

Graduate Student Activities at the 2010 IEEE VLSI Test Symposium
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As part of the 2010 IEEE VLSI Test Symposium, the TTTC Student Activities Committee is organizing two activities aiming to provide graduate students with an opportunity to disseminate their research, obtain visibility in the international test community, and win recognition for their achievements. Ph.D. students who graduated in 2009 or 2010 or are expected to graduate in 2010 are invited to participate in the first activity, namely the *TTTC's E. J. McCluskey Best 2010 Doctoral Thesis Award* contest. All other graduate students (Ph.D. or M.S.) working on a test-related thesis are invited to participate in the second activity, namely the *Thesis Research Poster Session*.

Details of these two activities are provided below:

1. Call for Abstracts – TTTC's E. J. McCluskey Best 2010 Doctoral Thesis Award

1.1 Contest

Since 2005, the TTTC Best Doctoral Thesis Award has been presented annually to the winner of a contest, which took place at the IEEE VLSI Test Symposium. In order to increase the worldwide participation of doctoral students, starting 2010, the contest will be expanded to a two-stage process. Semi-finals will be held at TTTC-sponsored conferences, symposia or workshops. The winners of the semi-finals, determined by juries composed of industrial experts, will compete against each other in the finals, which will be held at a major TTTC-sponsored conference or symposium. This major Award has recently been named after Prof. Edward J. McCluskey, a key educator and mentor in the fields of test technology, logic design, and reliability.

In 2010, three semi-finals will be held. The first will be held at the IEEE VLSI Test Symposium (VTS'10), the second at the IEEE European Test Symposium (ETS'10), and the third at the IEEE Latin American Test Workshop (LATW'10). The finals will be held at the International Test Conference (ITC'10).

1.2 Submission instructions

The following submission instructions hold for all three semi-finals.

Ph.D. students who graduated in 2009 or 2010 or are expected to graduate in 2010 are invited to submit a one page abstract of their thesis including the student's name and affiliation, the title of the thesis, and the expected date of graduation. A second page is allowed for references and/or figures only. In addition, please submit an endorsement by the advisor (i.e. a signed statement that he/she supports the student's participation in the contest). Prospective participants are encouraged to apply when they are close to thesis completion and have obtained sufficient results. An individual can only participate in the contest once in a lifetime. Submissions to multiple regional sites are prohibited.

Since the purpose of this contest is for the student to gain exposure and feedback from the industry, the abstract should clearly address the following: i) define the problem and its relevance to industry, ii) describe existing industrial practices for solving the problem, and iii) explain the proposed methodology (and any pertinent case study) and how it advances the theory and/or practice in the particular field.

Based on the submitted abstracts, a set of semi-finalists will be selected for the semi-finals of the contest. This round includes a short slot for oral presentation during a dedicated session at the semi-final event. The jury will judge the presentations, and the winner of the semi-final will be announced during the event. The finalists will present their work in a 30-minute presentation at ITC'10, and the winner will be determined by a panel of industrial experts. The Award is given to the winning student and the advisor of the thesis and includes an invitation to submit a paper on the presented work to the IEEE Design & Test of Computers!

1.3 VTS semi-final

Submissions are to be made via email to haralampos.stratigopoulos@imag.fr. Please address any questions to the same e-mail. Deadline for submissions is February 15th. Notification about the disposition of the submissions will be sent out by March 8th. The winner of the semi-final will be announced during the social event of the Symposium, to which all finalists will be cordially invited.

2. Call for Abstracts – Thesis Research Poster Session

Ph.D. students that are not participating in the Doctoral Thesis Award Contest, as well as M.S. students who are engaged in their thesis research with a faculty advisor are invited to submit a one page abstract of their research. The abstract must include the student's name and affiliation, the title of the research project and the name of the advisor. On a second page, students must provide one or more figures that portray the key elements of their research. References can be provided on a third page if needed. Submissions are to be made via email to haralampos.stratigopoulos@imag.fr. Please address any questions to the same e-mail. Deadline for submissions is February 21st.

This forum is designed to give students the opportunity to interact and receive feedback from industrial and academic experts. The abstract outlines the focus of their research, and the figure(s) provide a preview of the poster. The abstract and figures should clearly address the following: i) define the problem and its relevance to industry, ii) describe existing ideas and/or practices for solving the problem, and iii) explain the proposed methodology and its advantages/disadvantages over existing approaches.

The abstracts and figures submitted will be reviewed and approved by an oversight committee. Students selected for the poster session will be notified by March 8th and asked to submit the poster as a pdf file for review by April 5th. The poster can be designed as a single image (preferable) or as a set of twelve individual 8.5" by 11" pages. Students are expected to bring the poster fully assembled to the symposium.

A one hour time slot will be allocated at the 2010 IEEE VLSI Test Symposium for students to present their posters. A panel of industrial and academic experts will be selected to interact with each of the presenters. Each presenter will be judged on the criteria given above, as well as on the quality of the presentation and appearance of the poster. The winner of the competition will receive the 2010 TTTC Thesis Research Poster Award and will be announced during the social event of the Symposium, to which all participants will be cordially invited.