Vliegenthart Thesis Award Regulations

Introduction
The Vliegenthart Thesis Award was initiated by the Utrecht University Foundation on the occasion of the retirement of Professor Hans Vliegenthart as Chairman of the Utrecht University Fund Board after many years of service. The Award aims to encourage student excellence by rewarding four categories of graduating students:
- Arts and Humanities students;
- Life Sciences students;
- Natural Sciences students;
- Social Sciences students.
Each year, graduates from one of these categories are invited to submit their theses. The award process is carried out by the University Fund Office under the auspices of the Board of the Utrecht University Fund.
All entries are assessed by a judging panel with rotating composition but under the permanent chairmanship of Professor J.F.G. Vliegenthart. In the absence of the permanent chairman, the Portfolio Holder for Special Professors on the University Fund Board will act in his place.

Conditions of entry:
1. Entrants are Master’s degree students at Utrecht University, or Utrecht University Master’s graduates who completed their studies not longer than one year prior to the closing date of the entry period.
2. Entries must include a signed reference letter from the thesis supervisor or exam committee of the Faculty where the student completed their thesis stating that the thesis received a mark of 8 or more.
3. The thesis topic is academically relevant within the category which invites entries that particular year.
4. The thesis is written in Dutch or English.
5. The thesis contains an index and a bibliography.
6. Entries must be accompanied by the following author information:
   a. full first name and surname;
   b. home address and post code;
   c. email address;
   d. telephone number;
   e. education history (exact course of study; name of the Bachelor’s programme; specialization; year started; (expected) graduation date).
7. In the event of multiple authors, the application for entry must be submitted on behalf of all the co-authors. All prerequisites for entry apply to all co-authors.

Additional conditions of entry:
1. By entering the contest, entrants affirm that they have read and accepted these regulations.
2. Family members of the judging panel and board members / employees of the University Foundation are not eligible to enter the contest.
3. Entrants submit their thesis in a single PDF file (by e-mail) and in printed form (two copies).
   Postal address for submitting the hardcopy files by mail:
   Utrechts Universiteitsfonds, to Inge Mathijssen, Postbus 80125, 3508 TC, Utrecht. Please keep into account a delivery time of approximately 1 week.

Visiting address for delivering the hardcopy files personally during office hours:
Utrechts Universiteitsfonds, Bestuursgebouw (room number 0.26a), Heidelberglaan 8, Utrecht.
E-mail address for sending in the softcopy file: i.e.mathijssen@uu.nl.

The submitted copies will not be returned but at least one copy can be collected from the University Fund Office within two months after the prize award date. When the copies are not collected after these two months, the theses will be thrown away.

4. The winning thesis will be posted on the University Fund website. The copyright of entered theses will, however, remain with the authors.

Assessment:
1. Academic relevance and quality:
   The research for the thesis and the topic of the thesis must be academically relevant. The thesis and the thesis research must conform to the minimum methodological requirements used in the subject area of the thesis.
2. The thesis must be well written, meaning that: the structure of the sentences, the writing style and the grammar and spelling use must not be an obstruction for the readability of the thesis.
3. Originality, societal relevance and topical relevance may play a role in the assessment.
4. It is not possible to appeal against or object to the panel’s decision.

Judging panel:
1. The judging panel is assembled annually by Professor J.F.G. Vliegenthart and the Director of the University Foundation Office, and appointed by the University Fund Board.
2. In addition to the chairman, the judging panel comprises experts in the field of the category they are judging.
3. The judging panel has the right to withhold an award in any year if the quality of entries is deemed to be insufficient.
4. If necessary, the judging panel consults external experts.

Prize amount:
The author of the winning thesis receives a cash prize of € 2.000, - and a certificate.

Awards ceremony:
The Vliegenthart Thesis Award will be presented annually on University Day (hosted by the Utrecht University Fund).

Final provision:
In all cases not provided for in these regulations or in which the judges are unable to reach a final decision the chairman will decide.