

## Sixth Christian Benoit Award Deadline April 25th, 2011

The Christian Benoit Award is delivered periodically by the Association Christian Benoit (\*\*). It is given to promising young scientists in the domain of Speech Communication. The Award provides the elected scientist with financial support for the development of a short-term research project that (1) illustrates concretely the achievements of her/his research work, (2) could help promoting this work in the scientific community and to Grant Agencies, and (3) gives an overall view of the state of the art in the research domain. The proposed research project can have the form of a demonstrator, a technical product or of a pedagogical multi-media product (Movie, Web-site, interactive software...).

The Award is valued at 7,500 Euros(\*).

From now, the Award will more specifically focus on SPEECH and FACE-TO-FACE COMMUNICATION. It can concern basic or applied research projects. For the sixth award, the commitments of the elected scientist are:

- to attend the Interspeech2011 Conference in Florence
- to deliver the final product of the project within 2 years
- to present her/his results in a workshop such as, among others, AVSP, ISSP, or SpeechProsody.

In the application, the candidate should provide

- a statement of research interests,
- a detailed curriculum vitae
- a description of the proposed short-term research project. The description should include a presentation of the scientific and/or pedagogical objectives and of the methodological aspects, a link with the former research work of the applicant, as well as a detailed description of the provisional budget.

Applications should be sent to  
Pascal Perrier: Pascal.Perrier@gipsa-lab.grenoble-inp.fr  
before Monday April 25th, 2011  
. Electronic submissions are mandatory.

The successful candidate will be notified by **June 6' 2011**. **The Award will be delivered at the Interspeech 2011 Conference in Florence (Italy.)** (<http://www.interspeech2011.org/>)

The first award was delivered to **Tony Ezzat from MIT** in June 2000, for his research in Audiovisual Speech Synthesis, the second award to **Johanna Barry from University of Melbourne** in September 2002 for her work on the acquisition of lexical tones in profoundly hearing-impaired speakers using a cochlear implant, the third award to **Olov Engwal from KTH in Stockholm** in October 2004 for the elaboration of ARTUR, a multi-modal articulation tutor able to give automatic feedback to real users, the fourth award to **Susanne Fuchs from ZAS in Berlin** in August 2007 for her study of the influence of vocal tract geometry on speaker specific articulatory control strategies and acoustic properties and on the interspeaker variability in vowel production, the fifth award to **Sascha Fagel from the Berlin Institute of Technology** in August 2009 for the design of a 3D talking head for the use in the area of elderly and health care. For details see:

<http://people.csail.mit.edu/tonebone/research/mary101/results/results.html>

<http://www.psy.ox.ac.uk/oscci/People%20folder/johanna%20barry/v2/index.htm>

<http://www.speech.kth.se/multimodal/ARTUR>

<http://benoit.susannefuchs.org/>

**For further information, please contact Pascal Perrier.**

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\* 3,500 Euros will be given immediately; the remaining 4,000 Euros will be available at reception of the multi-media project by the Christian Benoit Association. **Travel and registration costs necessary to attend the Interspeech 2011 Conference will have to be paid on this grant.**

\*\* The Christian Benoit Association is a nonprofit organization, whose purpose is to facilitate the development of research projects in the field of speech communication. Established in honor of Christian Benoit, French CNRS researcher in the field of speech communication who died on the 26th of April, 1998, at the age of 41, the Award places special emphasis on multimedia representations of ongoing research.