

Proposal for “Goldsmith Lecturer”

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Background

- Initial “Goldsmith Lecturer” proposal was endorsed by IT Soc officers and discussed during the February 2019 BoG meeting, where it was viewed favorably.
- We now provide more details, including the funding plan.
- Main additions to the February 2019 BoG presentation are underlined.

Background

- Andrea Goldsmith won the 2019 IEEE Eric E. Sumner Award. Congratulations Andrea!
- Andrea wants to give back to ITSoc by donating her prize money to endow an award for junior women at a time when it could be a real catalyst in their career trajectory.
- Andrea will also help prepare and execute a funding plan for additional funding.



Example Awards for Women

- IEEE Frances B. Hugle Scholarship
 - For undergraduate female IEEE members
- IEEE Communication Society Women in Communication Engineering (WICE) Awards
 - Outstanding Achievement Award
 - Outstanding Service Award
 - Mentorship Award
 - Early Achievement Award
- ACM Athena Lecturer Award

Proposal: Goldsmith Lecturer

- Use Andrea's endowment to create a "Goldsmith Lecturer"
- Award will be given to a junior woman researcher.
- The awardee will give a lecture at an IT School.
 - Similar to the Padovani Lecturer, which was endowed by Roberto Padovani's Sumner Award prize.

Eligibility

- The candidate must be within 10 years of receiving her Ph.D.
- The candidate must have achieved early career excellence via her research and technical contributions to information theory and its applications.
- The candidate may not have previously been a Goldsmith Lecturer.

Nominations and Selection

- The award will be administered by the Membership Committee.
 - Part of *Information Theory Society Lecturer Program* which also includes Padovani Lecturer and Distinguished Lecturers.
- Nominations will be received from an open call.
 - Nomination deadline: Early Fall (e.g. Oct 15) of Year N.
 - Selection: Late Fall of Year N.
 - Lecture: An IT School at Year N+1.
- Selection of Padovani Lecturer and Distinguished Lecturers will be updated to fit in this timeline and have open calls.

Nominations and Selection

- Membership Committee will coordinate with IT School organizers, and the selected Goldsmith and Padovani lecturers to schedule the two named lectures.
 - Roberto Padovani has indicated that going forward, Padovani Lecturer funds are not limited to NASIT and can be used for any IT School.
- Regional diversity will be taken into account in scheduling.

Benefits

- By highlighting technical achievements of junior women, Goldsmith lectureship helps them build their career and recognition.
- The award lecture contributes to the visibility of the researcher.
- The lectureship helps increase diversity of ITSoc and IEEE, as women are an under-represented group in both.
- IT Schools are supported both technically and financially.

Funding

- The following funding plan was prepared by Andrea, in consultation with the IEEE Foundation.
- Travel award up to \$2K/year.
- The lectures will be established using Andrea's Sumner Prize (\$10K).
- Additional funds will be raised from corporate sponsors.
- Three levels of funding: \$20K, \$10K, and \$5K.

Potential Donors

- Agilent
- China Mobile
- Ericsson
- Facebook
- Google
- Huawei
- IBM
- Intel
- Keysight
- Microsoft
- National Instruments
- Nokia
- Qualcomm
- Texas Instruments

Rationale

- Andrea worked with several of these companies during the organization of WCNC 2017 (she was a General Co-Chair) and has several contacts in each company.
- WCNC 2017 raised about \$300K industrial funding, surpassing all previous WCNCs.
- Some companies already indicated interest in contributing.

Next Steps

- Society approval (motion in the next slide).
- Request for approval from IEEE Foundation VP of Development.
 - Chair: Vince Poor
- IEEE Foundation account set up.
- Open call: Fall 2019.
- First lecturer in 2020.

Motion

Approve IEEE Information Theory
Society Goldsmith Lecturer