04. IFSA Student Paper Awards

1. **Aim**: to reward students' research and development efforts in fuzzy set theory and applications; to motivate communication and interaction among students and the fuzzy set teaching and research community worldwide.

2. **Submission**: paper author must be (or have been) a student during the last two years before the time of paper submission deadline, and carry at least 50% of a normal full-time academic program as a registered undergraduate or graduate student in a regular course of study. Authorship may be shared with his/her advisor. In this case, the student must have contributed to at least 50% of the research presented. The submission scheme could follow the same procedure, format and deadlines as suggested by the IFSA World Congress, but must clearly state that the paper is to be considered for award and why. Only full papers should be considered for award. For award purposes, abstracts submission should not be considered.

3. **Evaluation**: candidate student papers will be evaluated in two phases: review and decision, respectively.

4. **Review**: candidate student papers will be reviewed following the same directions and standards of the IFSA World Congress. The review form should contain a slot for the reviewer to recommend (or not) the candidate paper for award consideration. The paper should have no negative evaluation by any of its reviewers.

5. **Decision**: only candidate papers with at least two recommendations will be taken for further consideration. A committee of five professors and researchers, to be appointed by the IFSA Council at its IFSA World Congress meeting prior to Award conferral, should next evaluate the papers recommended by reviewers. The committee establishes the requirements that qualify a paper as an award candidate. The five best papers, as qualified and ordered by the reviews and committee evaluations, are the ones to be awarded. If no paper meets the award requirements, then no award should be given. The result should be announced following the same deadline as of the notification of acceptance established by the IFSA World Congress organizers.

6. **Premium**: the first place paper should be awarded with a certificate containing the IFSA logo, the name of the student, and the statement "Student Paper Award of the Current Year". The award will be delivered at an appropriated IFSA World Congress ceremonial. To be feasible, IFSA should provide free registration fee and an amount to aid student travel and leaving expenses. The council decides on the amount and how it should be provided. The remaining four papers should be awarded with an "IFSA Diploma" at the same ceremony as above. IFSA should provide free registration fees the remaining four awardees. These five papers could, after the due editorial and technical content polishing, be published in a special section of an international journal.
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