

## Travel Awards for VPH Conference

### 1.1 General

- 1.1.1 The VPH INSTITUTE establishes Travel Awards with the purpose of allowing young researchers to participate at the next VPH conferences with priority to researchers from countries with low income (based on GDP per capita)<sup>1</sup>.
- 1.1.2 For every VPH Conference a number of Travel Awards (the number is set by the financial conditions each time) will be given to the worthiest applicant(s) based on the selection made by an ad hoc Award Committee.
- 1.1.3 The Award consists of 400 €. In occasion of the VPH2014 conference, the Institute will assign five awards for a total of 2000 €.

### 2. Eligibility

- 2.1.1 Any young researcher who is undertaking a post-graduate training in related disciplines, or has obtained his/her post-graduate degree in the last five years, who presents a promising research career and who has an accepted paper for the upcoming VPH Conference as oral or poster presentation is eligible.
- 2.1.2 The applicant must be a VPH INSTITUTE member in good standing.
- 2.1.3 Applicants with Award Committee members as co-authors on the abstract are not eligible.

### 3. Award Committee

- 3.1.1 The Board appoints an Award Committee at least six months prior to the VPH Conference.
- 3.1.2 It consists of a minimum of three and maximum of five members. Among them there must be at least one VPH INSTITUTE Board member and at least one person involved in the organization of the Conference. Members must disclose to the Board any potential conflict of interest (e.g. either nominating or submitting for the award or a former mentor or mentee). Members in conflict will be excused from participation in the assessment of the award.
- 3.1.3 The Chairman of the Committee must be a VPH INSTITUTE Board member and is appointed by the Board. He/she is responsible for administrating the process with the assistance of the VPH Institute Manager.

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<sup>1</sup> More information on: <http://data.worldbank.org/indicator/NY.GDP.PCAP.CD>

## **4. Application**

4.1.1 Applicants should forward their request for a travel award to the Chairman of the Award Committee at the time of abstract submission set by the Conference organizers.

4.1.2 Applications must include:

- a) a cover letter, carrying the following information: applicant's full name, address, nationality, age, VPH INSTITUTE membership status, information concerning his/her present position, name of his/her present institution, name and address of the academic adviser.
- b) a second Letter in the form of a 200-word-statement to show the student's motivation. This letter must state: (1) why they wish to apply for it; (2) what would be the benefit for the student; (3) how crucial it is to have to the travel award for participating to the conference. The financial need will play a crucial role in deciding who finally gets this award if there are more candidates than the number of awards to be handed out.
- c) the officially submitted paper for an oral or poster presentation, in which the applicant is the presenting author to the VPH Conference;
- d) the applicant's curriculum vitae.

## **5. Selection**

5.1.1 The final selection of the awarded applicants will be made by the Committee based on the following criteria:

- a) The motivated financial need of the applicant;
- b) The CV of the applicant;
- c) The relevance of the research subject of the accepted abstract for the VPH research community at large.

## **6. Presentation**

6.1.1 The award presentation will take place during the Closing Ceremony of the Conference or the Banquet according to a protocol decided by the Conference organizers.

6.1.2 The members of VPH INSTITUTE will be informed about the winners by circulation in the VPH INSTITUTE Newsletter as well as by an announcement on the VPH INSTITUTE web page.