The Merit Abstract Award and the Merit Abstract Travel Stipend

The Organization for Human Brain Mapping (OHBM) is committed to the involvement of trainees in its Annual Meetings. To help encourage this, the OHBM will be offering two types of awards beginning in 2016. The Merit Abstract Award and the Merit Abstract Travel Stipend.

Both awards are designed to assist with offsetting the costs associated with traveling to and offsetting the costs associated with attending the OHBM Annual Meeting. The former is intended to be awarded to particularly noteworthy abstract submissions whose peer-reviewed scores place them at the topmost tier of trainee abstract submissions. The latter is specifically intended to help support those persons wishing to attend the OHBM Annual Meeting who reside in countries who are formally recognized to be economically disadvantaged and whose abstracts are also highly rated. Applicants may be able to apply for both the Merit Abstract Award and Merit Abstract Travel Stipend but will only eligible to accept one award.

The recipients of the Merit Abstract Award:

1. Will receive a $2,000 USD cash award;
2. Are required to be the first author AND presenter on an abstract accepted for presentation at OHBM 2016;
3. Are required to be presently enrolled in a full-time "In Training" program (see definition below) in the field of human brain mapping;
4. If selected to receive an award, the awardee must register for OHBM 2016 and be a current, dues-paying member of OHBM.
5. Would be selected strictly based on the basis of their abstract score.

"In Training" Status

Three categories of "In Training" status will be recognized:

1. A full-time student in a graduate program (M.S., Ph.D. or M.D. degree) relating to the field of human brain mapping
2. A full-time participant in a medical residency program in a field relating to human brain mapping (e.g., psychiatry, neurology, neurosurgery, radiology)
3. A full-time post-doctoral research fellow within three years of graduation

The recipients of the Merit Abstract Travel Stipend:

1. Are required to be the first author AND presenter on an abstract accepted for presentation at OHBM 2016;
2. Are required to be presently enrolled in a full-time "In Training" program (see definition below) in the field of human brain mapping;
3. Must reside and work in countries ranking low on the UNESCO Institute of Statistics (UIS) (see menu below);
4. Will indicate on the abstract inscription form the name, position and email of their advisor, as well as another senior researcher in the field of human brain mapping and from a different institution the OHBM selection committee will contact electronically to vouch for the suitability of the applicant and that they would be unable to attend the meeting without the travel stipend;
5. Will be selected based on the basis of their abstract score;
6. If selected to receive an award, the awardee must register for OHBM 2016 and be a current, dues-paying member of OHBM;
7. Will receive gratis meeting registration, coach class air transportation and standard lodging at a hotel near and associated with the OHBM Annual Meeting. Approved applicants will work directly with OHBM’s official travel agency with no exceptions. It is essential that proof of Visa for travel to and stay in the meeting host country is provided to the OHBM prior to making arrangements for air transportation. Costs will be covered only for the dates of the OHBM Annual Meeting. Should the awardee wish to arrive early or extend their stay longer than the OHBM Meeting dates, any additional costs incurred by so doing will be the responsibility of the awardee, their mentor, and/or home institution.
8. Will not receive any direct monetary award nor would OHBM fund meals or incidentals not usually considered in the regular registration fee;
9. Applicants residing and working in countries where there exists or there is an association with a recognized OHBM Regional Chapter, it is recommended that the applicant also obtain the support from the OHBM regional chapter president/director to accompany their request for consideration. The OHBM will coordinate with the Regional Chapter on behalf of the applicant when applicable.