

Olympian thought

There are two kinds of losers: (1) the good loser, and (2) those who can't act.

Peter Laurence



Habib Zaidi
2003 NMIS
Young Investigator

the US Particle Accelerator School for the training of young scientists. He received the Outstanding Scholarship Award from the Y. T. Lee Foundation in 1995, is a fellow of the American Physics Society and now of IEEE. He has served frequently as technical consultant for many DOE-sponsored accelerator program reviews and as a member of the Machine Advisory Committee for several projects in Canada, Europe, China, Japan, and Taiwan. His current interest is in the design of a Super

Neutrino Beam Facility at BNL. His specialties in accelerator physics are in nonlinear beam dynamics, space charge effects, and high power proton synchrotrons.

Dr. Weng's Fellow citation reads "*for leadership in particle accelerator development.*"

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Habib Zaidi

2003 Nuclear and Medical Imaging Sciences Young Investigator

Dr. Habib Zaidi was recognized with the 2003 Young Investigator Nuclear and Medical Imaging Sciences Award "For contributions to the development and better understanding of Monte Carlo simulation tools, improvement and quantitative analysis of attenuation and scatter correction algorithms in PET imaging, and publication of textbooks." The award was presented to Dr. Zaidi at the IEEE Medical Imaging Conference in Portland (Oregon) last October.

Dr. Zaidi is senior physicist and head of the PET Instrumentation & Neuroscience Laboratory at Geneva University Hospital. He received a Ph.D. in medical physics from Geneva University for a dissertation on Monte Carlo modeling and scatter correction in positron emission tomography. He is actively involved in developing imaging solutions for biomedical research and clinical diagnosis in addition to lecturing graduate and postgraduate courses on medical physics and medical imaging. His research centers on modeling nuclear medical imaging systems using the Monte Carlo method, dosimetry, image correction, reconstruction and quantification techniques in emission tomography as well as statistical image analysis in functional brain imaging, and more recently on novel design of dedicated high-resolution PET scanners in collaboration with CERN.

In his brief career, Dr. Zaidi has already made substantial research contributions relating to Monte Carlo modeling and image correction for positron emission tomography (PET). He developed an evolutive Monte Carlo simulation package to generate data sets corresponding to the geometry and actual size

of most commercial and prototype cylindrical PET scanners, which was successfully implemented on a high-performance parallel platform consisting of several PowerPC processors. He also developed a new PET scatter correction technique and a robust segmentation tool for short transmission scans in whole-body PET based on the fuzzy-clustering approach. More recently, he developed an original method for determining the attenuation map in brain PET imaging using coregistered MRI, and made an exhaustive comparative evaluation of the effect of the attenuation map on absolute and relative quantification in functional brain PET imaging using clinical data.

Dr. Zaidi has been an invited keynote speaker at several international events, and is the editor of two textbooks on therapeutic applications of Monte Carlo calculations in nuclear medicine and quantitative analysis in nuclear medicine imaging. His academic accomplishments in the area of quantitative PET imaging have been well recognized by the medical faculty of Geneva University, which elected him to become Privat-Dozent (PD) this year.

He recently joined the Computed Imaging for Medical Imaging (CIMA) collaboration hosted by CERN to work on novel designs of high-resolution, parallax-free Compton enhanced PET scanners based on long scintillation crystals readout on both sides by hybrid photon detectors with integrated readout electronics.

Despite his brief career, Dr. Zaidi has an excellent academic record and a strong research aptitude and skills. His career has already shown an evolution of logical and powerful ideas related to fundamental issues of image quantifica-

tion, which merited him the Young Investigator Medical Imaging Science Award for 2003.

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Award Nominations for 2005

Think Ahead

Completed nomination forms for all NPSS Awards are due on May 15, 2005. This is your next opportunity, so think now of the members of your community deserving of these Society awards and start to prepare applications.

The NPSS Awards funded directly by the Society comprise the following.

The Richard F. Shea Distinguished Member Award

Description: To recognize outstanding contributions through leadership and service to the NPSS and to the fields of Nuclear and Plasma Sciences

Award: \$2000, plaque and certificate

Funding: Funded by the IEEE Nuclear and Plasma Sciences Society.

Eligibility: Any member of the IEEE and NPSS who has contributed to the fields of nuclear and plasma sciences through leadership and service.

Basis for Judging: Selection criteria are:

- Leadership roles and leadership quality;
- Innovative and important contributions to Society activities;
- Service and dedication to the NPSS;
- Technical achievements.

Presentation: One award presented annually at Nuclear Science Symposium (Or at any other IEEE NPSS meeting that the awardee chooses.)

The NPSS Merit Award

Description: To recognize outstanding technical contributions to the fields of Nuclear and Plasma Sciences.

Award: \$ 2,000, Plaque and Certificate.

Funding: Funded by the IEEE Nuclear and Plasma Sciences Society.

Eligibility: Any individual who has made technical contributions to the fields of Nuclear and Plasma Sciences.

Basis for Judging: Selection criteria, in order of importance are:

- Importance of individual technical contributions;

- Importance of technical contributions made by teams led by the candidate;
- Quality and significance of publications and patents;
- Years of technical distinction;
- Leadership and service within the fields of nuclear and plasma sciences and related disciplines.

Presentation: One award presented annually at Nuclear Science Symposium or at an NPSS sponsored meeting chosen by the nominee.

The NPSS Early Achievement Award

Description: To recognize outstanding contributions to any of the fields making up Nuclear and Plasma Sciences, within the first ten (10) years of an individual's career.

Prize: \$ 1,800, plaque, and certificate.

Funding: Funded by the IEEE Nuclear and Plasma Sciences Society.

Eligibility: Member of the IEEE NPSS who at the time of nomination is within the first ten (10) years of his or her career within the field of interest of NPSS.

Basis for Judging: Three (3) letters of recommendation, publications and/or reports, patents, etc. which demonstrate outstanding contributions early in the nominee's career.

Presentation: At any major NPSS sponsored conference chosen by the awardee.

The NPSS Graduate Scholarship Award

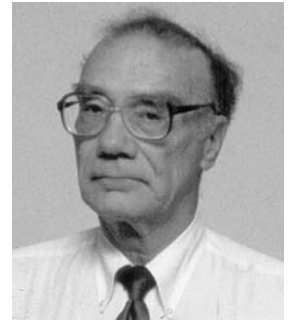
Description: To recognize contributions to the fields of Nuclear and Plasma Sciences.

Award: \$ 500, certificate, and one – year paid membership in the NPSS.

Funding: Funded by the IEEE Nuclear and Plasma Sciences Society.

Eligibility: Any graduate student in the fields of Nuclear and Plasma Sciences.

Basis for Judging: Evidence of scholarship such as academic record, reports, presentations, publications, research plans, related projects and related work experience, Participation in IEEE activities through presentations, publications, student Chapter involvement, etc., will also be considered.



Igor Alexeff
Awards Committee
Chair

The need to know

I mean, if I'm dead, why would I care about it [being remembered] anyway? I'd rather be remembered while I'm living.

Dave Thomas