Massey Award
2020

Tara Javidi (Chair), Christina Fragouli (ex-officio), Sid Jaggi, Ram Zamir
• We had 8(*) nomination
  • all(**) excellent records

• We had two round of voting with a zoom call in between
  • The first vote was to prioritize the discussion the call
  • The second vote was to select the finalist between the top two candidates
  • The committee awarded the 2020 Massey award to:

    Yury Polyanskiy, MIT

for his outstanding achievements in research and teaching
Points of Discussion (for our next BoG)

* One nomination did not meet the new eligibility criterion:

“The nominee must be a Society member, who on January 1st of the year in which the award is given, is no more than 10 years beyond having their highest degree (up to doctorate) conferred.”

* Rationale for changing the criteria was to increase the diversity of our pool; Ironically the new criterion excluded our only woman nominee!

* Further discussions with D&I

* Nominations (throughout the years) often do not explicitly discuss teaching and the committee had to further investigate

  * Further discussions with Online committee to “guide” the nominators in providing information about teaching activities of candidates

* Mentoring is not explicitly mentioned in ITSoc request for nomination

* The consensus was to revisit the limit of 1 awardee