

# The Carlos Jaschek Memorial Award

The SEAC (Société Européenne pour l'Astronomie dans la Culture/European society for Astronomy in Culture) has established an award to encourage research into the relationships between astronomy and culture. It is named to commemorate the outstanding contributions of Carlos Jaschek who died April 1999, an emeritus professor of the University of Strasbourg (France), director of the Strasbourg Observatory and creator of the information centre for stellar data. He was a well-known astrophysicist who worked mainly with stellar physics and the taxonomy of stellar spectra.

In 1992 he founded the Société Européenne pour l'Astronomie dans la Culture (SEAC), and since then the SEAC conferences have been held on a yearly basis: 1992 Strasbourg (SEAC 0), 1993 Smolyan (SEAC 1), 1994 Bochum (SEAC 2), 1995 Sibiu (SEAC 3), 1996 Salamanca (SEAC 4), 1997 Gdansk (SEAC 5), 1998 Dublin (SEAC 6), 1999 La Laguna (SEAC 7), 2000 Moscow (SEAC 8), 2001 Stockholm (SEAC 9), 2002 Tartu (SEAC 10), 2003 Leicester (SEAC 11), 2004 Kecskemet (SEAC 12), 2005 Isili (SEAC 13), 2006 Rhodes (SEAC 14).

Carlos Jaschek dedicated himself to stimulating innovative concepts and methods that would serve to open up new understandings of the many and deep interactions between astronomy and culture. He therefore strived to create an interdisciplinary and multicultural dialogue among researchers from all over the world. His efforts became the basis of the work of SEAC.

This Award was instituted in 2006, by the General Assembly of SEAC at Rhodes, Greece.

## Description

The purpose of the award is to honour the following achievements at the crossroads of astronomy and culture:

- new concepts and methods or fieldwork in the categories mentioned below
- interdisciplinary approaches
- advanced understandings of the interactions of astronomy and culture through time
- contributions to a systematic substantiation of cultural astronomy
- outstanding presentations of well-known topics in teaching

The work of the nominees should demonstrate originality and high quality and should be a significant contribution to research in the field.

The award may be given with the main focus on the following categories, respecting an interdisciplinary approach to Astronomy and

- History
- Archaeology
- Psychology
- Sociology
- Politics
- Ethnology
- Art
- Religion

## **Value of the Award**

The award consists of a first place prize, which includes a sum of money (at present is €100,-) together with an inscribed medal and a certificate of recognition. The second prize is given to the semi-finalist. It consists of an inscribed medal and a certificate. An abstract of the work submitted will be published in the SEAC proceedings of the year in which the award is given. The award will be given every two years. It will be presented at the SEAC conference in the year in which it is given. The value of the award is to be shared if the outstanding achievement can be clearly shown to be the result of a collaborative or team effort. Award winners will be notified by mail and will be expected to attend the presentation ceremony. Winners who are in need of financial assistance in order to attend the SEAC conference and present their work may apply for a travel grant from the SEAC Award Committee.

## **Eligibility**

The award is open to any person holding an academic degree and engaged in interdisciplinary research with respect to astronomy and another relevant field. There are no other restrictions.

## **Nomination**

A formal call for nominations by the SEAC Award Committee in a given year is normally published by all available media one month after the SEAC conference of the previous year. The deadline for submitting nominations is set by the General Assembly of SEAC or the SEAC EC under special circumstances. All nominations will be acknowledged.

Nominations may be made by any individual voting member of SEAC or, in special cases, by the SEAC Award Committee itself. Those making nominations must have personal knowledge of the achievements and contributions of the nominee. Only one candidate can be submitted by each nominator. Self-nominations will not be considered. The SEAC Award Committee reserves the right to seek further nominations.

The research of the nominee must be already completed. The submitted work must have been published or accepted for publishing in the two years previous to year in which the nomination is made. However, the Award Committee might accept whole life contributions to the field if these are well justified.

The nominators must submit their expert opinion on the merits of the nominated achievement according to the details and the format specified below. Only those nominations signed by the supporters and received by the SEAC Award Committee by the deadline will be considered.

## **Details concerning nominees and nominators**

Four copies of each nomination, including all the supporting documents, should be signed by the nominator and submitted (electronic format will be accepted, in this case, one copy is enough) to the chair of the SAC Award Committee. It must contain all of the following details:

### **Nominee**

- Title, full name, and date of birth
- Address (home and place of employment)
- Current and, if appropriate, former employment

- Contact information for telephone, fax, and e-mail
- Curriculum vitae of some four A4 pages of text or 4000 characters.
- Academic qualifications

## **Nominator**

- Title and full name
- Current employment
- Address (home and place of employment)
- Contact information for telephone, fax, and e-mail
- Major scientific achievements on which the nomination is based. A list of not more than four publications or other written material that best describe the nominated achievement, citations of relevance
- Any other information pertaining to the scientific excellence of the nominee
- An abstract describing the achievement suitable for publicity purposes
- A reference on the nominated achievement and the accompanying material from the nominator
- An original signature of the nominator, duly dated

Not more than six pages of typed information, double-spaced on A4 paper or 4000 characters, are requested

## **Disclaimer**

The deliberations of the SEAC Award Committee and its advisers will remain confidential. Nominations for the award will be formally considered by the SEAC Award Committee. The Committee will consist of five members, who are elected by the General Assembly of SEAC each year after the nomination period has closed. When necessary, external reviewers will be obtained. Under special circumstances, the SEAC Award Committee reserves the right to ask for the nominee's response to questions. The Committee reserves the right to make no award if there is no candidate of sufficient merit. All material received by the SEAC Award Committee from nominators, supporters or any other source is accepted with the understanding that such material can be used in preparing publicity announcements concerning the winners of the Award. All decisions taken and recommendations made by the SEAC Award Committee shall be binding and final, and no correspondence will be entered into on such matters.

## **List of Award Winners**

The award will be given for the first time in 2008.

**For further information contact SEAC:** [info@archoastronomy.org](mailto:info@archoastronomy.org)

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**Carlos Jaschek Memorial Award 2008**

**The deadline for the nomination of the candidates is the 1<sup>st</sup> of May, 2007.**