

Guidelines for Student Awards Comparative Cognition Society

(Adopted by CCS Executive committee December 13, 2011)

Best Spoken Presentation award

Guidelines to Identify Candidates:

1. Self-selection upon submission of abstract for annual March meeting. Graduate students will be considered for an award only if he/she "opts in" (check box).
2. To be considered for a spoken presentation award, the grad student must be in an advanced stage in grad school (e.g., post Master's degree).
3. Currently, a graduate student (in good academic standing).
4. Must be willing to participate in separate Paper Competition session. In the event that we cannot accommodate all of the submissions, the Awards Committee will evaluate the abstracts and students who submitted the highest rated abstract submissions will be notified via email.
5. All applicants for consideration must have presented a poster or spoken talk at a previous meeting of the Society.

Criteria to Evaluate Candidates:

1. A 5-point scale will be used to evaluate specific attributes of presentation such as:
 - a. General scientific merit;
 - b. innovation/novelty of experimental hypotheses;
 - c. Clarity of presentation (speaker's "mechanics" of presenting);
 - d. Potential of study for eliciting future research;
 - e. Soundness of conclusions, based on results;
 - f. Speaker's ability to field questions;
 - g. Overall presentation, including all of the above criteria

2. Individual presenter with the highest score wins the best graduate student award for spoken presentation. We may also give an Honorable Mention for another candidate.

Best Poster Award:

1. Similar "opt in" self-identification when submitting an abstract.
2. Any current graduate student (in good standing eligible for competition); need not be post-masters.
3. if possible, all competition posters will be scheduled in the same poster session (or identified with a sticker that CCS will provide at the conference).

Coordination of Judging:

1. All members of the grad student awards committee will attend graduate student presentation session and poster session to serve as judges. In the event that a committee member is a mentor/co-author of a candidate for an award, the committee member will not judge the individual grad student with whom a potential conflict exists.
2. Back-up volunteer judges will be available from meeting attendees, in case a committee member is unable to attend the annual meeting, or, for whatever reason, is unable to attend the specific competition session.
3. Judges will be provided with scoring sheets that will be completed during the sessions, and returned to the Awards Committee chair at the close of the spoken session and the poster session.
4. The Committee Chair and one other committee member will tally votes and identify top award and honorable mention recipients.
5. If not already attending, the award winners will be invited to the banquet.
6. Winners will be announced at the banquet and receive prizes at that time.