2016 Auburn University Graduate School
Master’s Thesis Award

Field of Competition: MATHEMATICS/PHYSICAL SCIENCES/ENGINEERING

INSTRUCTIONS FOR NOMINATION

Nominations: A college/school may nominate up to three students for an award in the field of Humanities/Fine Arts. For each nominee, the thesis must have been accepted in partial fulfillment of master’s degree requirements during the past two academic years (Fall 2014 through Summer 2016). If a college/school nominates more than three students in any one category, the Graduate School will contact one of the unit's associate deans (or another designee) to downselect the top three candidates.

Materials: Each nominee must prepare an abstract (not to exceed 2 pages) of his or her thesis (typed, double-spaced, with one-inch margins on 8-1/2" x 11" white paper) and a brief resume or c.v. The pages should be numbered, and each should bear the name of the nominee. A letter of reference from the student’s major professor addressing the significance and quality of the work should be included in the nomination materials. The nominee should submit the following through the nomination form: abstract, resume or c.v., letter of reference, and thesis (or a Web link to the thesis).

Deadline: The deadline for submission to the Graduate School is Friday, July 15, 2016.

Criteria: The Graduate School will name an Award Committee whose members have established records in the disciplinary areas under consideration. At their discretion, additional consultation may be sought. The nominated theses should represent original work making an unusually significant contribution to the respective discipline. Winners are selected on the basis of clarity of style and presentation, scholarship, research methodology, and contributions to the field or discipline. The following list, although not all-inclusive, illustrates the fields considered as Mathematics/Physical Sciences/Engineering: Physics, Chemistry (excluding Biochemistry), Astronomy, Atmospheric Sciences, Geology, Earth Sciences, Oceanography, Metallurgy, Mathematics, Statistics, Computer Sciences, and Engineering.

Award: Master’s Thesis Awards, consisting of an honorarium of $250 and a certificate of citation, will be presented at the Graduate School’s annual awards ceremony.

Note one: The Master’s Thesis Award operates on a two-year cycle in regard to fields of competition. The fields of competition for 2016 will be Mathematics/Physical Sciences/Engineering and Humanities/ Fine Arts; for 2017, Life Sciences and Social Sciences/Business/Education. This cycle corresponds with that of the Conference of Southern Graduate Schools’ Master’s Thesis Award. Winners of the Auburn Master’s Thesis Award may be nominated by the Graduate School for the CSGS Award.

Note two: No student may be nominated in more than one award category (e.g., in two consecutive years) and may not be nominated by more than one college.