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Executive Summary

This documents provides basic information on the progress made in the launch of the 2003 European Localisation Scholar award.

It contains details of the format of the award.

It contains an early draft of the press release to be used to announce the award.

The European Localisation Scholar award is a bi-annual scholarship programme that is based on competitive proposal submission by postgraduate researchers at European third level institutions. The award will be awarded to a postgraduate who is undergoing research on a localisation related topic in a European third-level institution. The Scholarship will be awarded to a “deserving” fulltime research student in the first year of their higher research degree and will be based on the student’s outstanding undergraduate track record.

The European Localisation Scholar award is one of two new awards that ELECT is launching this year, 2003. As a result of this it is still at an early stage of development and is awaiting confirmation of various details before it can be accorded the publicity necessary to promote it properly. Most of the work that has been completed up to this point has been conceptual dealing with factors such as setting criteria for awards, establishing what form the award will take and establishing how it will be presented. The LRC has some experience with academic awards and as a result ELECT does not see any major obstacles to the successful incorporation of this award.

The areas that have been decided upon are:

- Criteria for judging the award.
- The Scope of the award.
- The Prize
- Conditions of eligibility

Details of these areas are contained in the provisional press release that is attached to this report.

Another confirmed area relates to the actual presentation of the award. The top five applicants will be invited to the LRC Localisation 2003 conference and given an opportunity to present their research proposals. The judging panel will watch each of the presentation and then enter into final deliberations on the overall winner. The award will then be presented at an awards ceremony later that evening.

The areas that have yet to be decided upon are:

- A sponsor for the award. Companies have yet to be approached regarding sponsorship of the award but ELECT is hopeful that one of it’s many contacts in the localisation industry will step up to the task.
- The composition of the judging panel. Selection of the judging panel cannot take place until a sponsor has been decided upon, in case the sponsor would like to contribute to the judging of the award.
- The actual amount of the prize. The actual cash amount of the prize cannot be decided upon until it has been agreed with a sponsor.

The award was announced, with on the ELECTOnline website, at <http://elect-websrvr.csis.ul.ie/EN/MENUS/nm5.htm>, earlier this year. While this announcement notified people of the award and contained the most important information such as scope and how to enter for the award it lacked various details. At the moment these details are still not available however once they have been confirmed the website will be updated.

PRESS RELEASE

Limerick, 3 April 2003

1st ELECT European Localisation Scholar Award.

ELECT, the European Localisation Exchange Centre, based in the Localisation Research Centre (LRC) at the University of Limerick announces the first ever Localisation scholarship Award to a postgraduate who is undergoing research on a localisation related topic in a European third-level institution. The Scholarship will be awarded to a "deserving" fulltime research student in the first year of their higher research degree and will be based on the student's outstanding undergraduate track record.

SCOPE

The scope of the Research Project need not be confined to a technical area, and applications are also invited from students who are carrying out research into commercial and management aspects of the localisation industry.

Possible areas of research might include:

- Global web design and content management
- Machine Translation and Computer-aided translation
- Terminology databases
- Software quality assurance and localisation
- Software engineering for the international market
- Internationalisation
- Project management and localisation

PRIZE

The top five research proposals will be invited to present their research project at the LRC Localisation Conference, which is held on an annual basis LRC 2003 Conference in Dublin (November 18-20), the winner will then be selected and will receive a sum of money as their prize.

SUBMISSION

To be eligible for consideration, candidates must:-

- Have the proposed supervisor submit a one-page description of the research project to be conducted at any European third level institution
- Be EU graduates who have been accepted to pursue a higher degree by research
- Submit official transcripts of all years of undergraduate exams, a copy of their degree parchment and evidence of their standing within their peer group.
- Provide evidence to support their case, this may include, but is not restricted to, a personal statement from the applicant and supporting material e.g., letters from referees/previous employers, copies of project work, evidence of extra-curricular activities during their undergraduate degrees etc.

Should you wish to submit an entry, please forward the necessary details together with your full contact details to:

Localisation Research Centre - LRC "EUROPEAN LOCALISATION SCHOLAR AWARD 2003" Department of Computer Science and Information Systems (CSIS) University of Limerick - National Technological Park - Limerick - Ireland (Tel. +353-61-202881, email electonline@ul.ie)
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By submitting their work researchers acknowledge the right of ELECT to report on their work should they be awarded the ELECT European Localisation Scholar Award. Partial expenses will be paid for the finalists invited to the LRC conference in Ireland.

Expenses will be paid at a fixed rate depending on country of origin.

Closing date for submission is 31 August 2002.