



Australasian Society of Clinical and Experimental Pharmacologists and Toxicologists

ASCEPT Integrative Pharmacology/Toxicology Prize

Eligibility criteria

The ASCEPT Integrative Pharmacology/Toxicology Prize was established in 2010 and is awarded at the Annual Scientific Meeting to an Honours OR Higher Degree student for the best poster communication in this category.

To be eligible for this prize, students' studies must involve animal-based research incorporating in vivo experimental techniques and demonstrate excellence in the care of animals.

Application process

To apply for this prize, students **MUST** select **I wish to be considered for ASCEPT Integrative Pharmacology/Toxicology Prize** and select **poster presentation** as the presentation preference during the online abstract submission process.

In addition to submitting a standard abstract online, applicants must also submit a 500 word statement about their in vivo, animal-based experimentation and how they have demonstrated excellence in the care of animals and adherence to the highest ethical standards (in PDF format) during the abstract submission process. Information on how to prepare this document is outlined below.

Judging Process

The winner of the ASCEPT Integrative Pharmacology/Toxicology Prize will be selected via a three-stage judging process:

1. 500 word statements will be reviewed by Special Interest Group (SIG) appointed judging panels to ensure applicants meet eligibility criteria and to identify and shortlist applicants for each SIG
2. All posters will be presented in groupings according to their research field (i.e Cardiovascular, Neuro- and Behavioural Pharmacology, Clinical Pharmacology etc) over days one and two of the Annual Scientific Meeting. SIG appointed judging panels will judge all student posters selected on the basis of the 500 word statement that fall under their research field. Students will be interviewed by the appropriate panel and judged according to the scientific quality, innovation and significance of their studies and also on the ethical considerations of their research project and their ability to field questions with regard to animal welfare.
3. Short-listed student presentations will be judged on the final day of the Annual Scientific Meeting by a Council-appointed ASCEPT Integrative Pharmacology/Toxicology Prize judging panel. The winner of the ASCEPT Integrative Pharmacology/Toxicology Prize will be announced at a dedicated Prize Award Ceremony at the Annual Scientific Meeting and will receive a certificate.

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Guidelines for preparation of 500 word statement

The statement will be used by the ASCEPT Integrated Pharmacology/Toxicology Prize judging panel to ensure applications meet eligibility criteria and to identify and shortlist Honours and Higher Degree (PhD and Masters) students for the prize. In previous ASCEPT Annual Scientific Meetings, standard abstracts were used to shortlist students for the ASCEPT Integrative Pharmacology/Toxicology Prize. However, the brevity of the standard abstract and the necessity that all authors retain the right to input into the document as they see fit, made it very difficult for assessors to assess eligibility criteria and also the nominating student's role in the work. The detailed statement about the in vivo, animal-based experimentation performed and demonstration of excellence in the care of animals and adherence to the highest ethical standards is designed to overcome some of these limitations.

The statement should be a maximum of 500-words in length and in PDF format. It is to include the following sections:

- Title of presentation (i.e. the same title that appears on the standard abstract)
- Authors (i.e. the same authors that appear on the standard abstract)
- Statement of in vivo animal-based experimentation
 - Details of the care of the animals
 - Discussion of adherence to the highest ethical standards within the project
- Statement on the nominating student's specific role in the study
- Declaration (see below – not included in word count)
- References (not included in word count)

The statement is to be prepared by the student applicant with minimal or no input from their supervisor or other authors on the abstract. As a general guide, 'minimal' input might reasonably involve minor corrections of a single draft of the document. Students are to include the following declaration at the end of the extended statement which should be signed by themselves and their supervisor.

"We declare that this document was prepared primarily by the nominating student and has undergone minimal corrections by the supervisor or any other author on the accompanying abstract."

Student's Name

Student's Signature.....Date

Supervisor's Name

Supervisor's Signature.....Date

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