



## **AWARD CRITERIA & NOMINATION FORM: THOMAS E PRUCHA BEST STUDENT PAPER AWARD**

About this award: Thomas E Prucha has been an active leader in the metalcasting industry for over five decades. Not only has Tom served on numerous AFS committee structures both locally and nationally since the late 1970's, his career has also spanned both ferrous and nonferrous technologies. Tom has used his knowledge and passion of the industry to encourage students and young engineers to choose metalcasting careers. He has also mentored many students and aspiring metalcasting engineers. His work with students and giving multiple FEF College Industry Conference keynote addresses, along with his work at AFS and the IJMC-FEF Student Research Competition, illustrates Tom's passion for enhancing the metalcasting industry through student engagement and research.

The AFS Thomas E Prucha Award was established to recognize the most outstanding student paper presented at the Annual Metalcasting Congress, honoring emerging talent whose work exemplifies both forward-thinking technical research and meaningful contributions to the cast metal industry.

This award spotlights student excellence and encourages future leaders to elevate the metalcasting industry and challenge conventional schools of thought.

### **NOMINATIONS**

1. Each technical division of the AFS Technical and Management Council should nominate not more than one candidate paper each year for the Thomas E Prucha Award.
2. Nominations are restricted to papers that are:
  - Authored by bachelor's or graduate student (both International and North American) prior to graduation and presented / published prior to or within two-years post graduation.
  - Published in AFS Transactions and/ or International Journal of Metalcasting (IJMC).
  - Presented as part of the technical program at the annual Metalcasting Congress, CastEXPO or Specialty Conference organized by the nominating division.
  - Papers from the previous three (3) Metalcasting Congresses are eligible.
3. The Division Best Paper Award selection, the Ray Witt Management Award, and the Howard F Taylor Award are to be considered as separate functions from the Thomas E Prucha Award and not necessarily involve the same paper.
4. A student could win the Thomas E Prucha Award and win the Howard F Taylor Award or the Ray Witt Award if selected.
5. A standard nominating form will be used to submit nominations. This form is to be returned to the Honorary Lectures & Paper Committee Chair in care of the AFS Technical Department.
6. Papers must be nominated in essay form in response to the guideline questions. It is the responsibility of each division to explain the virtues of the paper nominated.
7. Nominations from the divisions must be received by the deadline date as determined by the AFS staff.



## ***THOMAS E PRUCHA AWARD: NOMINATION FORM***

### **SELECTION**

1. Evaluation and selection of Thomas E Prucha Award nominations is a function of the Honorary Lectures & Papers Committee (HLPC). The members on the committee will consist of:
  - Chair, past chair, vice chair, secretary, and secretary-elect of the Technical Council, at-large members of the Technical Council, and Chair, Vice Chair and Marketing Committee Chair of the Management Council.
  - Vice-chair of the Technical Council shall serve as chair of the HLPC. Other Technical and Management Council members may participate as auditing (non-voting) members.
  - HLPC members appearing as a co-author are ineligible to vote.
2. All HLPC members will be given an opportunity to review and rank each nominated paper. A compilation of those rankings will be provided to HLPC for guidance in making their final selection.
3. The HLPC committee will set scheduled meeting dates and times to evaluate the candidate papers for selecting a winner.
4. It is recommended that the Honorary Lectures & Papers Committee make an award selection each year. However, HLPC may select a nominated paper to receive the award or determine that none of the submitted nominations meet the award criteria.
5. Papers from the previous three (3) Metalcasting Congresses are eligible.
6. The Honorary Lectures & Papers Committee may seek additional information on any nomination, either from the nominating division or from any other source.

\*\* Scholarship is based on FEF eligibility.



## ***THOMAS E PRUCHA AWARD: NOMINATION FORM***

PAPER TITLE:

PAPER NUMBER:

Author(s)/Company:

Nominating Division:

### **EVALUATION:**

- 1. What was the technical innovation, marketing insight or management impact of the work?**
- 2. How can research, insight or solution advance the metalcasting industry?**
- 3. What is the (potential) impact of the advancement, new market, safety development, or efficiency on the field of metalcasting?**
- 4. What is the time span during which the work will impact the metalcasting industry; i.e. immediate, short range (2-5 years), long range? Explain.**
- 5. Describe the level of innovation. Does this paper constitute new technology, complete a knowledge base on which new technologies can be built, or improve and advance an existing technology? Please illustrate.**
- 6. How does this work respond to an important need? Please explain.**