

Rules BNS-YG Scientific Contest

1 COMPETITION

The BNS-YG Scientific Contest will be part of the combined event named Nuclear Science Contests 2021, at which different prizes will be awarded by the Belgian Nuclear Society and the SCK CEN. The SCK CEN Best Thesis Award is not concerned by these rules. The Scientific Contest will hand over 4 prizes to outstanding works in 2 separate categories:

1. Nuclear science and its applications
2. Nuclear medicine and biology

The winners will get the opportunity to present their work during the Nuclear Science Contests 2021.

For each category, two or three candidates will be selected to present their work during a closed presentation to a Jury competition on the 22th of November. Each candidate will be given 20 minutes; this encompasses 15 minutes for the presentation and 5 minutes for questions from the Jury.

1.1 POSTER SESSION

The candidates that are not selected for the main competition and the ONDRAF/NIRAS prizes will automatically compete in the poster session. The winners of the poster session will be defined beforehand. The printing and handling of posters can be performed by the SCK, if needed. The results will be announced during the Nuclear Science Contests 2021.

2 ELIGIBILITY

1. The participation to the main competition is open to all students, who have successfully finalized their studies and defended a Master Thesis at a Belgian University or Institute for Higher Education (Hogeschool, Haute école), and to young professionals, who have published a paper or an original work, even in the framework of an industrial project, while living or working in Belgium, or while being a BNS member.

PhD theses are not accepted, but a paper published while completing a PhD can be introduced.

The BNS Scientific Contest is co-organized with SCK CEN's Best Master Thesis Contest. For a master thesis completed at the SCK CEN, participation is restricted to the SCK CEN's Best Master Thesis Contest.

2. It is assumed that the participants have read and accepted the rules of the BNS-YG thesis contest.
3. Each candidate can register once per year, for one prize category. The organizing committee might however not accept a candidature in case there is too much overlap with previous submissions to the contest, either by the same candidate or co-workers.
4. A participant can be up to 36 years of age at the date of submission of his/her candidature.
5. The Scientific Contest cannot be organized and will be postponed to the next year if less than 4 candidatures in total are received.
6. If any of the three categories listed in §1 receives less than 3 applications, the prizing system described in §7 may be revised by the BNS-YG.

3 GOAL

The goal of the contest is to award works related to "nuclear" topics. The topics can be fundamental research, nuclear technology, applications of nuclear technology in the medical field and many other variants connected to nuclear science. Candidates are judged based on the originality of the topic, the scientific impact/practical application, the quality of the supplied text and the presentation of their work in front of the Jury.

4 PROPRIETARY INFORMATION

1. The work has to be original, but a publication by the author or authors at the moment of submission is allowed.
2. The transmission of the document does not imply the transmission of the rights of the author.
3. The submission of the summary does, however, give the BNS and BNS-YG the right to use the summary in their publications in traditional and digital media. These publications will mention the source of the text, but do not require special authorization for each publication and is unlimited in time.

4. The dissemination of the slides of the presentation and the poster amongst the BNS members is strongly promoted. If the presentation cannot be shared for confidentiality issues, this should be clearly notified within the application file.
5. All documents delivered to the BNS-YG will not be returned.

5 JUDGING

1. The Jury and President of the Jury are appointed by the Core Group of the BNS Young Generation. It will be constituted of 5 members.
2. A Jury member shall not be related to or be a close friend or colleague of any of the candidates
3. The Jury decides by majority of votes. In case of equality in votes, the vote of the President of the Jury prevails.
4. The jury has the right to decide not to award the prize(s) if the level of the submitted works is estimated not to obtain the expected level.
5. The decisions of the jury are to be considered as final.

6 SUBSCRIPTION

6.1 APPLICATION

The required documents must be transmitted to yg@bnsorg.be with the title « BNS-YG Scientific Contest » in the subject, before **October 15, 2021**. The application must include:

1. a digital copy of the manuscript to be judged (Master thesis or paper),
2. a summary in English of 2 to 4 pages, which makes the different aspects of the work (e.g. goal, methods, results and conclusion) accessible to a broader public,
3. a digital copy of a poster which makes the different aspects of the work (e.g. goal, methods, results and conclusion) accessible to a broader public. It will be printed on A0 by the BNS,
4. a Curriculum Vitae (coordinates of the participant, academic background with results, professional situation, experience, ...),
5. a notification allowing – or not – the dissemination of the slides amongst the BNS members, if the manuscript is selected for oral defense,

6. The mention of the category to which the Candidate wishes to participate.

6.2 MANUSCRIPT REVIEW

Manuscripts reviewed by the Jury have to fulfill the following criteria:

For Master theses:

The work was defended in 2021 at a Belgian University or Institute for Higher Education (Hogeschool, Haute école). It must have been judged sufficient by the institute of higher learning to pass the courses for which it was written.

For papers:

The participant should be one of the main (co-)authors of the work. The work must be original and if it has been accepted for publication or published in a peer-review Journal or in Conference Proceedings it will be considered an asset.

In both cases, the work must fit all other requirements stated throughout this document.

7 PRIZES

Beside getting the honor of an important award for their own summary received from peers, the selected candidates will receive the following money prizes:

- BNS-YG prize for nuclear science and its applications : 1000 euro
- BNS-YG prize for nuclear medicine and biology: 1000 euro
- Poster competition prizes:
 - 1st prize: 400 euro
 - 2nd prize: 150 euro

Additionally, each participant will become member of the BNS for one year, without charge. The prize will be awarded to the student(s) who has/have written the chosen work. If the work was written by multiple students, the prize money will be divided in equal parts among them.

8 FINAL PROVISION

For all topics and events not listed in the Rules of the BNS-YG Scientific Contest, the decision of the President of the Jury is final.

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