ASCEPT Garth McQueen Prize 2024

Eligibility criteria

The ASCEPT Garth McQueen Prize was established in memory of Professor Garth McQueen, a member of the original steering committee that established ASCEPT. It is awarded annually for the best oral communication by a Higher Degree student member of ASCEPT. A Higher Degree student constitutes anyone undertaking a Masters Degree or PhD in a relevant biomedical discipline. Clinicians in an accredited training program, or who have worked for less than seven years full-time since completing their undergraduate degree, are also eligible.

Application process

To apply for this prize, students MUST select I wish to be considered for ASCEPT Garth McQueen prize and select oral presentation as the presentation preference during the online abstract submission process. Abstract submission deadline is midnight, Friday 31 May 2024.

In addition to submitting a standard abstract online, students wishing to be considered for this award must also submit an 800-word project description (in PDF format) during the abstract submission process. Information on how to prepare this document is outlined below.

Judging process

Students will be shortlisted on the basis of the scientific quality, innovation and significance of their work (as described in the extended project plan) by an ASCEPT judging panel. The judging panel will be chaired by an Executive member of the ASCEPT Board and will additionally be made up of a least five panellists from the general membership, with expertise covering a wide cross-section of the various sub-disciplines of research that make up the Society. Students who are short-listed for the ASCEPT Garth McQueen Prize will present their research in a dedicated Oral Prize session at the ASCEPT–APFP-APSA 2024 Joint Congress. Students will be judged by the ASCEPT Garth McQueen Prize judging panel, according to the scientific quality, innovation and significance of their study, and also on the basis of their oral communication skills, ability to answer questions, and knowledge of their project and research field. The winner of the ASCEPT Garth McQueen Prize will be announced at the Prize Award Ceremony at the ASCEPT–APFP-APSA 2024 Joint Congress and will receive a certificate.

The final oral and Poster program will be based upon the number of submissions received and review scores.
Guidelines for preparation of 800 word extended Project Description

The extended project description will be used by the ASCEPT Garth McQueen Prize judging panel to shortlist Higher Degree (PhD and Masters) students for the dedicated ASCEPT Oral Prize session at the ASCEPT–APFP-APSA 2024 Joint Congress.

The extended project description should be a maximum of 800 words in length and is to include the following sections:

• Title of presentation (i.e. the same title that appears on the standard abstract)
• Authors (i.e. the same authors that appear on the standard abstract)
• Background and rationale
• Hypothesis / Aims
• Methodology
• Results
• Conclusions
• Statement of the scientific innovation and significance of the study
• Statement on the nominating student’s specific role in the study
• Declaration (see below – not included in word count)
• References (not included in word count)

The extended project description is to be prepared by the student applicant with minimal or no input from their supervisor or other authors on the abstract. As a general guide, ‘minimal’ input might reasonably involve minor corrections of a single draft of the document.

Students are to type the following declaration at the end of their extended project description and this must be signed by themselves and their supervisor.

“We declare that this document was prepared primarily by the nominating student and has undergone minimal corrections by the supervisor or any other author on the accompanying abstract.”

Student’s name: .....................................................Student’s signature: ..........................................................Date: ..............

Supervisor’s name: ..........................................................Supervisor’s signature: ....................................................Date: ..............