

IEEE Photonics Society (IPS) Sweden Chapter Rules for the 2024 Best PhD Thesis Award

Article 1: Description

In accordance with the mission of the IEEE Photonics Society, the IEEE Photonics Society Sweden Chapter established a PhD award in 2017 for recently graduated PhD researchers that have written an outstanding doctoral thesis in the general area of optics and photonics.

Article 2: Prize

The award consists of SEK 10,000 and a certificate.

Article 3: Eligibility Criteria

This award recognises PhD students who have written an outstanding doctoral thesis that represents a remarkably impactful contribution to their field of research within the general area of optics and photonics. The award is open to all relevant PhD students whose PhD was awarded by a Swedish university between 1 September 2023 and 31 August 2024. This requires that the nominee has successfully defended his/her thesis during this period and has fulfilled all requirements to obtain the PhD degree. Except for the Members of the PhD Thesis Awards Board, any person may be nominated for the award, regardless of IEEE membership.

Article 4: Nomination Process

The thesis must be nominated by the main supervisor and submitted to the Chairman of the PhD Thesis Awards Board of the IEEE Photonics Society Sweden Chapter:

Prof. László Veisz
c/o Department of Physics
Umeå University
901 87 Umeå

The nomination must be received by 30 November 2024.

Every university department can nominate a maximum of 2 PhD students during this nomination period.

The nomination packet must contain:

- 3 copies of the PhD thesis;
- a nomination letter, not longer than 1 page, written by the nominee's supervisor and co-signed by the dean/head of department;
- if available, a page with a hyperlink to an electronic version of the PhD thesis.

Article 5: Selection Process

The PhD Thesis Awards Board consists of the Chair (also member of the IPS Sweden Chapter Board) and the Award Selection Committee Members (minimum two members of the IPS Sweden Chapter Board). The Chair is appointed by the IPS Sweden Chapter Board. The Award Selection Committee Members are selected by the Chair, who makes sure that they have no conflict of interest with any nominee (*e.g.*, being a nominee or a co-author of papers in any of the nominated theses). The submitted theses will be reviewed by Reviewers appointed by the Chair of the Awards Board. The Reviewers consists of experts from both industry and academia who do not have a conflict of interest with any nominee. After the Reviewers have evaluated the candidates' theses, according to the Award Criteria, they will be ranking the nominated theses based on their own review reports. The Reviewers ranking lists will be assembled by the Chair and presented to the PhD Thesis Selection Committee. Based on these ranking lists, the members of the Selection Committee rate the PhD theses and communicate the rating to the Chair. If the highest rating is shared by more than one Nominee, the Selection Committee will schedule a meeting to make a final decision with additional support by the review reports. If no nominated theses are considered to be of award-winning quality the Selection Committee will decide not to award any thesis. The decision by the Selection Committee cannot be appealed.

Article 6: Award Criteria

1. **Quality and quantity of the research** (*e.g.*, as estimated from bibliometric analysis and degree of contribution)
2. **Pedagogic quality** (the depth of understanding demonstrated by the candidate and whether the thesis is accessible for the reader)
3. **Context** (has the thesis work been properly situated with respect to existing knowledge and literature?)
4. **Quality of writing** (is there a coherent, structured story throughout the thesis?)
5. **Presentation-technical aspects** (layout, figures, spelling, etc.).

Article 7: Agreement

By accepting the award, the winner agrees to write a summary about the winning PhD work for IEEE publications and that the winner's name, affiliation, and photo are used in public.