ASCILITE Learning Analytics Special Interest Group

Awards for Excellence in Learning Analytics

Awards Program Information

July 2016

About the Learning Analytics Special Interest Group

The ASCILITE Learning Analytics Special Interest Group (LA SIG) aims to promote and develop awareness and resources surrounding Learning Analytics (LA) and its application to the learning and teaching space.

SIG membership is open to all (including non-ASCILITE members) and we encourage anyone with an interest in LA to get involved by joining the **LA SIG Google Group**, attending **SIG events** and/or visiting the **website and resources**.

The SIG will deliver outcomes including:

1. Build relationships with international LA researchers through an association with the Society for Learning Analytics Research

2. Undertake the facilitation of an annual event to promote LA at various levels (individual teacher, school, institution, and sector)

3. Develop and provide resources and guides for LA research and practice

4. Facilitate networking and knowledge-sharing avenues for LA researchers and practitioners across Australia and New Zealand

It is with regard to outcomes 3 and 4 above that the SIG is conducting the *2016 Awards for Excellence in Learning Analytics*.

In addition to the Awards program, in 2016 the SIG is launching an *Open Analytics Project* for members wanting to explore open source analytics tools/projects.

Awards Overview

The purpose of the Awards program is to provide an opportunity for those working with LA to share their practice and be recognised for their achievements in this field, while creating resources for SIG members around effective practices in LA.

The Awards focus on **the practical application of LA in enhancing learning and teaching**, and as such we also hope to create a body of evidence supporting the value of LA.

The Awards are open to projects and/or practices in Australian and New Zealand tertiary education institutions that apply LA to enhance learning and teaching at any scale: from an individual subject/course or across a school, faculty, institution, or the broader tertiary sector.

The **2015 Awards finalists** were:

- Roberto Martinez-Maldonado, University of Sydney: Learning Analytics and Interactive Surfaces (Overall Winner)

- Damien Clark, CQUniversity: EASICONNECT

- Danny Liu, University of Sydney: A personalised & cross-institutional approach to connect students with staff through customisable analytics

2016 Timeline

Action	Date
Submissions open	Mon 25 July 16
Submissions close	**Fri 16 Sept 16**
Judging period	Mon 19 Sept – Fri 30 Sept 16
Finalists announced	Mon 3 Oct 16*
ASCILITE conference and winner announced	Mon 28 Nov – Weds 30 16

*NB – early bird registration closes Fri 7 Oct 15

Submission Requirements

Submissions will take the format of a recorded Pecha Kucha-*style* presentation. We will follow the spirit of Pecha Kucha rather than strictly adhere to its rules. As such, submissions will meet the following requirements.

1. The total duration of the presentation will be **5 minutes max** and the presentation will comprise **between 10 (minimum) and 15 (maximum) slides** (there is no "per slide" timing requirement, the presentation simply must not be longer than 5 minutes in total duration)

2. The presentation must address: i) a situation analysis/context, ii) an overview of the LA project/practice in question and the reasons for the approach employed, and iii) the impact of the project/practice on learning and teaching

3. Submissions will consist of a link to the presentation (please *do not* submit a copy of the file itself). The link must be publicly accessible (ie cannot require a password to access the presentation)

4. The presentation will incorporate a recording of an audio narration to a series of slides (the slides may contain text and images).

5. The presentation must be of sufficient quality to allow a viewer to clearly hear and read its content using standard desktop computing equipment

Note: you may use any slide format you choose, but a simple way is to record your narration over your slides using Powerpoint. [See here for help](#)

Note: while there is no prescription on the platform you use to share your presentation, one possible option is [Authorstream](#). Authorstream is freely available and allows you to easily share a Powerpoint presentation, including recorded audio narration. Simply upload your presentation to Authorstream and submit the link.

How to Apply

Submissions are to be made via the [LA SIG website](#).

Eligibility/Conditions

1. Submissions must conform to the Submission Requirements.

2. Applicants consent to their submissions being promoted and made publicly available via the SIG website.

3. Finalists (or, if applying as a team, at least one member of the team) must be able to attend the ASCILITE annual conference and provide a 10 minute presentation that elaborates on their submission at the LA SIG event therein. All applicants will be asked to confirm their availability for the conference and LA SIG workshop when entering.

4. Prize money (see Prizes) shall only be used to support recipients' travel to the ASCILITE annual conference.

5. The judges' decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into.

Judging Criteria

Criteria	Weight	Description
Impact	40%	The submission demonstrates a clear and substantive impact on student learning and/or teaching practice (for students and/or staff) arising from the LA project/practice in question
Innovation and Scalability	30%	The submission demonstrates that the use of LA in the project/practice in question is both innovative and scalable (having potential to provide application with large numbers of students beyond specific learning contexts or environments)
Pedagogy	30%	The submission demonstrates a strong link between the LA project/practice in question and established pedagogy/learning science in terms of i) the theoretical foundations for the project/practice and/or ii) the capacity for the particular application of LA to inform change in teaching practices or enhance student learning

Prizes

The LA SIG will contribute up to $300 (total) to the travel costs of each of the three finalists associated with their attendance at the ASCILITE annual conference.

In the event that a group submission is judged to be a finalist, $300 in total will be allocated to that group to be shared among the members of that group as they see fit.

The Award winner(s) will also receive a certificate recognising their achievement.