Piaget Scientific Award regulations

The Piaget Scientific Award (hereafter competition) is organised by Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne (EPFL) in partnership with PIAGET.

Article 1 – Purpose

The purpose of the competition is to award a scholarship to the best PhD thesis research work in the broad field of miniaturisation. Examples of topics of interest are, but not limited to:

- Advanced micro-manufacturing, such as new: Laser-processing, MEMS processes, 3D micro-printing, Additive micro-manufacturing, and any other new innovative micro-manufacturing process.
- Material behaviour at the smaller scale
- Smart materials suitable for micro-mechanics
- Miniaturisation in mechanical design and innovative micro-mechanical concepts
- Tribology at the microscale
- New micro-assembly concepts
- Micro-actuators (excluding electrical/electronics/ICs)

Article 2 – Conditions of participation in the competition

1/ The competition is open to researchers having or being in the process of completing their doctorates in one of the fields mentioned under Article 1.

2/ To be eligible, applications must contain:

- A research proposal (according the template provided on the Award website)
- A Curriculum Vitae
- A list of publications
- A recommendation letter from the thesis supervisor/director
- A signed version of the Piaget Scientific Award Regulation (this document).

3/ Candidates’ work must stem from their own research. Candidates must not deliberately infringe the intellectual property of a third party.

4/ The doctoral thesis defence of the candidate must – or will have to - have taken place between the 1st of January 2018 and the 31st of December 2019.

5/ Applications from a laboratory of a member of the Committee of Experts as well as subjects or fields running counter to the ethical principles of EPFL or PIAGET shall be excluded from the competition.
Article 3 – Prize

The laureate will receive a one-year scholarship for post-doctoral research on the topic presented, to be conducted in one of EPFL’s laboratory, preferably – but not mandatory, a member of EPFL’s Advanced Micromanufacturing center (M2C). The laureate will be employed by EPFL and will in this respect be subject to the rights and obligations governing the latter.

Article 4 – Composition and role of the Committee of Experts

The Committee of Experts will be composed of two personalities from the academic scientific world and two people from the industrial sector. The committee will be chaired by Professor Yves Bellouard.

Article 5 – Committee of Experts’ decisions

Decisions taken by the Committee of Experts, particularly regarding the awarding of the prize, are not subject to appeal or contestation by the candidates.

The Committee of Experts reserves the right, at its entire discretion, to put a cap on the number of applications should there be too many.

The Committee of Experts reserves the right, at its entire discretion, not to award the prize if it deems that the level of the research work presented is unsatisfactory.

Should the winning candidate not take up the scholarship at EPFL or depart during the allotted study time, he or she will be disqualified, the prize withdrawn and funding cease.

Article 6 – Executive Committee

The Executive Committee will be composed of two members from EPFL and two members from PIAGET. It is the decision-making body that ensures the smooth running of the competition.

Article 7 – Applications, announcement of the laureate and prize-giving ceremony

Applications must reach the Galatea Lab (Richemont Chair in Multiscale Manufacturing Technologies) by 12 noon (UTC+1) by May 31st of 2019.

The name of the laureate will be announced at the Salon International de la Haute Horlogerie that will take place in January 2020. Until the official announcement is made, the laureate must not under any circumstances tell anyone that he or she has been designated by the Committee of Experts as the laureate of the Piaget Scientific Prize. The prize-giving ceremony will take place at the Salon International de la Haute Horlogerie or at any other event chosen by Piaget.
Article 8 – Modification of the regulations

The sole authority to modify the present regulations rests with the Executive Committee.

Article 9 – Domiciliation

The competition is officially domiciled at the Galatea Lab (Richemont Chair in Multiscale Manufacturing Technologies) of Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne (EPFL), CH – 1015 Lausanne.

The candidate acknowledges having read the present regulations and accepts the terms and conditions. The application file must include one signed copy of the present regulations.

Signature of the candidate for the Piaget Scientific Award.