

Life long learning for localisation experts

LRC annual conference offers awards and online training programme

THE Localisation Research Centre (LRC) will be handing out three annual awards at its annual conference, which takes place in the University of Limerick on September 21st and 22nd. The awards are intended to enhance the visibility and recognition of internationalisation and localisation around the world, particularly amongst researchers, educators, content developers, publishers and localisation service providers.

The LRC Best Thesis Award is being sponsored by Symantec and will be given to the author of the best research publication in an area relevant to the internationalisation and/or localisation of electronic content. The winner will receive €1,000 and one of Symantec's professional retail products. They will also be invited to present their paper at the conference.

The LRC Localisation Scholar Award is a scholarship programme sponsored by IBM and open to postgraduate researchers at European third-level institutions who are entering into or are

currently undertaking research on a localisation related topic. According to the LRC, 'the award will be presented to the winning student based on the quality and relevance of their research proposal'. The winner will receive a substantial prize that will help them to complete their research and will also be invited to present an overview of their progress at the conference.

Finally, the LRC Best Global Website Award, sponsored by EURO RSCG Interaction, will be presented to the Web site considered the most innovative in terms of multilingual and multicultural awareness. Individuals who have designed or are currently operating a multilingual website are invited to submit their work for consideration. The winner will be invited to talk about the techniques used on their Web site at the conference and will also receive an exclusive logo for display.

The deadline for entries to all three awards is August 31st. More information is available at www.localisation.ie.

The LRC is also running a series of

online courses this summer introducing localisation and translation technologies as part of its lifelong learning programme. The courses will be delivered via the LOTS e-learning portal.

The 'Introduction to Localisation Tools' course will place between July 16th and 30th, 'Testing and QA Tools' is scheduled from August 16th to 30th, and 'Website Localisation Tools' will be run between September 16th and 30th. The courses are designed to be very practical, using different Windows localisation tools to illustrate the concepts and get hands-on experience in particular areas.

On average, the duration of each programme is ten hours spread over two weeks. In addition, participants can avail of eight hours of live chat sessions. The courses are primarily targeted at localisation professionals, freelance translators, lecturers and students of localisation, but are also open to anyone with an interest in localisation and translation technologies. There's a standard fee of €75 for each course, but early bookers will receive a €25 discount.

For more information, visit lots-server.lots.ul.ie/TSWEB/e-learning/index.HTM or contact the course co-ordinator, Rafael Guzman, at Rafael.Guzman@ul.ie or 061 213557.