

S. Chandrasekhar Post-doctoral Awards



In 2010, the centennial year of birth of Professor S. Chandrasekhar, the Society instituted post-doctoral awards in honor of his memory. Professor S. Chandrasekhar is widely regarded as *the* pre-eminent astrophysicist of the 20th century. He was a Fellow of the Royal Society (London) as well as the US National Academy of Sciences, and a Foreign Fellow of numerous other National Academies. During his long and illustrious career, he won all the coveted honors in the field, including the Nobel Prize for physics. He became interested in general relativity in the early sixties and focused on various mathematical aspects of our field for over two decades. The x-ray satellite *Chandra* was named after him and continues to provide novel and detailed information about the distant universe.

The awards are sponsored by *World Scientific* which distributed the book *Chandra – Man Behind the Legend* and will soon publish *The Collected Works of S. Chandrasekhar* through its Series in 20th Century Physics. The S. Chandrasekhar awards will be given for the best presentations by post-docs in the tri-annual GRn conferences. As a general rule there will be at least one award in each of the four scientific parts in which the conference sessions are divided. The award consists of a cash prize and free membership of the Society until the next conference.

The awards are made in the following manner: i) Each parallel session Chair will be requested to make (at most) one nomination for the best talk by a post-doctoral researcher in that session, based on a dual criterion: the scientific quality of research and the quality of presentation. ii) Eligible candidates should be researchers who hold a non-faculty, post-doctoral position at the time of their presentation. iii) The nomination will be collected by the Chair of the Scientific Organizing Committee of the conference who will present the President of the Society with a rank-ordered list. In case when the number of candidates on the list exceeds the number of awards available, the Executive Committee of the Society will make a selection ensuring a fair distribution among various sub-fields. As a general rule, the awards will be made within three months of the GRn conference.