



To:

Professor Hatem Odah  
President  
National Research Institute of Astronomy and Geophysics  
11421 Helwan, Cairo, Egypt

August 5, 2016

Ref. Sultana N. Nahar Prizes for the best research publications by NRIAG members

Dear Professor Hatem Odah,

Assalamu alaikum.

I am submitting the revised document of guidelines for the recognition program of NRIAG members for the best research publications. The revisions have been made following the suggestions of the institute Board of Directors of NRIAG at the meeting of July 14, 2016 and follow-up discussions I had with you and Professor Somaya Saad.

I have increased the fund amount to \$13000.

I have drafted the announcement for applications for the prizes. Both the pdf- and doc versions are attached to my email.

With best regards and wishes,

Prof Sultana N. Nahar

APPROVED



## **Two annual Sultana N. Nahar Prizes for the Best Research Publications in Astronomy and in Geophysics at NRIAG**

### **1. Purpose:**

To encourage and recognize the excellence and high quality research and publication in journals by the members of the National Research Institute of Astronomy and Geophysics (NRIAG)

It is crucial to carry out research and publish them for advances in science.

### **2. Funding:**

The prizes will be sponsored by Professor Sultana N. Nahar of the Ohio State University from her personal income. She will provide a total fund of US\$13,000 of which \$12400 will be used as the capital amount or the endowment fund and \$600 will be used as prize honorarium for the two winners of 2016.

The profit from the endowment fund will be used for the annual prizes, sustenance and future increment of the honorarium. The endowment fund may remain as USD in long-term bank deposit since US dollars maintains a better stability as currency value. The honorarium may also be given in USD.

### **3. Prizes:**

There will be two annual "Sultana N. Nahar Prize for the Best Research Publications", one in Astronomy and one in Geophysics. Each winner will receive a Certificate of Excellent research and an honorarium of \$300. The certificates will be signed by the President of NRIAG. The amount of honorarium should increase with time.

**Citation:** In recognition of outstanding research publications in Astronomy/Geophysics by a NRIAG member."

### **4. Terms and Conditions:**

The criteria of selection for the research publication prizes will depend on i) number of publication in peer-reviewed international journals with larger number of readers, such as, western journals, ii) impact/importance of the work, iii) number of publications, and iv) percentage of contributions of the nominated author in multi-authored papers published during the past 5 years from the year of application, such as, during the period of July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2016.

To encourage the productivity of NRIAG facilities, such as Kottamia Observatory, a publication containing results from them, may carry an additional weight, such as 5% out of total in the evaluation process.

The same publications can not be used twice to win the prizes. Hence a winner of the prize will wait for five years from the date of his/her application to apply again for one of the two prizes.

An announcement, in the form of a circular or notice or advertisement, of the prizes should be made for the members of NRIAG in all labs and locations. Applicants will be asked to submit their i) full CV, ii) the list of published papers during the past five years from the date of application, such as, during the period of July 1, 2011 and June 30, 2016, iii) reprints of five papers from the list, iv) a short statement on the importance and impact of the five years published research, and v) full list of publications, to the office of NRIAG President or to an appointed person by the President.

The President will form the prize committee of three or five members of NRIAG to oversee the selection process. But for the neutrality of the evaluation process, the President may choose



one or two non-NRIAG scientists. The prize committee itself and using other experts in the field will evaluate the submitted applications and along with the President or an appointee by him/her select the winners. The President and members of the prize committee also eligible for the prizes. If any of the prize committee member is a candidate for the prizes, then for objectivity the President will include more members in the prize committee.

#### **5. The Prize Board:**

The Board will consist of the President of NRIAG, three to five members of NRIAG, such as the Heads/Directors, as appointed by the President, and the sponsor, Professor Sultana N. Nahar.

For the best of motivation or encouragement, the Board members of NRIAG 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 with some other events of NRIAG where the largest number of audience will be present and the news of the winners will be published in a news media.

APPROVED





Professor Sultana N. Nahar  
Department of Astronomy  
The Ohio State University  
Columbus, OH 43210, USA

October 18, 2016

Ref: Receipt of the endowment fund for the Sultana N. Nahar prizes for the best publications in Astronomy and in Geophysics research

Dear Professor Sultana Nahar,

Assalamu alaikum.

This is to acknowledge that we received US \$13,000 from you on October 16, 2016 for introduction of the annual best research publications prizes with the objective of encouraging higher excellence in research and publications by NRIAG members. Following the MOA of the prize guidelines, \$12,400 from it will be deposited in a bank as the endowment fund for two prizes and interest will be used for honorarium for the prizes starting in 2017. The other \$600 will be used for the first prizes in October 2016.

We appreciate very much your contributions and support for research activities at NRIAG.

With best regards,

Professor Hatem Odah

President

National Research Institute of Astronomy and  
Geophysics (NRIAG) Helwan, Egypt.

