

# Criteria for the 2018 ALTA Best Conference Paper Awards

In keeping with its mission to promote excellence in research, including the scholarship of teaching and learning, and to support early career academics, there will be three annual awards on offer for papers presented at the Annual Conference of the Australasian Law Teachers Association (ALTA). They are:

- Best Overall Conference Paper
- Best Early Career Academic Conference Paper
- Best Legal Education Conference Paper

The winner of each award will receive \$500 AUD.

Entries close Friday 8 June 2018

The following criteria apply:

## 1. To be eligible for consideration for the best conference paper awards:

**1.1.** Papers must be received by the ALTA Secretariat at [admin@alta.edu.au](mailto:admin@alta.edu.au) by the submission of papers deadline. Papers must be accompanied by a submission sheet. The submission sheet is available on the ALTA website – [www.alta.edu.au/Awards.htm](http://www.alta.edu.au/Awards.htm) .

**1.1.1** To be considered for the Best Early Career Academic Conference Paper award, the paper must be received by the ALTA Secretariat within three years of the author's first academic (teaching and/or research) appointment. The author must provide the date of first appointment and the name of the employer on the submission sheet;

**1.1.2** If the paper is jointly written, and the principal author is not an early career academic, the paper is ineligible for the Best Early Career Academic Conference Paper award;

**1.1.3** To be considered for the Best Legal Education Conference Paper award, papers no longer need to be presented at the Legal Education Interest Group Session. Papers presented at any session on the topic of Legal Education are eligible to submit to the category;

**1.1.4** The submission sheet will also acknowledge that if the author wins an award or awards, and the paper is subsequently published, the published version will contain a reference that acknowledges receipt of the award(s).

**1.2.** The author of the paper must be an ALTA member. If a paper is jointly written, at least one author must be an ALTA member.

**1.3.** The paper must be presented at the ALTA Annual Conference to which it is submitted at either an Interest Group Session or through a poster medium.

**1.4.** The paper must be between 2500 and no more than 8000 words.

1.5. The paper will be published on the Conference Proceedings.

1.6. Citation and text are according to the latest version of the Melbourne University Law Review, *Australian Guide to Legal Citation 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition*.

**2. A paper will be ineligible for consideration for the awards if it:**

2.1. Has been submitted for publication or published in Australasia or elsewhere; or

2.2. Was presented at the ALTA Annual Conference as a result of an invitation by the conference organisers; or

2.3. Was presented at a plenary session of the ALTA Annual Conference; or

2.4. The author is on the Selection Committee.

**3. The Selection Committee** will consist of at least three members in total, chosen from members of the ALTA General and New Zealand Executives and former award winner/s.

3.1. The Selection Committee's decision is final.

3.2. The Selection Committee may decline to make an award in any category in any year.

**4. In making its decision(s), the Selection Committee will consider the following:**

4.1. It is possible for an author to win more than one award for the same paper.

4.2. Papers will be blind refereed by the Selection Committee

4.3. The general criteria include:

(a) Significance and relevance of paper to Conference theme (This criterion is not applicable to the Legal Education Award);

(b) Choice of topic and analysis of issues;

(c) Quality of originality and research;

(d) Relationship to literature and theory;

(e) Coherence of argument and structure;

(f) Clarity of conclusions;

(g) Writing style and referencing

**5. The awards are to be presented to the winner(s), or in absentia, at the next Annual ALTA Conference from when the paper was originally presented.**