

URSI-Landesausschuss in Deutschland – Kleinheubacher Tagung Implementation of the Young Scientist Award (YSA) Program



Alex Kraus, Max-Planck-Institut für Radioastronomie, Bonn
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Preamble: To promote young scientists in the areas represented by URSI, the German URSI Member Committee provides funds for up to ten Young Scientist Awards (YSA). Three Karl-Jörg Langenberg Awards (Young Scientist Best Paper Awards, YS-BPA) are provided by the Thomas-Weiland-Wissenschaftsstiftung. The prizes are awarded during the annual “Kleinheubacher Tagung” of the German URSI member committee.

1. Together with the first call for papers for the Kleinheubach conference of each year, applications for the YSA are requested. Young researchers with at least a diploma or master's degree who are not older than 35 in the year of the conference are eligible to participate. Previous award winners are not eligible to apply. The master's degree must have been awarded before May 1st, of the year of the conference.
2. The application must include:
 - * An „Extended Abstract“ of maximum 4 pages (including bibliography), IEEE Style must be used, longer papers will not be accepted,
 - * a CV in tabular form,
 - * (Exactly) one letter of endorsement from a member of the German URSI Member Committee (max. 1 page),
 - * Declaration on the allocation of the application to a committee,
 - * Agreement to the publication of pictures,
 - * A copy of the master's diploma.
 - * A registration form.For all documents, the English language must be used.
3. The deadline for YSA applications is on June 1st – a few weeks before the end of the submission period for regular papers. The deadline may be extended (but not later as June 15th), if necessary. All submissions are managed via the EDAS system or a similar one.
4. The URSI committee chairs will obtain two reviews for each application assigned to their respective committee. The evaluation will be on a scale of 0-100 (whole number) - additional comments are welcome. Co-authors and supporters (according to 2.) may not be reviewers at the same time. Conflicts of interest will be checked by the chairman of the award committee. In case of doubts, a decision will be made by the board of the German URSI member committee.
The deadline for submitting the reviews is August 10, so that participants can be notified early, but no later than August 20.
A special review form is available for the referees and should be used.

5. The head of the YSA program will distribute the YSA places available based on the available rankings according to the following key:
 - Each committee is represented with at least one contribution, provided that an application from the committee is rated at least 80/100.
 - If there are more than 10 applications rated at least 80/100, those with the highest score will be considered. If the scores are the same, more than 10 awards may be given, if possible.
 - The participants in the YSA program will be informed by the head of the YSA program latest by August 20th. The winners will also be informed that they must present their work at the conference and may participate in the Young Scientist Best Paper Award (the “Karl-Jörg Langenberg award”) competition (see below).

6. The prize for a successful YSA application consists of a certificate, a waiver of the conference fee and a cash prize (currently €250). Because the conference fee is waived, participants should not register themselves via the Copernicus portal, but rather directly with the conference chair or the head of the YSA.
 In addition, the URSI regional group will cover the costs of an (optional) publication in Advances in Radio Science based on the award-winning contribution.

7. In addition to the YSA, all awardees are eligible to participate in the Best paper award, the “Karl-Jörg Langenberg award”.
 For this, a special session will be held at the conference, in which all YS awardees must present their work in form of a talk with following discussion (10+5 minutes). All committee chairs (or representatives, if applicable) and the chair of the German URSI national group are asked to attend this meeting as voting members of the YS-BPA selection committee, i.e. the Board of YS Judges.
 The papers and the reviews will also be sent to all committee chairs before the conference.

8. Immediately afterwards, the closed meeting of the YS Board of Judges committee takes place, moderated by the head of the YSA program. After an opportunity for discussion among the voting members, each member awards points in a secret ballot on a prepared sheet as follows: 1st place: 3 points, 2nd place: 2 points, 3rd place: 1 point. Ballot papers with a different order (e.g. no three places awarded, 2nd place awarded twice) are invalid. The first three places are determined according to the total number of points, each of which is awarded a certificate and prize money, currently 5000€, 4000€, 3000€ for the 1st, 2nd, 3rd prize.
 In case of same numbers of votes for a certain prize category, the prize money will be divided as follows: Each winner of a given category will receive an amount according the sum of the prize money for the category and the following next categories, divided by the number of awardees for this category¹.

¹ N times place x: Each winner of place x receives the prize money of sum_x/N , where sum_x is the sum of prize moneys for place x and N-1 next places.

Examples:

3 times 1st place: Prize money for 1st places: Each 4,000€

2 times 1st place, 3 times 2nd place: Prize money for 1st places: each 4,500€

Prize money for 2nd places: each 1,000€

9. The award ceremony for both awards (Young Scientist Award and Karl-Jörg Langenberg Award) will take place in a celebratory setting as part of the Kleinheubach conference. Certificates for the Karl-Jörg Langenberg Award will be prepared by the Thomas-Weiland-Wissenschafts-Stiftung, for the Young Scientist Award by the German URSI member committee.
10. All participants agree that the board of judges' decision is final. Legal recourse is excluded.