
In each of these categories, it is possible to nominate papers published in up to four conferences earlier than the targeted conference. Thus papers published at FOCS 85-88 can compete for the award targeting the 1989 conference and similarly for the other two awards.

Nomination Procedure. Anyone in the Theoretical Computer Science community may nominate at most one paper in each category. To do so, please send nominations to: focs.tta.2019@gmail.com with a subject line of FOCS Test of Time Award by April 23, 2019. The nomination should contain an explanation of the impact of the nominated paper(s), including references to follow-up work.

Selection. The winners are selected by a committee appointed by the FOCS steering committee and for 2019 it consists of Paul Beame (U of Washington), Allan Borodin (U of Toronto), Uri Feige (Weizmann Inst), Monika Henzinger (U of Vienna), Johan Håstad (KTH, chair), and Mihalis Yannakakis (Columbia U).

In selecting the Test of Time Award, the Committee will pay particular attention to long term impact. This impact can come in many forms and some possibilities are to: (i) open up a new area of research; (ii) introduce new techniques; (iii) solve a problem of lasting importance.

The committee expects to select exactly one paper in each category, and moreover, it expects it to be a paper from the corresponding targeted year. However, if the committee finds that circumstances justify this, it may select up to three papers in each category, and include among them papers from up to four years prior to the targeted year. The committee may select papers other than those that are nominated.

About the Award. This is the first FOCS Test of Time Award and it will be an annual award. The 2019 award winners will be presented at FOCS 2019, held in Baltimore, November 9 to 12.