

Introduction

The Gustave Magnel Prize was created to encourage scientific research applied to construction. It is open to researchers of the member states of the European Union and the European Free Trade Association (EFTA), who defended their PhD thesis successfully.

The doctoral theses put in for the prize must be the work of one researcher. They must address construction in an original way; they must be related to the activities of the SECO Technical Control Bureau for Construction (www.seco.be) and should allow practical applications. SECO assures control in construction with emphasis on the application of the adequate prescriptions regarding stability in the concept and execution of buildings and civil engineering projects.

Rules for the awarding of the Gustave Magnel Prize

1. In memory of Professor Gustave Magnel, a great scholar and engineer, who was one of its founders and subsequently its managing director, SECO created a prize known as the "Gustave Magnel Prize". The goal of this prize is to encourage scientific research applied to construction while encouraging researchers working in this area. The 10.000 EUR prize is awarded every four years; it was awarded for the first time in 1963.
2. The prize may be awarded to researchers of the member states of the European Union and of the European Free Trade Association (EFTA), who have obtained their doctoral degree. Doctoral theses put in for the prize "Gustave Magnel" must be drafted in Dutch, French, German or English.
3. The proposed doctoral theses must be related to civil engineering and/or construction work and must be original. The work should have useful applications and must be related to the following activities of SECO: the technical supervision of design, calculations, drawings, quality of materials used and execution of building and civil engineering work. Each submitted thesis should be accompanied by a note in which the candidate explains the reasons why, in his/her opinion, the thesis is related to the aforementioned SECO activities.
4. The doctoral thesis that is put in for the prize, must have been successfully defended between January 1st 2010 and December 31st 2014. The researcher must be under 40 years old on the date he/she defended his/her thesis.
5. The thesis should be submitted before 31st October 2014 to SECO, 53 rue d'Arlon, 1040 Brussels, Belgium, in 2 printed and signed copies containing the full name, residence, e-mail address, and the place and date of birth of the author, as well as his/her titles and positions and a brief curriculum vitae. The digital version of the thesis, the CV and the accompanying note should be sent in PDF format to the following e-mail address: prix_magnel@seco.be.
6. The Technical Board of SECO is entrusted with having the reports reviewed and determining the winner of the prize. The Technical Board may ask the candidate questions in order to obtain clarifications concerning the work submitted. The decisions of the Technical Board are final. If more than one project is deemed to be of equal interest, the prize may be shared.
7. The laureate is declared winner of the Gustave Magnel Prize for the period 2010-2014. The winner agrees to deliver a speech concerning the subject of the winning research to the Technical Board and SECO's members at the award ceremony.