INNS Doctoral Dissertation Award

Description

Presented annually to the author(s) of the best doctoral dissertation(s) in neural networks, machine learning, and related fields by INNS members in recognition of his/her high-quality, excellent, and outstanding research work.

How to Nominate

INNS established the Doctoral Dissertation Award program to recognize and encourage high-quality, excellent, and outstanding research and writing by doctoral candidates in computer science and engineering among its members. The award is presented at the IJCNN Awards Banquet and is accompanied by a prize of **500** USD.

Eligibility

1. Only a Ph.D. student's advisor may nominate a dissertation.
2. For each year's award cycle, a nominated dissertation must be a finalized version submitted to the Graduate School for the conferment of the doctoral degree between **September 2019** through (and including) **August 2020**.
3. Nominations are welcomed from any country, but only English language versions will be accepted.
4. Only one nomination may be submitted per institution.

Deadline

Deadline for nominations in 2021 – **March 31, 2021**

Selection Criteria

1. Dissertations will be reviewed for technical depth and significance of the research contribution, potential impact on theory and practice, and quality of presentation.

Submissions

1. Nominations for the INNS Doctoral Dissertation Award should be submitted online using the form https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSed4JTeBscg43Wg9-88_crz7ejJx-A8BlujpiIfeJKJpEZqMQ/viewform?usp=sf_link

2. Submitted materials should explain the contribution in terms understandable to a non-specialist. Each nomination involves several components:

   a. Name, address, phone number, and email address of the nominator (the student's thesis advisor)

   b. Name, address, and email address of the candidate (person being nominated). Affiliation should be the name of the school.

c. Suggested citation if the candidate is selected. This should be a concise statement (maximum of 25 words) describing the key technical or professional accomplishment for which the candidate merits this award. Note that the final wording for awardees will be at the discretion of the Award Committee.

d. Nomination statement (200-300 words in length) addressing why the candidate should receive this award. This should address the significance of the dissertation, not simply repeat the information in the abstract.

e. Copy of the dissertation

f. Endorsement letters – sent to **Teresa Ludermir teresa.ludermir@gmail.com**. The nomination must include an endorsement letter from the department head. In addition, at least **1**, and not more than **3**, supporting letters should be included from experts in the field who can provide additional insights or evidence of the dissertation's impact. (The nominator/advisor my not write a letter of support.) Each letter should include the name, address, and telephone number of the endorser. The nominator should collect the letters and bundle them for submission. The endorsement letter and supporting letters can be combined in one file.

Evaluation of the nominations

1. The Doctoral Dissertation Award Committee (DDAC) of the INNS Society will evaluate the nominations.
2. Each dissertation will be reviewed by at least **2** committee members.
3. The evaluation criteria may include, but not limited to

   o Relevance of the dissertation to topics in IJCNN
   o Originality of the main ideas in the dissertation
   o Significance of scientific contributions
   o Technical depth and soundness of dissertation (including experimental methodologies, theoretical results, etc.)
   o Overall presentation and readability of dissertation (including organization, writing style and exposition, etc.)
4. For questions on the above, please contact **Teresa Ludermir teresa.ludermir@gmail.com**.

Final Decision

By the end of June, a final decision will be formally announced. The award will be presented at the official INNS annual conference event.