

Dear young LaserLaB researchers,

We like to announce the ‘2020 Best Paper Contest’ for young LaserLaB researchers. Young researchers are cordially invited to participate in the contest by submitting a recently accepted paper, accompanied by a one-page cover letter. Principal investigators are called upon to encourage applications.

A jury of LaserLaB staff members will elect the best-paper based on originality, creativity and scientific excellence of the applicant. This year the jury will consist of Elizabeth von Hauff, Sander Woutersen and Raoul Frese. The winner will be announced at the LaserLaB Symposium (December 18, 2020) and will receive the LaserLaB Best Paper Award and a prize of €500.

Eligibility rules for this contest are:

- Each young scientist with some appointment at LaserLaB may submit one scientific paper of which he/she is the first author and the main contributor. We encourage the submission of papers from high and average impact journals alike.
- As young scientists qualify: PhD students (AIO's, OIO's), Master students, European visiting students, and postdocs.
- Submitted papers must have been accepted for publication between December 6, 2019 and December 10, 2020.
- The winner will be present at the award ceremony in order to claim his/her prize.
- Each paper needs to be accompanied by a simple and short (single page A4) cover letter written by the candidate. This letter should very briefly explain the importance of the paper for his/her field of research and highlighting the achieved breakthrough.

*Emphasis in the cover letter should be mostly given on the scientific creativity and persistence of **the individual contestant** leading to the publication.*

The cover letter should be comprehensible to people outside the paper's specific field of research. The quality of the cover letter will be an important factor in the jury's judicial process.

Deadline for submission is **December 11, 2020, 15:00**. Earlier submission is much appreciated. Please submit your paper and the cover letter electronically to Marja Herronen m.e.herronen@vu.nl.

With kind regards,
The ‘2020 Best Paper Contest’ jury,
Elizabeth von Hauff, Sander Woutersen and Raoul Frese