



THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

College of Arts and Sciences

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To:

Professor Adel M. Awadallah
President
Islamic University in Gaza
Gaza

September 26, 2016

Ref: S.N. Nahar Teachers and A.R. Rahman Students Chemistry and Engineering Prizes at IUG

Dear President Professor Adel M. Awadallah,

.Assalamu alaikum.

Following my stated plan earlier, I would like to propose to extend the MOA of the recognition program at IUG to Chemistry and Faculty of Engineering with two prizes in Chemistry and four in Engineering. Since the Faculty of Engineering at IUG has seven Departments, 4 prizes will be distributed in two groups of engineering departments as suggested by IUG and explained in the guidelines.

The selection criteria for the prizes are similar to those for Biology, physics and mathematics.

I am proposing that these new prizes be given starting in April 2017 when the first batch of winners in Biology, Mathematics, Physics will receive their prizes. I will be sending US\$15000 after official approval of this MOA in this September of 2016 and it is possible to distribute the prizes without any reduction in prize honorarium in the future.

The MOA of the recognition program is attached. I look forward to its acceptance by IUG. I will deposit the endowment fund through bank transfer, probably through my Chase Bank account. Similar to the existing trust for physics, mathematics, biology prizes, the money should be deposited in an account in my name under IUG. The usage of it will be as mandated in the prize guidelines.

I would appreciate receiving the letter from you approving the prizes, similar to that you sent for the earlier prizes (attached here). I would also appreciate having scanned copy of the MOA of prize guidelines with signature and stamp on each page.

Best regards,

Prof Sultana N. Nahar, Department of Astronomy
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MOA of the Sultana N. Nahar and Alburuj R. Rahman Annual Prizes in CHEMISTRY and ENGINEERING

1. Purpose:

To recognize and motivate Muslim teachers for the best teaching in class and outstanding research publications and encourage Muslim students to academic and research excellence in STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics).

In the present recognition program, the role of teachers is emphasized in order to increase the number of graduating students with higher quality education. There is always be a limited number of top students in the class. Recognition will encourage them to continue their best effort for higher excellence. However, it is for the rest of the class who fall behind in grasping the subject materials that teachers can play the most important role. Motivated teachers can help uplifting the standard of the whole class by better teaching skill, being more helpful and providing positive inspiration, then not only the top students the whole class will benefit. This program will recognize teachers annually for the best teaching to support and encourage their effort to raise the standard of the class. Students, who are the direct beneficiary of knowledge, will nominate their teachers.

Teachers also play the most crucial role in guiding and leading research. Without research and publications, there are no advances and the university will not be known outside. Hence faculty members will be recognized annually for the best research.

This is an extension of the recognition program for physics, mathematics, biology Departments established in October 2015 with similar criteria for the selection of prizes. There will be three prizes for faculty members for research, one in chemistry and two engineering, and three prizes for the best graduating students with the bachelor degree, one in chemistry and two in engineering as describe below.

2. Funding:

The prizes are sponsored by Dr. Sultana N. Nahar (Ohio State University) from her personal income. She will provide US\$15,000 as the capital amount or endowment fund, Similar to the existing trust for the other S.N. Nahar and A.R. Rahman prizes at IUG, the endowment is expected to be deposited in Murabaha system of the cooperative investment society for IUG employees which returns 6 to 8% annually. This should yield a total profit of US\$900 to US\$1200 annually. The guidelines below propose distributing total honorarium equivalent to US\$900 for the six prizes. However, the amount may change depending on the profit earned. The profit from the endowment fund will be used for the annual teachers and students prizes, any overhead expenditure, sustenance and future increment of the prize honorarium.

The sponsor Sultana N. Nahar wishes the prizes for Chemistry and Engineering to start in April 2017 when IUG will be distributing the prizes in Physics, Mathematics and Biology. Assuming the availability of the highest return of 8%, the present endowment will earn a profit of US\$600 in six months in April and US\$300 can be withdrawn from the capital needed for the 6 prizes. Assuming continuing availability of the highest interest of 8%, this should not affect the future prizes.

3. Prizes:

There will be in total 6 annual prizes - 3 Sultana N. Nahar prizes for the faculty members (one in Chemistry and two in Faculty of Engineering) and 3 Alburuj R. Rahman prizes for students (1 in chemistry and 2 in Faculty of Engineering). Since there are 7 Departments under Faculty



of Engineering, prizes will be divided among two groups of Departments and rotated among the Departments inside each group as follows.

Group 1: Civil + Environmental + Architectural. Group 2: Computer + Electrical + Mechanical + Industrial. Each group will have 2 prizes, 1 for the faculty members and 1 for the students. It is not necessary to have winning students be from the same departments of the winning faculty members.

Each prize will consist of a Certificate of Excellence and an honorarium as suggested below. The certificates will be signed by the President of the university or by the Dean of Research or by the Dean of Faculty of Science/Engineering and the Chair of the respective Department.

4. Terms and Conditions:

The criteria of selection are described below. A suggested citation is also given. However, the citation can be modified to express the specific merits of the winner.

A. Research prizes for the faculty members:

There will be 3 annual Sultana. N. Nahar Prize for Distinction in Chemistry/Engineering Research (for research publications which include guidance of at least one research student). The honorarium of each prize will be approximately equivalent to \$200.

Selection Criteria:

Nomination of this prize for a faculty member will be based largely on research publications and with whom at least one student has carried out research or authored in one publication in a peer-reviewed journal. Research publications will comprise 70% weight of the prize nomination. 10% will come from Faculty Dean based on conference presentations, participating in organizing a conference or some other achievement that makes Islamic University in Gaza known for research. 10% of the weight will come from the students assessment administered at IUG. 5% weight will come from the Head of the Department based on judgment on the research activities of the nominated teachers. In the event the Chair himself or herself is nominated, the 5% will be decided by the prize committee overseeing the procedure. The recommendation of the sponsor, Dr. Sultana N. Nahar or her representative will carry 5% to the nomination. In absence of the sponsor or her representative, the 5% will be added to the points for research publications.

Weight on research publications will depend on i) number of publications (published and accepted papers), ii) number of publications in journals with larger number of international readers such as western journals, iii) contribution of the author in a multi-authored paper.

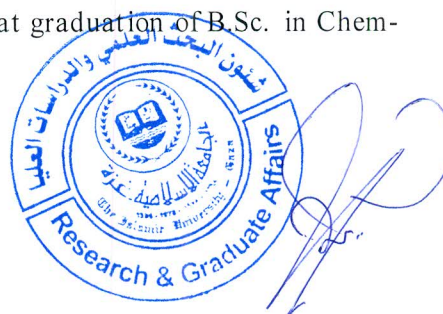
Citation: In recognition of outstanding research publications and motivating students to creative thinking and research

B. Prizes for the Best Graduating B.Sc Students:

Selection Criteria for B.Sc. students:

There will be 3 annual Alburuj R. Rahman Prizes for the best B.Sc. graduating students, 1 from Chemistry and 2 from Engineering as described above. The best graduating bachelor students will be evaluated based on the highest aggregated score in B. Sc.. However, any bachelor student with research experience should get additional 10% points toward evaluation. The honorarium for the prize will be approximately equivalent to \$100

Citation: In recognition of securing the highest points/grade at graduation of B.Sc. in Chemistry/Engineering.



5. The Prize Board:

The Board will consist of the President of Islamic University or the in-charge person appointed by the university, the Dean of Research, the Dean of Faculty of Science/Engineering, the Chairs of the faculties of the respective candidates and the sponsor, Dr. Sultana N. Nahar.

For the best of motivation or encouragement, the academic committee of the Departments 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.

6. Evaluation Process:

About two months before the end of the academic year the respective Departments will initiate the recognition process. The academic committee of the Department will form a prize committee of three to five faculty members. All faculty members in the prize committee are also eligible to be nominated.

For the faculty research prizes, all faculty members will be asked to submit their research publications of the past year and updated CV to the office of the Department Chair. The prize committee will make selection of faculty members with maximum points, one or two (in case of close points). The Chairperson and the prize committee will approve one winner for the prize and send the names to the Prize Board headed by the University personnel who will have them approved. In case of two nominees with almost equal points, the prize money can be divided into two, where each winner will get the certificate and half of the honorarium. The Board will inform the winners and present formally the certificate and honorarium to each of them.

7. Prize Ceremony:

To honor the winners and inspire others to make best effort, it is suggested to hold the prize ceremony in combination with other events or in an event where the largest university audience will be present and publish the news of the winners in the university news media.

