



## MwALT Graduate Student Award for Excellence in Language Assessment Research

Paper Submission Due Date: May 31, 2018

### **Purpose:**

To recognize outstanding language assessment research conducted by a graduate student.

### **Eligibility:**

The research must have been carried out by a graduate student in a master's or doctoral program in the U.S. Students are encouraged to submit papers that investigate any area of language assessment and that involve quantitative and/or qualitative analysis, such as data-driven empirical work or conceptual work (e.g., a literature review, meta-analysis, etc.). Projects may address world languages, less-commonly-taught foreign languages, or English as a second or foreign language. The project may have been carried out in the context of a graduate-level course or may be an original independent project conducted for academic credit (e.g., a course project, a qualifying research paper, a dissertation pilot study). The project must be in final form as a written paper at the time of submission. Research projects not eligible for this award are doctoral dissertations, projects directed by faculty, or papers co-authored with faculty.

**Award:** The winner will present the award-winning paper at the 2018 MwALT conference. The winner's conference registration fee will be waived, and at the awards ceremony, the winner will receive a framed certificate and a \$500 (USD) check to help cover travel to/from the 2018 MwALT conference, to be held at the WIDA Consortium at the University of Wisconsin at Madison.

### **Submission Criteria:**

1. The paper should address an area of importance in second language assessment.
2. The paper must have been submitted for credit within two years prior to the year of the award (Summer 2016 - Spring 2018).
3. The paper should be in APA format, should include an abstract that is no longer than 250 words, and should be no longer than 9,000 words including abstract, tables, figures, and references.
4. The recipient is not required to be a member of MwALT, but should be completing their program in the U.S.
5. The paper must have been written for a graduate course or conducted for academic credit.

**Submission Protocol:** Submissions should include a Word document of the paper (free of identifiers), and in a separate cover-page file, the following should be included:

1. Title of the paper;
2. Name of the author, the graduate course number, course title, professor of record, and the institutional affiliation including the location of the institution. Acronyms should not be used when giving institutional affiliations;
3. Mailing address of correspondent;
4. E-mail address of correspondent;
5. Telephone number of correspondent.

The cover-page file and paper file should be submitted electronically (as MS Word attachments) to Dr. Hyun-Sook Kang at [hkang@ilstu.edu](mailto:hkang@ilstu.edu) by 11:55pm on May 31st, 2018. The email must have the subject header "Best Paper Award Submission –Name" as electronic papers submitted without the correct header may be lost. Papers submitted after the deadline will not be considered. The award winner will be announced in June 2018.

The rubric for the evaluation of the papers can be found on the MwALT Awards webpage at <http://mwalt.msu.edu/awards/>