



Australasian Association of Philosophy

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AAP POSTGRADUATE PRESENTATION PRIZE

Policy number	PRI 007	Version	003
Responsible person	Convenor(s), Conference Committee	Scheduled review date	April 2020

INTRODUCTION

The Australasian Association of Philosophy (AAP) awards each year a monetary prize for the best paper presented by a postgraduate student at the annual July conference. This prize is offered to encourage postgraduates to present at the AAP Conference, and to recognise the philosophical contributions from excellent Australasian postgraduate students.

PURPOSE

This document prescribes the procedures to be followed in notification, judging and awarding of the Prize.

POLICY

The judging of the prize is to be conducted impartially and confidentially. The finalists and winner shall be chosen based on excellence of philosophical work, in a manner that recognises the diversity of topics and methods in philosophy.

ELIGIBILITY

- Students must be actively enrolled and engaged in a Postgraduate, Higher Degree by Research in Philosophy program in Australia, New Zealand or Singapore..
- Students are eligible to apply for the Postgraduate Presentation Prize as long as they haven't submitted their thesis by the closing date of the prize. If the entrants' thesis has been submitted before the closing date of the prize, they are ineligible.

CRITERIA OF EVALUATION

Papers will be assessed based on the following criteria:

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- Quality of argument
- Overall clarity and coherence of argument
- Novelty/originality
- Impact – significance in relation to existing debates in the field
- Presentation skill (for short-listed papers)

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AAP POSTGRADUATE PRESENTATION PRIZE PROCEDURES

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RESPONSIBILITIES

The Convenor(s) of the conference committee is responsible for arranging the judging of the prize and for notifying the CEO of the judging panel's decision. The Administrative Officer is responsible for ensuring that all applications for the prize are eligible. The CEO will ensure that all documents concerning the award of the prize are classified as having restricted circulation. The CEO is responsible for bringing this policy to the attention of incoming Members of AAP Committees. All Members of AAP Committees are responsible for respecting this policy.

JUDGING PROCEDURES

1. A judging panel for the prize will be appointed as follows. The Convenor(s) of the conference committee will first appoint a Chair for the judging panel (the Convenor(s) can serve as Chair if necessary). The Chair, with the assistance of the Convenor(s) of the conference committee, will then appoint at least two additional members to the panel. Panel members should be professional philosophers and should be chosen to reflect the diversity of philosophy in Australasia. At least one third of panel members must be female.
2. Each paper should be assessed by at least two members of the judging panel according to the four key criteria of: Quality of the argument (internal quality/merit thereof), Clarity of writing (overall clarity and coherence), Novelty/originality, and Impact (significance in relation to debates in the field). Judges should give each paper an overall score out of 10 marks.
3. The judging panel will select a shortlist of three candidates. Where rankings are very close (for example, a margin of 0.5/10 marks) and where factors such as gender balance will thereby be improved, the CLO and/or Executive can request that the panel extend the shortlist to four candidates.
4. The Chair of the judging panel will convey the short list to the Convenor(s) of the Conference committee by June 1st.
5. All members of the judging panel should then read each short-listed paper.
6. Where possible all (or if not all, a minimum of three) panel members attend each student presentation and assess Presentation skill.
7. Following the presentations, but before the Conference dinner, the judging panel will meet to select a winner from the shortlist of finalists.

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8. The deliberations and decision of the panel will be kept confidential. The panel is free to consult with the Convenor(s) of the Conference committee at any time in the deliberation process.
9. The Chair of the panel will notify the CEO of the winner, either directly or through the Convenor(s) of the Conference committee. The CEO will notify Executive of the winner. The identity of the winner should not be revealed to anyone else prior to its official announcement.
10. If for whatever reason the panel cannot reach consensus in selecting a winner, the CEO will be responsible for selecting a winner based on advice from the Chair of the judging panel and the Convenor(s) of the Conference committee.

AWARD PROCEDURES

Calls for entries for the Postgraduate Presentation Prize are made at the same time as the conference itself is announced and a reminder sent in mid-April. The call for entries and reminder will be broadcast via an email to AAP members, the monthly AAP member newsletter, emails to Australasian philosophy mailing lists (e.g. aphil, NZAP and syphil) and through the official AAP social media channels, namely Facebook and Twitter. The Administrative Officer is responsible for the call for entries as well as all reminders through all channels listed above.

Details on the prize, including conditions of eligibility and the deadline for submission, will be given on the conference page of the AAP website. The deadline for submission will be no later than the first Friday in May.

Applicants will submit a full paper, prepared for blind review, of between 3,000 and 5,000 words including references. Entries must be submitted through the online application form on the AAP website which will be open from the first announcement of the prize until 6:00pm AEST on the first Friday in May.

Applicants must complete the following process in order;

1. Submit an abstract for presentation at the conference through the online abstract submission form on the conference page of the AAP website.
2. Wait to have their abstract accepted for inclusion at the conference. Accepted abstracts will be listed on the conference page of the AAP website. It will be the applicants' responsibility to check if their abstract has been accepted.
3. Register to attend the conference through the AAP website. N.B. Payment at time of registration is not required by selecting the option 'Invoice me'.
4. Submit a full paper, prepared for blind review of between 3000-5000 word including references through the Postgraduate Presentation Prize page on the AAP website. This is in addition to the abstract submitted at 1.
5. Apply for the Postgraduate Subsidy if eligible and interested through the AAP website.

The Administrative Officer will review all submissions to confirm eligibility. To be eligible, applicants must be members of the AAP in good standing and enrolled in an Australasian HDR philosophy program. They must not be previous winners of the AAP Postgraduate Presentation Prize, and the submitted paper must not be previously published. Applicants cannot submit more than one paper in any given year, and all papers must conform to the word limit and be properly prepared for blind review.

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Entries are checked for eligibility by the Administrative Officer and once complete, the Administrative Officer will email a link to the Convenor(s) of the Conference committee containing the eligible entries ready for the Convenor to circulate to the judging panel.

The Administrative Officer, or another representative of the AAP, will notify the finalists and will send a list of finalists to the Conference organisers.

The finalists should be highlighted in the conference schedule, and the details of their presentations – including paper title and abstract, and the time and location of presentation – should be advertised at the conference and on the conference webpage.

All finalists will have the fee for the Conference waived, and the AAP will cover the costs for the finalists to attend to the Conference dinner. The EO will arrange for reimbursement to the finalists for these costs if these have already been paid.

Conference organisers should ensure that the shortlisted papers are scheduled so that no shortlisted papers overlap with each other and also, so that no shortlisted papers overlap with papers by members of the judging panel. All shortlisted papers should be scheduled in the first two days of the conference program, so that the judging panel has adequate time to consider a verdict.

The AAP President will announce the winner at the Conference dinner, with the judging committee chair and any available members in attendance.

After the conference, the winning paper will be published online on the AAP website, if the winner so chooses.

RELATED DOCUMENTS

Sensitive Information Policy; Privacy Policy; Deliberations Policy; Prizes and Sponsorship Policy; AAP Conference Policy

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DOCUMENT VERSION HISTORY

Policy Amendments

Version #	Date Approved	Approved by	Brief Description
003	7 th May 2018	Executive	Clarification of eligibility
002	23 rd December 2015	Executive	Revised to suit AAP restructure and to incorporate feedback from the 2015 judging panel
001	6 th November 2014	Council	New policy

Procedures Amendments

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