The ICTMA Early Career Researcher Bursary – The Helena Wessels ICTMA Bursary

An ICTMA Early Career Research Bursary, to be known as The Helena Wessels ICTMA Bursary, is to be awarded as required before each ICTMA conference for the next two ICTMAs (ICTMA 20 and ICTMA21) to an active ICTMA member who has completed their PhD since the closure of applications for the bursary last conference (or the one before the application date for the first awarding of the bursary) and with it made an original contribution to research in mathematical modelling education in his/her local context and internationally. The award of this bursary reflects ICTMA’s intention to promote the development of early career researchers who are ICTMA members. Normally, the bursary will be awarded so the awardee can attend and present from the doctoral study in a plenary at the ICTMA conference where the bursary will be acknowledged. Recipients will receive full registration at the ICTMA conference and be asked to present a plenary address based on their thesis/doctoral study.

Nomination process

The existence of the Early Career Research Bursary will be made known to ICTMA members through the listserv and website. Nominations will be accepted up until December 31 of the year before an ICTMA conference is held. An ICTMA member must be nominated and seconded by other ICTMA members. S/he must accept the nomination in writing.

ICTMA will supply a downloadable nomination form, including space for the nomination and acceptance as well as to address each of the criteria. The case should be based on concrete evidence that is easily checked and/or appended to the nomination form where possible.

Selection process

Before the beginning of an ICTMA conference year, the International Executive member who has oversight of awards in their portfolio, named as International Executive Member (Awards) for this purpose, will invite a panel that includes

- International Executive Member (Awards);
- 2 international ICTMA members who are experienced mathematical modelling education researchers, one of whom will be nominated by the International Executive Member (Awards) as Chair of the panel; and
- the chair of the next ICTMA conference.

The names of the panel members will be reported to the International Executive, but not to ICTMA members. The following International Executive Committee motion will be used to accept the
International Executive member’s nomination: “The ICTMA International Executive Committee accepts the names of the assessing panel as submitted by the International Executive Member (Awards).”

If and when nominations are received, the International Executive Member (Awards) will:

- within 1 month of receipt, acknowledge receipt and collect further information from the nominators if necessary;
- arrange for the panel to judge the applications; and
- recommend the award of The Helena Wessels ICTMA Bursary (or not) to the ICTMA International Executive Committee.

The panel, through the International Executive Member (Awards), has the right to seek further references or information from the member who proposed the nomination, or the nominated member, or both. The membership, business and recommendations of the panel will remain confidential.

Selection criteria

It is expected that the recipient of an ICTMA Early Career Research Bursary, that is, The Helena Wessels ICTMA Bursary, will have:

1. Successfully completed a high quality doctoral dissertation/thesis in the timeframe;
2. Made an original contribution to research in mathematical modelling education in his/her local context and internationally through the study referred to (1);
3. Actively participated in ICTMA previously;
4. Is a current ICTMA member;
5. Agreed that he/she will attend the next ICTMA if his/her application is successful and present a plenary address based on the thesis research.