

The Award

The ACM India Best Doctoral Dissertation Award was established in 2011 by ACM India with approval from the ACM Awards Committee. This award recognizes the best doctoral dissertation(s) in Computer Science and Engineering from a degree-awarding institution based in India for each academic year. There will be one award in 2016. The award will consist of a plaque and a cash component of Rs 2,00,000. In case of a joint award, the award amount will be shared equally among the recipients.

Eligibility

Each PhD granting institution based in India can normally nominate 1 student for the award. Institutions that produce more than 10 dissertations in relevant areas per year can nominate 2 students. Each dissertation nominated for the 2017 award must have been defended successfully between **August 1, 2015** and **July 31, 2016**.

Deadline

Nominations must be received by **August 31, 2016** to qualify for consideration of the 2017 award.

Publication and Copyrights

Winning dissertations will be published in the ACM Digital Library. Each nomination must be accompanied by an assignment to ACM by the author of exclusive publication rights, as per ACM's copyright policies. Copyright will automatically revert to an author if her/his dissertation is not selected.

Nomination Procedure

Candidates must be nominated by the department from which the PhD degree was completed.

Each nomination must include:

- i. Nomination letter by thesis advisor. This letter must include:
 - The name, address, and phone number of the advisor,
 - The name, mailing address and email address of the candidate, and
 - A one-page summary of the significance of the dissertation.
- ii. An endorsement letter by the department head or a suitable substitute (in case of a conflict of interest).
- iii. One copy of the thesis in electronic format
- iv. A record of publications in conferences and journals of the work reported in the dissertation, along with their citations, if any.
- v. A copyright transfer form filled out and signed by the candidate. Please use the Journals form downloadable from http://www.acm.org/publications/copyright_form for this purpose.

Optional: Supporting letters are helpful and a nomination can be supported by a maximum of five supporting letters from individuals who are familiar with the work. Each supporting letter must include the name, contact information, and telephone number of the supporter.

Mode of submission: Nomination material **must** be submitted electronically (in PDF or Word format) by the thesis advisor (**not by the student**) to the ACM India Doctoral Dissertation Coordinator at: emily.eng@acm.org. Please write "ACM India Doctoral Dissertation submission for replace-by-nominee-name" in the subject line of the email. All nomination material for a nominee must be sent bundled as a zip file in one email. Supporting letters should not come directly from the supporters -- all necessary material, including supporting letters, may be collected and submitted by the thesis advisor, bundled as a zip file in one email.

Selection Procedure

Dissertations will be reviewed for technical depth and significance of the research contribution, potential impact on theory and practice, and quality of presentation. A committee of eminent Computer Science researchers from across the world will perform an initial screening to generate a short list, followed by an in-depth evaluation to determine the winning dissertation.

For further queries on the ACM India Best Doctoral Dissertation Award, contact acmindiaaward@acm.org

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