SIGPLAN Programming Language
Achievement Award and Software Award

Approved by the SIGPLAN Executive Committee

2 December 2010

Programming Languages Achievement Award

The Programming Languages Achievement Award is given by ACM SIGPLAN to an individual or individuals who has made a significant and lasting contribution to the field of programming languages. The contribution can be a single event or a lifetime of achievement. The award includes a prize of $5,000. The award is presented at SIGPLAN’s PLDI conference in June.

Nominations can be submitted at any time to the secretary of SIGPLAN. Nominations submitted on or before January 5th will be considered for that year’s award. A nomination for the Achievement Award that is not selected will remain in consideration for a total of three years.

Each nomination should consist of the following items:

- Name, affiliation, telephone number, and email address of the person making the nomination (the nominator).
- Name, affiliation, telephone number, and email address of the candidate for whom the award is recommended (the nominee).
- A short statement (200–500 words) explaining why the nominee deserves the award in question.
- Names and email addresses of 5–10 people who support the nomination. The awards committee will ask some or all of these people for statements of support.

Programming Languages Software Award

The Programming Languages Software Award is given by ACM SIGPLAN to an individual or an institution to recognize the development a software system that has had a significant impact on programming language research, implementations, and tools. The impact may be reflected in the wide-spread adoption of the system or its underlying concepts by the wider programming language community either in research projects, in the open-source community, or commercially. The award includes a prize of $2,500. The award is presented at SIGPLAN’s PLDI conference in June.

Nominations can be submitted at any time to the secretary of SIGPLAN. Nominations submitted on or before January 15th will be considered for that year’s award. A nomination for the Software Award that is not selected will remain in consideration for a total of three years.

Each nomination should consist of the following items:
• Name, affiliation, telephone number, and email address of the person making the nomination (the nominator).
• Name, affiliation, telephone number, and email address of the candidate for whom the award is recommended (the nominee).
• A short statement (200–500 words) explaining why the nominee deserves the award in question.
• Names and email addresses of 5–10 people who support the nomination. The awards committee will ask some or all of these people for statements of support.

The SIGPLAN Awards Committee

The recipients of the awards are selected by the SIGPLAN Awards committee, which is constituted as follows.

• The Chair of the Awards committee shall be a member of the SIGPLAN Executive Committee, and shall be appointed by the executive committee.
• The Chair of the SIGPLAN EC shall be an ex-officio member of the Awards committee. If the EC Chair is unable to serve, he or she may appoint another member of the EC as a substitute.
• The steering committees of the major SIGPLAN Conferences, POPL, PLDI, ICFP, and SPLASH, shall each appoint a member to the Awards Committee.

Conflicts of Interest

Because these awards are intended to recognize persons and software systems of major influence, it is likely that several members of the awards committee may have worked with, or co-authored articles with, the nominees, and may have a conflict of interest. The primary mechanism for handling such conflicts will be to declare them to the committee; once so declared, conflicts of interest shall not automatically prevent a committee member from taking part in the selection process. However, if a member of the committee, or the chair of the committee, feels that the association of a committee member with a nominee would interfere with impartial consideration of the nominees, a committee member shall be absented from the relevant parts of the discussion. If the same committee member has conflicts of interest with more than one nominee, the Chair of the Awards Committee may ask the constituency that appointed the committee member to select a replacement member.