

ESA Student Award Committee –Report for 2007-2008
NC ESA Meeting, Columbus, Ohio
March 24, 2008

Co-chairs: Luis Cañas, Janet Knodel

Ideas and Feedback

- 1) Evaluation forms were uploaded to webpage. They were useful, however, it was felt that most graduate students did not know or find this information. It is recommended that a link needs to be placed on the main page of the NC ESA Student Award Committee. This way students can read how they will be evaluated. The evaluation forms for the Comstock award need to be modified slightly (see item #).
- 2) This year we had two co-chairs. A co-chair from the previous committee remained and a new one was appointed. This has been helpful in sharing the workload and should be continued.
- 3) We used the electronic material produced by the previous committee and it was helpful. This included Power Point presentation, certificates, judging forms, etc. This year the committee created a page with important dates to keep in mind. This information will be provided to next year's committee.
- 4) The due date for award nominations for the Comstock Award and the Graduate Student Scholarship was moved back to December 31, 2008. Because of the delay in accepting award nominations, this year we had fewer judges that sent their evaluations. Next year, we need to start the process earlier. Some judges requested more than two weeks to be able to judge the applicants. Also, the committee recommends explaining the time commitment requirement to potential judges, in order to serve in the Student Awards committee. The past couple of years we have seen that some judges do not submit student evaluations and do not attend the meetings.
- 5) The message to find judges to help with the competitions was sent earlier this year (just after registration) and this helped get more judges. Getting enough people to judge is always a challenge. Ideally, those serving in the committee, when not able to attend, should find alternate people that can help with this activity.
- 6) The committee developed a rubric system that worked very well. The rubric was sent to a few members for input before we used it and their input was included. However, the evaluation forms for the Comstock Award need to be modified slightly. The 'Academic' Section need to be removed. The judges found the forms easy to use and provided us with more detail to evaluate the candidates.
- 7) As before, the committee guidelines need to be updated and any modifications need to be posted on the website. We will provide a copy to the executive committee to evaluate.

For instance, now certificates are printed the day before the awards luncheon/dinner in local facilities near the conference.

- 8) The NCB Executive Committee agreed to look into increasing the awards for Winner and Runner-up to \$200 and \$100, respectively, for each category. David Ragsdale, Secretary-Treasurer, reported that we could afford to do such. As a result, the monetary award amounts were increased to \$200 for Winner and \$100 for Runner-up at the NC ESA meeting in Columbus, Ohio in 2007.
- 9) Keeping good communications with secretary/treasurer and president is very important.
- 10) With ESA re-organization, we need to determine if we want to use the same award categories next year?