Undergraduate Research Innovation Award in Optics

This award recognizes a University of Arizona optics undergraduate student whose research achievements demonstrate promise in advancing innovative applications of optics that improve quality of life or address societal challenges.

Faculty Nominators and Deadline
Nominations are to be submitted by University of Arizona faculty and accepted through August 20, 2018. Submit to John Koshel at jkoshel@optics.arizona.edu

Nomination Requirements
1. Research projects that were completed or were ongoing during the academic year 2017-2018 or summer 2017 and 2018 are eligible.
2. The recipient is to be enrolled at the University of Arizona as of the Fall 2018 semester. While the nominee’s enrollment may have transitioned to a graduate program as of Fall 2018, his/her part of the project must have been completed as an optics undergraduate student at UA in the previous year.
3. The Award amount is $2,500 (made possible by a private donation) and will be presented to the student recipient at the College of Optical Sciences Fall 2018 Student Scholarship Awards program.

Nomination Outline
1. Student Name and contact information.
2. Nominator’s Name and contact information.
3. A one-page narrative explaining the student’s research project as it meets the following metrics for the award.

Metrics for the Award
1. Innovation: The award will be given to an optics undergraduate student whose lab/research achievements in optics demonstrate promise in advancing innovative applications of optics that improve quality of life or address societal challenges.
2. High Quality: The quality of the student’s research must be articulated and substantiated by the mentoring faculty supervising or supporting the research.
3. External Validation: External validation of the student’s work is preferred. This could include the student presenting his/her work to a professional audience (e.g., Industrial Affiliates, technical conferences, and so forth) or the student’s work receiving recognition by a professional society, group, or academic enterprise outside of the College of Optical Sciences.

The Scholarship Award Committee will rank the nominations and present to the College of Optical Sciences dean for a final decision.