



International Federation
for IT and Travel & Tourism

IFITT AWARDS 2015 – CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

The International Federation for Information Technology and Travel & Tourism (IFITT) is pleased to announce that it will sponsor a series of awards to be presented at the ENTER 2015 eTourism conference, which will be held during February 3-6, 2015 in Lugano, Switzerland (see the conference website for details: www.enter2015.org). Please find below detailed information about each of the awards, the processes, and the respective submission deadlines.

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ifitt@ifitt.org | www.ifitt.org



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Hannes Werthner

Tourism and Technology Lifetime Achievement Award

This award will be given at the ENTER 2015 conference to an individual from academia, industry or government who has made significant contributions to the advancement of the field/practice of tourism and technology. Representatives of the IFITT Board will make the selection. The winner will receive an award trophy, a ticket to the ENTER 2015 conference gala dinner, an acknowledgement on the IFITT and ENTER websites, and an individual IFITT membership for one year.

Individuals have to be nominated by an IFITT member. Please submit nominations with a biographical statement about the nominee to Zheng Xiang (philxz@vt.edu) by October 24, 2014.

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Thesis Excellence Award

Award will be presented at the ENTER 2015 conference to a Master and a PhD thesis in the field of tourism and technology successfully defended between October 1, 2013 and September 30, 2014 (ranked first, second, and third, respectively). The selection will be made by the ENTER PhD workshop committee. The winners will receive a certificate, an acknowledgement on the ENTER website, and an individual IFITT membership for one year. The winners must attend the ENTER 2015 PhD workshop and the first PhD winner has to present the winning thesis there. If a winning author is not able to attend the PhD workshop, the award will be given to the next ranked thesis.

Students may be nominated by IFITT members and non-members. To nominate a student for this award, send a 1000-word thesis abstract (in English), a brief biographical note about the student and a recommendation letter from the advisor to Zheng Xiang (philxz@vt.edu) by October 24, 2014.

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Outstanding Industry Contribution Award Two Categories: Small & Medium/Large Enterprises

This award will be presented at the ENTER 2015 conference in two categories, one for small enterprises (less than 50 employees and less than Euro 10 million turnover), and one for medium/large enterprises (more than 50 employees or more than Euro 10 million turnover). The award will recognize companies/organizations that have made a significant contribution to the growth and success of technology adoption, integration, or use in the tourism industry. Depending upon the number and merits of the nominated organizations, the IFITT Board may select up to three winning organizations (ranked first, second, and third, respectively) within each category, and might request an input by the IFITT community. The award for the first place in each category includes an award trophy, a certificate, an acknowledgement on the IFITT and ENTER websites, and corporate IFITT membership for one year. The second and third place winners will receive a certificate, an acknowledgement on the IFITT and ENTER websites, and a corporate IFITT membership for one year.

The winners must attend the ENTER 2015 Conference and present their cases.

Organizations may be nominated by IFITT members and non-members. To nominate an organization for this award, please send a brief description of the organization, their contributions to IT and tourism, and contact details to Zheng Xiang (philxz@vt.edu) by November 30, 2014.

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Innovative Destination Award

At ENTER 2015 IFITT will present an award to a destination marketing organization (DMO) that has very successfully integrated technology organizations. DMO at the local, regional and national level are all eligible. The IFITT Board will select the winning DMO (an input might be requested to the IFITT community). The award involves an award trophy, a certificate, an acknowledgement on the IFITT and ENTER websites, and corporate IFITT membership for one year.

The winner(s) must attend the ENTER 2015 Conference and present their cases.

Organizations may be nominated by IFITT members and non-members. To nominate an organization for this award, please send a brief description of the organization, and contact details to Zheng Xiang (philxz@vt.edu) by November 30, 2014.

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Journal Paper of the Year Award

This award will be given at the ENTER 2015 conference to an eTourism-related paper published in an academic journal during the year 2014, which has distinguished itself due to its innovativeness and scientific rigor. An invited panel consisting of prominent researchers representing different areas of expertise will be established to judge the merits of nominated papers and make recommendations to the IFITT Board. Depending upon the number of the nominated papers, the IFITT Board may select up to three winning journal papers (ranked first, second, and third, respectively). The winning papers will receive one certificate for each of the listed (co)authors.

The winner(s) must attend the ENTER 2015 conference.

Papers may be nominated by IFITT members and non-members. One nomination only per person. Self-nominations are allowed. A complete citation for the paper in APA style together with a pdf file of the article should be sent by January 1, 2015 to Zheng Xiang (philxz@vt.edu). To qualify, the paper needs to have a tourism and technology focus and must have been published between January 1, 2014 and December 31, 2014 (online pre-publication is acceptable).

In addition to these awards, ENTER 2015 will also present awards to the **Best Research Papers** and the **Best PhD Proposal**. To qualify for the best paper award you need to submit a full paper and register for the conference by the indicated deadlines. To be eligible for the PhD proposal award, you must be a PhD student at a recognized university-level institution and submit a proposal to the PhD workshop by the deadline indicated on the respective call for proposals. The winners will receive a certificate.

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