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To:
Professor Mesbah Uddin Ahmed
President
Bangladesh Physical Society
Dhaka, Bangladesh

Ref. Doubling the endowment for Sultana N. Nahar Prizes for the best research publications in Bangladesh Journal of Physics annually

Dear Professor Mesbah Ahmed,

Assalamu alaikum.

I am submitting a revised MOA of guidelines, including increment of the endowment amount, for the recognition program that was proposed in 2017 to give 3 prizes for the best research papers in 3 different categories published under the Bangladesh Journal of Physics. However, 2 prizes were given in 2018.

To increase the honorarium amount of the prizes, I am contributing an additional fund of Tk.2lac to the original endowment of Tk.2lac.

Your cooperation to approve the changes in the prizes will be highly appreciated.

With best regards,

Prof Sultana N. Nahar

Revision of the MOA of the prize guidelines

Annual Sultana N. Nahar Prizes for the Best Research Publications in three divisions of Physics in Bangladesh Journal of Physics (BJP)

1. Purpose:

To encourage and recognize the excellence and high quality research and publications in Bangladesh Journal of Physics (BJP) It is crucial to carry out research and publish them to make advances in science.

The original proposal of the recognition program submitted in 2017, per discussion with then Editor-in-Chief of Bangladesh Journal of Physics Prof. Ishtiaque M. Syed, proposed for 3 annual prizes in 3 categories of publications in BJP.

However, in 2018 the first prizes under the program were given for two, instead of three, winners. The sponsor and founder of the prizes, Prof. Sultana N. Nahar, was informed by Prof. Syed that some changes were made in order to increase the honorarium amount and 3 prizes were reduced to 2.

The general motivation of Bangladeshi scientists is to publish their research finding in well reputed, particularly Western, journals with larger readers. While this is the right attitude, BJP can help to raise the quality of research and broaden research in Bangladesh by publishing both the excellent papers and those that may not be published well reputed journals. The objective of this program, as mentioned above, to encourage publications, particularly in BJP, through recognition. The more are recognized, the better it is.

2. Funding:

The prizes are sponsored by Professor Sultana N. Nahar of the Ohio State University in the USA from her personal income. She provided a total amount of Tk.2lac as the original endowment fund for the prizes in 2017.

To keep the prizes to 3 categories and be distributed every year, the sponsor is increasing the endowment amount by another Tk.2lac, expected to be given in April 2022 after approval of the changes by the Bangladesh Physical Society.

90% of the total annual profit of the fund will be used for the honorarium of the prize winners and 10% will be added to the endowment fund for future increase in honorarium.

The available fund of 90% from the profit of the endowment will be divided into 3 equal amount for distribution of prizes.

3. Prizes:

There will be 3 annual "Sultana N. Nahar Prize for the Best Research Publications in BJP" in the following 3 divisions each:

- i) One prize in the division of atomic, molecular and optical physics
- ii) One prize in the division of nuclear and high energy physics
- iii) One prize in condensed matter and general physics research

These categories are loosely defined since each category can include other areas of physics, such as, biophysics, chemical physics, medical physics, astrophysics, plasma physics, laser physics etc as long as the research has some relevance to the categories.

The recognition in each category may be given every year in rotation with subjects under it, such as atomic or molecular or optical physics in category (i), for wider wider recognition of authors.

Each winner will receive a "Certificate of Excellence" for the published research signed by the President of Bangladesh Physical Society and an honorarium equal to 33% of the available fund.

Citation: "In recognition of outstanding research publications in the respective division of i) *Atomic/Molecular/Optical* or ii) *Nuclear/High Energy* or iii) *Condensed Matter/General Physics* in Bangladesh Journal of Physics"

4. Terms and Conditions:

The criteria for selection of the research publications will depend on i) the number of publication in the Bangladesh Journal of Physics (BJP), ii) quality of research, and iii) percentage contribution of the applicant in multi-authored papers published during the time from January 1 to December 31 in the past year.

Publications in BJP will carry 90% of the prize evaluation.

The applicant is also expected to publish the research in other journals with larger number of readers, such as, western journals. 10% weight of the evaluation will come from such publications.

All publications should be complete with full references. The same publications can not be used twice to win the prizes.

An announcement of the prizes, both in the form of a circular and at the BJP website, of the prizes will be made for the authors of BJP, who can be Bangladeshi or non-Bangladeshi, to apply for the prizes in January. Applicants will be asked to submit the following items to the Chief Editor of the Bangladesh Journal of Physics:

- i) full CV including the list of all published papers
- ii) Separate list of publications in BJP during January 1 to December 31 in the past year.
- iii) Two copies of each published paper from the past year, five maximum, in BJP that are of the highest importance
- iv) Two copies of a short statement describing the importance and impact of the research published in BJP (maximum two pages single spaced)

The highest scorers will receive the prizes. Points of evaluation:

- i) Quality and number of papers. Judgment should consider case of higher quality of one or less number of papers by an author may exceed that from combined contribution of quality and number of papers by other authors. - 70 %
- ii) Statement on the importance and impact of the research - 20 %
- iii) A version of the research published in a reputed journal - 10 %

The President of Bangladesh Physical Society will form the prize committee of three or five experts in the field to oversee the selection process. The members of the prize committee can evaluate and/or seek evaluation from other experts in the respective field of the submitted applications. The committee will select the winners and receive the consent of the President and the sponsor. If the sponsor is not available, President's consent will be sufficient. The President and members of the prize committee are also eligible for the prizes. If any of the prize committee member is a candidate for a prize, then for the objectivity of evaluation, the President will include additional members in the prize committee.

5. The Prize Board:

The Board will consist of the President of Bangladesh Physical Society (BPS), three members of the Editorial Board, two members of BPS with expertise in their respective field, and the sponsor, Professor Sultana N. Nahar.

For the best of motivation or encouragement, the Board members may suggest modifications or adjustment of the process. Any decision on the modification of the terms and conditions or relevant issues on the prizes can be made by three members of the Board with consent from the sponsor.

7. Prize Ceremony:

To honor the winners and inspire others to make the best effort, it is suggested that the annual prize ceremony will be held at the annual conference of BPS with some other events where the largest number of audience will be present and the news of the winners will be published in BPS news media.



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Prof Mesbahuddin Ahmed
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&
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