Call for Presentations

Robert L. Lichten Award

The San Francisco Bay Area Chapter of the American Helicopter Society will hold its annual Robert L. Lichten competition on December 3, 2014 at NASA Ames Research Center. The award was established in 1975 to honor the memory of Robert L. Lichten, an outstanding rotary wing engineer and the Society’s 22nd president. Robert Lichten was a skilled and dedicated worker who spent much of his career championing early tilt-wing and tiltrotor concepts until his unfortunate death in an automobile accident. Many who knew him called him the "Pioneer of Tilt Rotor Technology."

The Robert L. Lichten Award was established to encourage AHS members who have not previously presented the results of their work at a national forum to begin through presentations at local and regional AHS meetings. The award is based upon the authors’ personal contribution to the work, originality, technical content, relevance, and organization and clarity.

The competition is open to all AHS members who have not previously presented a paper at a meeting of a national or international technical society nor acted as principal author on a published technical paper. Non AHS members who wish to participate in the competition may join the AHS in order to be eligible.

All candidates must prepare technical presentations which may deal with any aspect of rotorcraft research, engineering, operations, or testing. The presentations should be no longer than 20 minutes in length. The winner of the San Francisco Bay Area Chapter competition will then present at the Western Region competition held at the 6th AHS International Specialists’ Meeting on Unmanned Rotorcraft Systems in Chandler, AZ, January 20-22, 2015. A written paper is not required for the local or regional competitions.

The winner of the Western Region competition will be asked to submit a written paper by February 27, 2015 which will be submitted to the National competition. The winner of the National competition will be invited to attend and present their paper at the AHS Annual Forum in Virginia Beach, VA held May 5-7, 2015.

The award for the Lichten winner consists of a $500 honorarium from Bell Helicopter Textron, Inc., complimentary travel from anywhere in the U.S. to the Forum site, plus complimentary registration and lodging at the AHS Annual Forum. The first runner-up is given an opportunity to present at the Forum and receives complimentary registration.

All those interested in competing for the 2015 Robert L. Lichten Award should send the presentation title, a brief abstract, and a short author biography to Brian Fujizawa at brian.t.fujizawa.civ@mail.mil no later than November 21, 2014. For additional information, email or call (650) 604-2696.

Please note that it is the author’s responsibility to obtain the necessary clearance for their abstract, presentation, and paper in time to meet all deadlines.