

# Gustave Magnel Gold Medal

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## POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

### Article 1 About the Award

Following an agreement concluded on 23 January 1958 between the Regulation Committee of the “Commemoration Prof. G. Magnel” and the Alumni Association of Engineers Graduated from Ghent University (abbreviated as AIG), it was decided to award a “Gustave Magnel Gold Medal” at regular intervals.

This medal is intended to honour the memory of ir. Gustave Magnel, who died in Ghent on July 5th 1955. He was the senior full professor at Ghent University, the founder and director of the Laboratory for Reinforced Concrete, which is now known as “Laboratories Magnel - Vandepitte for architectural constructions and building materials” of Ghent University, Belgium.

### Article 1 bis

These policies and procedures were amended by the Award Committee, authorised, and composed according to Article 7 below. The amendments were approved by the AIG Board of Governors during their meeting on March 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

In case of interpretation in connection with, or inconsistency between, the foreign-language texts, the English-language version shall prevail.

### Article 2 Award Period

In principle, the medal is awarded every five years. The current period started in 2019.

It is understood that the Award Ceremony shall typically take place following the conclusion of each period, unless extraordinary circumstances dictate otherwise, in which case the ceremony may be conducted prior to the completion of the five-year interval.

### Article 3 Award Criteria

The medal is awarded to the designer(s) or design office of a structure that is made of reinforced and/or prestressed concrete, and is completed in the intended five-year period. The structure should be significant and noteworthy.

The Award Committee and Scientific Jury will not consider the nationality of the designer(s) or the country where the construction work was done.

### Article 4 Award Committee

The responsibility of periodically awarding the medal is entrusted to an Award Committee, acting on behalf of the AIG.

Applications must be submitted to this Committee in accordance to the modalities established and described below.

#### Article 5 Nomination Methods

The nomination process for the Gustave Magnel Gold Medal shall be conducted through one of the following three methods:

- a) nomination by the Award Committee;
- b) nomination by a third party (e.g., private individual, association, public institution, etc);
- c) self-nominations are allowed as well.

All three methods shall be considered valid and shall be evaluated according to the same criteria.

#### Article 6 Submission of Nominations

Each nomination must be submitted in English and in a digital form. The submission must include the following:

- a) A PDF document of maximum 10 pages containing a brief description of the proposed structure. The document should also contain photos of the structure and an explanation of how it meets the criteria set out in Article 3. the document may also include information on the structure's sustainability aspects;
- b) A signed declaration from the candidate(s) and two other uninvolved persons, confirming that the candidate(s) is/are the actual designer(s) of structure;
- c) A letter signed by the candidate(s) declaring their willingness to provide the Award Committee with any additional information necessary for the Scientific Jury to form a proper opinion on the structure;
- d) The curriculum vitae or portfolio of the candidate(s).

Each nomination shall be handled in strict confidentiality. If a nomination is not awarded, the accompanying documents shall not be publicly released.

#### Article 7 Award Committee Composition

The Board of Governors of AIG appoints the Award Committee, which is comprised of the following members:

- The current chairman of the AIG, who serves as the chairman of the Award Committee by default. However, the chairman may delegate this authority to another member of the Board of Governors of AIG;
- The current treasurer of the AIG;
- One or more members of Board of Governors of AIG;
- A professor or full professor at Ghent University who teaches in the civil engineering programme;
- One or more engineers with a construction background.

In the event of resignation, death, or severe inadequacy of a member, a substitute member must be appointed by the Award Committee.

A member of the Award Committee cannot serve as a member of the Scientific Jury.

## Article 8 Award Committee Responsibilities

The Award Committee is responsible for overseeing all activities related to the awarding of the medal. The Award Committee is responsible for the activities. This includes commissioning the creation of the medal and determining the budget necessary for hosting the awards ceremony. To properly evaluate the nominations, the Award Committee is authorised to incur expenses within the limits of available funds.

## Article 9 Screening of Nominations

The Award Committee shall conduct an initial screening of the received nominations.

It shall dismiss any nominations that do not conform to the policies and procedures outlined in this document. If necessary, the Award Committee may supplement the nominations of the remaining candidates by requesting for additional information.

The Award Committee shall then proceed to appoint a Scientific Jury.

## Article 10 Deliberation and Decision Process

In accordance with confidentiality requirements, all deliberations and decisions remain strictly private.

In the event of a vote, a simple majority of vote is required to make a decision. If there is a tie, the chairman's vote shall serve as the deciding vote. The chairman has the authority to determine the method of voting, whether it be by raising of hands or by secret ballot.

Additionally, the chairman has the discretion to authorise voting by written proxy or signed letter, but must provide clear instructions for all voting methods in advance.

## Article 11 Scientific Jury

The Scientific Jury shall be composed of structural engineers who are affiliated with or graduated from a Belgian university. The composition shall be as follows:

- Two members from the Ghent University;
- One member from the Université de Liège;
- One member from the Catholic University of Louvain;
- One member from the Université Catholique Louvain-la-Neuve;
- One member from the Free University of Brussels;
- One member from the Université Libre Bruxelles.

The chairmanship and secretariat are to be provided by members of the jury from Ghent University, with the chairmanship held by a professor or full professor affiliated with the Laboratory Magnel - Vandepitte.

The Scientific Jury shall examine the nominations provided by the Award Committee.

Jury members shall report any possible conflict of interest to their chairperson prior to the discussion and the voting phase.

The Scientific Jury may request further information from the Award Committee. It shall submit to the Award Committee a reasoned report in which it proposes the name of the award winner(s).

The deliberations and voting procedures of the Scientific Jury shall be strictly private and subject to the same conditions as described in Article 10 above.

Members of the Scientific Jury shall be entitled to reimbursement for travel and other expenses incurred as a result of their assignment.

#### Article 12 Designation of the Recipients, Confidentiality and Announcement

Upon receipt of the report from the Scientific Jury, the Award Committee shall designate the recipient(s) of the "Gustave Magnel Gold Medal".

The decision of the Award Committee must not be disclosed without the prior approval of the AIG Board of Governors. The announcement of the award recipient(s) shall be made exclusively by the Board of Governors.

#### Article 13 Approval by the Board of Governors

The Award Committee shall propose to the Board of Governors of the AIG the award of the prize. Once the Board of Governors of the AIG approves the proposal, the Award Committee shall proceed with organising the Award Ceremony.

#### Article 14 Award Ceremony

The recipient(s) of the medal will be invited to attend the Award Ceremony mentioned in Article 13. By default, the Award Ceremony takes place in Ghent and is organised by the AIG with the cooperation of academic authorities and other interested parties.

Additionally, the recipient(s) will be awarded a diploma that grants them the title of "Laureate of the Gustave Magnel Gold Medal".

If the recipient(s) reside(s) outside Belgium, their travel and accommodation expenses for attending the Award Ceremony may be partially or fully reimbursed.