# For the Best Conference Presentation by a Student

#### Aim of the Student Award

The winner of the Student Presentation Award for Best Conference Presentation by a Student at the annual National Association for Gambling Studies Inc conference will be awarded funds up to AUD\$5000 to attend a major international conference in a year following their conference presentation. The aim of this award is to encourage promising students to continue their research in the field of gambling by enabling them to meet with international colleagues, hear about new research, and have an opportunity to discuss their own research with an international audience of experts in the field.

Furthermore, the winner will write a report of the international conference which will be placed on the National Association for Gambling Studies Inc website. This will benefit all National Association for Gambling Studies Inc members, enabling them to hear about new international research and discussion amongst experts in the field.

# **Conditions of Application**

Applications close 14 days prior to the commencement of the Conference. This is to allow recruitment of adjudicators who are required to attend all award applicant presentations.

Applicants must be a full or part time student enrolled in an Australian tertiary institution at the time of application. Evidence of studentship is required.

Applicants must be a member of the National Association for Gambling Studies Inc at the time of award application (that means before 14 days prior to the conference). If unsure, do not presume membership because your employer/organisation is a member. If you have not personally taken out individual membership, check with your organisation/employer or with the National Association for Gambling Studies Inc Secretariat that you have been named as a member.

Applicants must already have had their abstract accepted for inclusion in the conference by the Conference Organising Committee. Do not lodge an application until this has occurred.

Only one application per student will be eligible for adjudication and must be received by due date.

Applicants must be registered for the conference. Special student registration rates for Conference Registration are available – proof of studentship must be supplied at time of registration.

In the case of presentations with multiple presenters, only one presenter may be nominated for the student award, and they must play a significant role in the preparation and conduct of the research and analysis and in the presentation of findings.

# **Application Process**

Submit and have your abstract accepted for inclusion in the conference program. Confirm membership of NAGS

Lodge application electronically no later than 14 days prior to the conference to <a href="mags@nags.org.au">nags@nags.org.au</a>, comprising:

- Student Presentation Award Application Form
- Abstract
- Copy of Student card/ other evidence of studentship

Student Presentation Award applications will be acknowledged via return email.

If no acknowledgement is received within one week of submission, follow up the application with another email or phone 1300 11 6247

The NAGS National Committee shall appoint a panel of three judges who shall attend all presentations for which a Student Presentation Award application has been lodged. Judges must not have any role in the research being conducted by the student (e.g., supervision panel, coresearcher).

### **Assessment Criteria**

The Student Presentation Award will be made on the quality of the research and presentation and may only be awarded to students who have played the principle role in the research. The applicant should clarify whether the research being presented is part of a honours, master's or a doctoral thesis. The presentation must be about a research project, an investigation of some kind. Papers that:

- Simply describes the work that the individual or their workplace undertakes
- Describes a new or innovative idea or approach
- Only presents a literature review

are not considered research and do not qualify to be assessed. Only those papers that involve some kind of qualitative or quantitative research methodology, or some kind of investigation, with or without hypotheses, will be considered. These may include systematic reviews such as a Cochrane review and meta-analyses.

Applicants will be assessed using the following criteria taking into account the content of their research along with their professional presentation style. The attendees at the conference have diverse backgrounds that include the gaming industry, government, academia and practitioners and a smart-casual dress is typical.

Criterion	Comments	Score / 10
Extent to which gambling is the focus of the paper		
Contribution to the gambling		
literature – significance of impact		
Issue clearly defined with relevant background		
Clear orientation to purpose and rationale for study		
Quality of literature review		
Appropriateness of Method/ research design		
Clarity of Results/ data analysis		
Relevant discussion – to the point and related to findings		
Limitations addressed and areas for future study described		
Effective use of audio visual aids		
Professional presentation (e.g., speech, dress, body language).		
Logical flow of content/ material		
Timing (not too long or short)		
Other Comments		

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Total	/130

#### **Assessment Process**

Following adjudication, the student presentation allocated the highest total score may be eligible to win the Student Presentation Award. To prevent a mediocre presentation which happens to be the best of a poor range of presentations from winning the Award, the adjudicators must decide that the highest scoring presentation is deserving of the Award.

Adjudicators will generally not be known to the applicants and will not divulge any scores following individual presentations.

The winner will be announced at some suitable time during the conference if circumstances permit. Regardless of whether an announcement is made at the conference, the name and abstract of the winning application shall be posted on the National Association for Gambling Studies Inc website.

The adjudicator's decision is final and no correspondence shall be entered into. Adjudicators may, at their discretion and following a specific request from a student, provide general feedback on that student's presentation. Such consultations shall not be public and shall take place at times outside Conference sessions.

#### **Conditions of the Award**

#### Notification

The winning student will be given formal notification in writing and provided with options of International conference choices in the field that they could attend. The winner may nominate international conference preferences, but the final decision rests with the National Association for Gambling Studies Inc National Committee. In relation to some international conferences (e.g., EASG and New Zealand conferences), the National Association for Gambling Studies Inc National Committee will usually be able to confer with conference organisers to establish that the winner will be guaranteed a place on the conference program.

#### Duration of Award

The award is valid for 2 years from the date of the formal notification received from the National Association for Gambling Studies Secretariat. By the end of this two year period, the student should have obtained the award support, attended the associated international conference and provided a written report to the National Association for Gambling Studies Inc.

#### Nature of the Award

The Presentation Award is not redeemable for cash. The winner must be available to attend and present at the conference. The student may modify their presentation for the international conference in accordance with feedback from the National Association for Gambling Studies Inc conference; however, the majority of the content should be the same as presented at the conference. The funding provided by the National Association for Gambling Studies Inc to attend the conference must be acknowledged in the presentation.

## Conditions of attendance

The winner must attend the entire international conference, including all keynote sessions and one stream from all simultaneous sessions. During the conference they should take notes, and/or obtain copies of the presentations as on return to Australia they must prepare a report on the major findings and discussions of the conference for the National Association for Gambling Studies Inc members. This report should cover the main points of all keynote presentations and some of the interesting and relevant research presented in breakout sessions. It is expected that the report will be at least three pages long and should be submitted to the Secretariat one month following the conference. This report will be reviewed by a National Association for Gambling Studies Inc subcommittee and be published either in the Association's journal or bulletin, or be placed on the website.

## Financial considerations and Acquittal Process

The winner will make all travel and accommodation arrangements to attend the conference and must endeavour to take the most economical, reasonable options available. The winner may stay overseas outside the timetable of the conference; however only expenses involved with attending the conference will be reimbursed. Complimentary registration will be provided by some organisations with which the National Association for Gambling Studies Inc has a prior agreement (e.g., European Association for Gambling Studies). If this is not the case for other conferences, students will need to include registration cost as part of their budget request. Any expenditure above the \$5000 limit of the Award will need to be defrayed by the student.

Upon return to Australia the winner should write a brief summary of expenditure, accompanied by all receipts, and provide this to the Secretariat to be reimbursed with a cheque. The maximum amount of reimbursement is AUD\$5,000. If the winner does not have sufficient funds to pay for the conference prior to being reimbursed, they may send receipts to the National Association for Gambling Studies Inc Secretariat before they leave and be reimbursed for airfares and accommodation, where appropriate. If the winner does not have sufficient funds to directly pay merchants for airfare and accommodation, these may be paid directly by the National Association for Gambling Studies Inc.