Railway Technical Society of Australasia (RTSA)
2018 RTSA POSTGRADUATE THESIS AWARD
Nomination Form

Return
By mail to:
Awards Coordinator
Engineers Australia
Engineering House, 11 National Circuit, BARTON, ACT 2600, AUSTRALIA
Or submit your nomination online at:
www.rtsa.com.au

PARTICULARS OF NOMINEE
Name……………………………………………………………………………………………………………
Address for correspondence………………………………………………………………………………
Email address for confirmation of receipt of application………………………………………………
Phone number in case of any query………………………………………………………………………
Name of University at which the thesis was completed………………………………………………
Degree being completed at this University (i.e. Rail industry related topic)…………………………
Title of the post graduate thesis…………………………………………………………………………
Date the thesis was finally submitted to the University………………………………………………

I hereby present an abstract (about 200 words) for this thesis, a written statement (up to 500 words) in which is
addressed the relevance of the contents of the thesis to each of the six judging criteria and a copy of the full thesis
entered for the RTSA Postgraduate Thesis Award for 2018.

I agree that if the RTSA Awards Sub-committee requires further details, the Chair of the Sub-committee may con-
tact the University where the postgraduate thesis project was submitted.

Where did you hear about the award?..........................................................................................

I declare that I have read, and that I accept the rules (1 to 10) for the competition.

Signed……………………………………………………………………………..Date…………………….
The 2018 RTSA Postgraduate Thesis Award

The 2018 RTSA Postgraduate Thesis Award will be awarded by Engineers Australia's Railway Technical Society of Australasia to the author of an outstanding doctoral or research masters on a topic concerned with the rail industry. To be eligible for the above award the following conditions apply:

1. The work reported in the thesis shall have been undertaken in Australia or New Zealand by an author for a Doctorate of Philosophy (PHD) or a Research Masters thesis completed during either 2015, 2016 or 2017. The thesis can be about any topic concerned with the rail industry.

2. The RTSA Awards Sub-committee will judge the theses nominated and, provided a suitable nomination is received, the award may be made each year.

3. Nominations for the 2017 RTSA Postgraduate Thesis Award will close on **Friday, 1st December 2017**. Nominations must be either submitted online at www.rtsa.com.au or received by the Awards Coordinator whose address can be found at the head of page 1 of 3, with a completed nomination form, by the above closing date. The nomination form is attached and it is available also from the RTSA website at www.rtsa.com.au.

4. If an award is made for a PHD Thesis, the recipient shall receive a prize comprising a payment of AU$5000 or NZ$ equivalent; one complimentary CORE Conference registration plus travel and accommodation; complementary RTSA membership for one year and a framed certificate.

5. At its discretion the RTSA Awards Sub-Committee may also make an award to a Research Masters Thesis. The recipient shall receive a prize comprising a payment of AU$3000 or NZ$ equivalent; one complimentary CORE Conference registration plus travel and accommodation; complementary RTSA membership for one year and a framed certificate.

6. The nominated author must have been primarily responsible for the preparation of the thesis and, this, along with the thesis meeting the university's requirements for completion of the award of the degree, shall be confirmed in writing by the thesis supervisor at the student's university.

7. The nomination requires the approval of the author and the thesis supervisor at the student’s university and thesis shall be accompanied by a 200 word abstract together with an electronic copy (pdf format) of the thesis.

8. In addition to the 200 word abstract, the nomination shall also be accompanied by a written statement of up to 500 words, also approved by the thesis supervisor and which addresses each of the six Judging Criteria that can be found at the foot of page 3 of 3. This written statement will be used as part of the process of review that will be used to select the successful candidate.

9. Any winner of the award will be expected to attend to receive the prize at an University event or at a local RTSA Chapter meeting.

10. Award Winners are strongly encouraged to prepare and present a poster presentation on their thesis at the next CORE Conference after their award. For the 2018 RTSA Postgraduate Thesis Award, this will be at CORE 2018 to be held in Sydney from 30 April to 2 May 2018. Award Winners will be notified by the RTSA Awards Sub-Committee in mid March 2018 and supplied with a poster presentation template. Draft poster presentations will be required to be submitted to the RTSA Awards Sub-Committee by latest **Friday 6th April 2018** for review and printing prior to CORE 2018.

11. The author shall agree also that the RTSA may publish any abstract of a thesis for which a prize is awarded and use details of the award in any RTSA or related publications.

12. All students making a nomination, and their respective supervisors, shall agree to accept as final the decision of the RTSA Awards Sub-committee as to whether or not the project is deemed to be a topic concerned with the rail industry, in the event that an award is made or not and no correspondence shall be entered into. Students shall agree also that the RTSA Awards Sub-committee may make inquiries of their university regarding the thesis.

13. Applicants shall advise any changes of contact details which may occur between the time of their submission and receipt of final advice on the judging or award of prizes.
SECTION TO BE COMPLETED BY THE SUPERVISOR, HEAD OF SCHOOL OR DEAN

In my view the thesis is substantially a topic concerned with the rail industry that was completed by the above named student and the above information, including the thesis abstract and the written statement in which is addressed the six judging criteria, is correct.

The thesis submitted is a Doctorate of Philosophy or a research masters (please state below which degree – if a research masters please state the credit point value and, if relevant, the mark awarded)

Doctorate of Philosophy:............................................................................................................................................
Research Masters:....................................................................................................................................................
The student EITHER has had the degree awarded (please state the date):..................................................

OR has been advised officially that he or she has completed the university requirements for the conferring of the degree:................................................................................................................................................
In case of any query, I can be contacted on phone:..........................................................

Or by email...................................................................................................................................................................
Name..........................................................................................................................................................................
Position..............................................................................................................................................................
Signed:......................................................................................................................................................Date..................

Judging Criteria

To assist candidates to prepare the written statement that is required in Rule 7 on page 2 of 3, listed below are details of the judging criteria that will be used to assist the members of the Awards Sub-committee as part of the process of evaluating the nominations:

- Detail and accuracy of problem definition.
- Level of literature review, referencing and the use of related published work in the field.
- Degree of innovation on problem solution and contribution to knowledge of railways.
- Level of experimental work, modeling and/or simulation.
- Applicability of research to current railway-related problems.
- Peer reviewed publications in outstanding journals in the related field and/or presentations in railway-related conferences.