



**Musicological**  
**SOCIETY OF AUSTRALIA**

[www.msa.org.au](http://www.msa.org.au)

## **Student Prize – Regulations**

The Student Prize is an annual prize to be awarded at the National Conference in accordance with the following Guidelines. The following is an extract from the MSA Operations Manual.

### **1. Prize for a Student Delegate at a National Conference of the MSA ('the Prize')**

#### **1.1. General**

- 1.1.1. Where funds are available, a prize as set out herein may be awarded on an annual basis to the best piece of scholarly work presented by a Student Member at the National Conference for that year. This prize recognises excellence in the research endeavour of a student member of the society presenting a scholarly work at a National Conference. The successful submission and its presentation will exhibit an academic merit and standard that distinguishes it from other submissions by Student Members at the National Conference. This prize does not favour any field or approach, but it should recognise original contributions within a field situated within general purview of musicological research.
- 1.1.2. The Prize shall be entitled: "Prize for a Student Delegate at a National Conference of the MSA" with the year of the conference appended in each instance.
- 1.1.3. It is recommended that the recipients of the Prize be listed perpetually in publications of the MSA, for instance the Annotated Membership List and/or MSA web site.
- 1.1.4. Ordinarily the Committee should endeavour through its assessment and any further determinations as required to award the Prize to one submission presented at a National Conference. However, should the committee determine that the Prize is awarded to two or more submissions, it shall justify its decision when announcing the Prize. In the case of a split decision, the monetary value of the Prize will be divided accordingly. The merit of dividing the prize shall be considered in the determinations of the committee.

#### **1.2. Procedures**

- 1.2.1. At least six weeks before the relevant National Conference, a general notice shall be circulated by the Secretary of the Committee in consultation with the National Conference Organising Committee to student delegates whose proposals have been accepted for the forthcoming National Conference.
- 1.2.2. Submissions considered for the Prize must be received no later than one month before the commencement of the relevant National Conference.
- 1.2.3. All submissions to the Committee for the Prize shall consist of a short letter of application (may be sent as an e-mail with attachment), three copies of the scholarly work to be presented at the conference (or a copy of the scholarly work in Microsoft Word, RTF or PDF format attached to an e-mail), and supporting material. An abstract and bibliography must be included therein. Each submission must be accompanied by the applicant's contact details and the contact details of the applicant's principal supervisor for the purposes of confirming the educational status of the applicant should the need arise.

- 1.3. Criteria for the judging of submissions is divided into two components. A sample scoring sheet based on these criteria is given in Appendix A. The criteria are as follows:
  - 1.3.1. Scholarly content and argument (75% of assessment; to be assessed before conference)
    - 1.3.1.1. Academic merit shall be determined according to the contribution the submitted piece makes to its field(s) either in terms of new findings or new readings of existing knowledge (50%).
    - 1.3.1.2. The submitted piece shall be assessed for clarity and method. It should be well-structured, factual, make ethical use of sources through appropriate acknowledgement, and employ language in a suitable and effective way (25%).
    - 1.3.1.3. The Committee may refer submissions to expert readers only if it believes it is required for purposes of assessing the submission according to the criterion set out in section 2.3.1.1.
  - 1.3.2. Presentation (25% of assessment; to be assessed at conference)
    - 1.3.2.1. One member variously selected from the Committee shall assess each applicant's presentation and report his or her findings to the committee.
    - 1.3.2.2. The applicant shall deliver her or his presentation in a clear and effective manner. In addition to the manner of delivery, the relevance and substance of audio and visual aids and examples, or performances where appropriate should be considered herein.
    - 1.3.2.3. The presentation shall adhere to the permitted timeframe as set down by the National Conference Organising Committee, e.g. 20 minutes with 10 minutes of questions.
    - 1.3.2.4. The ability of the presenter to adequately address questions at the end of their presentation in an informed and coherent manner shall be considered when appropriate.
    - 1.3.2.5. The Committee shall determine the manner in which components in listed in 2.3.2.2 to 2.3.2.4 are scored.
  - 1.3.3. To assist in the numerical ranking of all submissions, a scoring sheet should be completed by each Committee Member and used as the basis for the determination of the Prize. The format of the scoring sheet should be agreed by each Committee. An example of such a sheet is provided as Attachment A.
  - 1.3.4. In the case of tied scores, a vote by the Committee shall determine the final outcome.
  - 1.3.5. All determinations of the Committee are final. There shall be no recourse to review or appeal on its findings.
- 1.4. Eligibility
  - 1.4.1. Past recipients of the Prize are ineligible for any subsequent Prize.
  - 1.4.2. The student must be a Student Member at the time their scholarly work is considered and the Prize is awarded.
  - 1.4.3. The Prize is open to candidates enrolled in a program of supervised research at a recognised Australian institution of Higher Education OR Australian citizens studying overseas in non-Australian institutions of higher education. Foreign citizens studying at a non-Australian institutions of Higher Education are illegible for the Prize.
  - 1.4.4. Only the version of the scholarly work that is actually presented at the conference is eligible for consideration.
  - 1.4.5. The submission must be presented at the conference.
  - 1.4.6. The submission shall not have already been presented at another national or international conference, and shall not have already been published.
  - 1.4.7. While nominally the Prize is intended for an individual Student Member, the Committee will consider joint submissions by student members. The

Committee may grant an exception to this eligibility rule where convention dictates that the student member as principal author name additional individuals as co-authors out of ethical or conventional considerations, e.g. supervisors or traditional owners.

1.5. Outcomes and Notification

- 1.5.1. The Committee reserves the right not to award the Prize if submissions lack sufficient overall merit.
- 1.5.2. The Chair of the Committee or a nominated representative shall announce on behalf of the National Executive the winner of the Student prize at the Annual General Meeting, or (in cases where the AGM does not coordinate with the National Conference) a Prize Ceremony during the National Conference. In years when no Prize is awarded, the non-award of the Prize shall be noted at the Annual General Meeting.

## Appendix A

### SAMPLE SCORING SHEET FOR STUDENT PRIZE

Name of Applicant:

Presentation Date:

Session:

Time:

Assessor:

<b>Academic merit - 50%</b>	
1) Originality of ideas or conclusions due primarily to this author	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
2) Originality of analysis, interpretation, restatement of inference based upon the work of others.	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
3) Quality and relative level of knowledge exhibited	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
4) Use of examples and analogies.	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
5) Quality of references uncovered	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
<i>Academic Merit Score</i>	/50
<b>Clarity and Method - 25%</b>	
1) Adequacy of introduction and conclusion	1 2 3 4 5
2) Logical development and analytical treatment in the body.	1 2 3 4 5
3) Clarity and direction in exposition, including grammar, spelling, style, and choice of words.	1 2 3 4 5
4) Factual and technical accuracy.	1 2 3 4 5
5) Appropriate and ethical acknowledgement and use of sources	1 2 3 4 5
<i>Clarity and Method Score</i>	/25
<b>Presentation - 25%</b>	
1) Clear and effective delivery including effective use of supporting audio and/or visual aids and/or performance where present	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
2) Stays within established timeframe	1 2 3 4 5
3) Ability to address questions arising from their presentation in an informed and coherent manner	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
<b>TOTAL SCORE</b>	<b>/100</b>

Assessors Comments:

For categories scored between 1 and 10, the following guidelines are provided:

1. No evidence that the criterion was addressed
2. No serious attempt at responding to criterion
3. Poor attempt at addressing criterion
4. Below average response to criterion
5. Average attempt at criterion
6. Good response to criterion.
7. Commendable response to criterion
8. Highly commendable response to criterion
9. Excellent response to criterion
10. Superlative in all respects, clearly demonstrating unique abilities

For categories scored between 1 and 5, the following guidelines are provided:

1. No evidence that the criterion was addressed
2. Poor attempt at addressing criterion
3. Average attempt at criterion
4. Commendable response to criterion
5. Excellent response to criterion