. The cmte is assembled well in advance before the conference, to leave sufficient time for deliberation.

Short List of Candidate Papers

The cmte reduces the long list to the top 15 or so papers. Each cmte member is expected to read each paper, but not expected to provide in-depth review. The cmte members have access to the final papers with author names and affiliations, reviews, discussions, and review scores. The cmte members are not required to rank the papers. Each cmte member gives each paper a score of 0 or 1. Each cmte member can select more than 15 papers with a score of 0, however, no more than 15 with a score of 1. The cmte members submit their short lists to the Award Coordinator in advance of the conference, leaving time for discussion of occasional ties of score. The Award Coordinator sums up the binary scores for each paper. The highest scoring papers constitute the short list. If there is a tie between candidate papers, the Award Coordinator holds a discussion via email or in situ before presentation of the first candidate paper, in order to finalize the short list.

Final Selection of Winners

The cmte members receive the short list of papers and the presentation schedule. Usually, there are some poster-only papers among the candidates. In order to provide an equal chance for all papers, the cmte considers only the poster presentation. The cmte members attend the poster presentation of all candidate papers. If for any reason, a committee member misses the poster presentation, the Coordinator arranges for a make-up poster viewing. The cmte members may choose to attend the oral presentation too, but that is not necessary. The cmte members evaluate quality of scientific contribution made by the Young Scientist author and his/her understanding of the contributions, therefore the poster presentation and discussion is critically important to judge the Young Scientist author's competence and understanding. No topical balancing is done, only the scientific quality of the paper matters and the cmte members use their expertise and best judgment to select the best papers. Each cmte member enters the rank number for each paper. The Award Coordinator sums up the rank numbers for each paper. The lowest scores are the winners. During the conference, the Award Coordinator calls a meeting, the cmte discusses the outcome and resolves any tie. If and only if there is a tie, secondary considerations, such as topical balance may be considered. There is no ranking among the winning papers, each is acknowledged as winner of the MICCAI Young Scientist Award. A maximum of five equal winners are selected.

Integrity of the Process

The award coordinator ensures ethical integrity for the process. Should a potential conflict of interest discovered during the process, the conflict shall be resolved without affliction to the chances of the competing authors and papers, by making appropriate changes within the cmte, such as removing the conflicted cmte member.

Announcement

The awardees, with their institutional affiliation, should be announced individually during an award ceremony of the conference. The shortlist should also be presented at the award ceremony of the conference and on the conference's websites.

Financing

The MICCAI Society provides \$2,500 USD for the YSA annually.

Payment Method

The awards are sponsored by the MICCAI Society and are made by MICCAI Society cheque.

Queries

Queries should be directed to the MICCAI Society Awards Coordinator.