CSChE Best Master’s Thesis Award

This award recognizes an outstanding Canadian Master’s thesis that contributes to the advancement of the field of chemical engineering.

Deadline
March 1 every year

Sponsor
CSChE

Award
- Framed certificates for the first and second prizes

Nomination Requirements
- The nominee’s thesis work must have been completed in a graduate chemical engineering program of a Canadian university.
- The nominated thesis must have been successfully defended by the nominee as well as accepted by the graduate program in the calendar year prior to when the award is given.
- The nominee must
  - be a CSChE member at the time of nomination.
  - have been a CSChE member in the last year of their Master’s program.
  - have made at least one oral or poster presentation at a Canadian Chemical Engineering Conference

A nomination package must be submitted electronically through ScholarOne. The package should include the following:
- Nomination letter (maximum 3 pages) by the nominator including a concise description of the nominee’s theoretical as well as practical contributions made in the thesis. This is particularly important for a manuscript-based thesis where multiple authors may have contributed to the work.
- Curriculum Vitae (maximum 2 pages) in which the nominee’s research contributions are listed.
- Synopsis of the thesis (maximum 2 pages).
- Official document confirming thesis completion date (issued by the department, graduate school, or faculty where the nominee completed their Master’s program).
- Copies of CSChE Membership invoices confirming the nominee’s CSChE membership at the time of nomination as well as in the last year of their Master’s program.

Please do not attach nominee’s thesis. A nomination with an attached thesis will be disqualified.

Notes
Each prize winner will be required to register and give a keynote presentation at the Canadian Chemical Engineering Conference in which the award will be given.
A Master’s supervisor is limited to a single nomination per year.
Self-nominations will not be accepted.
Nominations for this award are valid for one year only.
Selection Committee
• CSChE Director of Awards as non-voting Chair
• CSChE Director of Student Affairs
• CSChE Director of Publications
• One other representative from the CSChE Board of Directors

Notes
In selecting the award winner, the committee will consider
• Scientific and technical quality of the research,
• Contributions to the advancement of chemical engineering,
• Originality of the research, and
• Clarity of presentation.

The award shall be presented annually unless
• the committee considers that no suitable candidate is nominated, or
• less than two nominations are received

List of Recipients
2020 Winners
First place
Anya Filina, MCIC
McGill University, Montreal, QC
https://www.linkedin.com/in/anya-filina-612a2081/

Anya Filina received a Bachelor’s degree in Materials Engineering and a Master in Chemical Engineering from McGill University. As an undergraduate researcher, she studied hydrogel materials for biomedical and environmental applications at the Biointerfaces Laboratory and Biocolloids and Surfaces research group at McGill University. Anya’s graduate research under the supervision of Nathalie Tufenkji focused on antimicrobial graphene oxide hydrogels for water treatment. Her past experience also includes two industrial internships involving surface treatment technologies and environmental design in the aerospace sector. Anya Filina is currently working as a materials scientist in the Bioproducts Innovation Centre of Excellence at FPInnovations.

Second place
Debaprasad Dutta, MCIC
Ryerson University, Toronto, ON
http://www.linkedin.com/in/debaprasad-dutta-334981149

Debaprasad Dutta is a second year PhD student in the department of chemical engineering at Ryerson University, Toronto. His doctoral research is focussed on the development and application of intelligent control technologies for chemical engineering processes. He holds his Master of Applied Science (MASc) degree from Ryerson University. During his MASc, Debaprasad obtained the highest achievable academic grade point average in all mathematical courses and co-authored the article “An optimal feedback control strategy for nonlinear, distributed-parameter processes” that demonstrates the developed controller’s prowess in drastically subduing computational intensities/challenges in real-time application. Besides, he has enthusiastically participated in different conferences throughout Canada and presented his research novelty and proficiencies. With his academic excellencies, Debaprasad became the second place winner of the “2020 CSChE Best Master’s Thesis Award”. As a teaching assistant at Ryerson University, he prepared and delivered tutorial sessions, in addition to preparing and conducting laboratory practices for undergraduate chemical engineering courses. Before joining his master’s in Canada, Debaprasad gained two years’ industrial experience in process engineering and operations management in one of the largest manufacturing organizations in India.