TOFE Student Paper Competition Guidelines

Eligibility Requirements
To be eligible, the primary author must be currently enrolled as an undergraduate or graduate student. Work presented in the paper must be original research applicable to the TOFE conference with significant work performed by the primary author.

Instructions
Interested students must submit an abstract of their work to the TOFE conference through the normal conference abstract submission website. In the abstract submission, make sure to indicate that the first author is a student.

If the abstract is accepted to the conference, either as a poster or oral presentation, the student will be asked to update the initial abstract submission to include their full paper. Full papers must adhere to all requirements for papers submitted to TOFE. The full paper must be submitted through the website by October 3rd, 2018 to be considered for the award.

By October 25th, 2018, finalists will be notified of their selection and will need to prepare an oral presentation based on their submitted paper. Presentations will be 10 minutes long, followed by 2 minutes of questions. Based on the judging of the paper and oral presentation during the special session, award(s) will be made at the TOFE awards night during the conference. Please note that the oral presentation for this competition will be in a special session and is in addition to any normal oral or poster presentations at the conference. We encourage you to do your best during your normal conference oral or poster presentation, but those will not be included in the judging process.

Judging Criteria
All relevant scientific topics that are accepted to the TOFE conference will also be accepted to the student paper competition – no preference will be given to any topic that falls within the TOFE scope. The first round of judging will evaluate the submitted papers based on (1) the written style and composition as well as (2) the technical content of the paper. Judging for (1) written style and composition will include factors such as grammar, readability, presentation of figures, and clarity of explanations. For (2) technical content, judges will consider factors including how well the experiment was designed, whether the results are analyzed and presented in a logical way, if theories or discussion are given to explain the results, if adequate comparison/citation is made to others’ work, and if the conclusions are supported by the results. The paper should also note how the experiment connects to the bigger picture of fusion.

Up to six papers will be selected by the above criteria to be finalists, and the primary author will be invited to give a talk in a special session at the ANS 2018 winter meeting. In addition to the first-round criteria, presenters will be evaluated on the merits of this presentation. Students should ensure that they are well spoken, familiar with the subject matter presented, and able to respond intelligently to questions fielded from the audience and/or judges.