W.C. Carter Award

This year the IEEE Technical Committee on Fault-Tolerant Computing (TC-FTC), together with the IFIP Working Group on Dependable Computing and Fault Tolerance (WG 10.4), created a new prize — the William C. Carter Award, which will now be presented annually at FTCS. The Award has been established to recognize the outstanding FTCS submission in the area of dependable computing that is based on the author's graduate dissertation.

The Carter Award has been instituted in honor of the late William C. Carter. Dr. Carter was a key figure in the formation and development of the field of dependable computing and fault tolerance. His career spanned over four decades, from programming, debugging, and recovery in ENIAC, through reliability, availability, and serviceability during the golden age of IBM mainframes. In particular, he took great interest in the future of the field and was instrumental in promoting the work of young contributors. It was characteristic of Bill to take the initiative in reaching out to students and younger colleagues. Despite the demands of his own career, he knew the value of taking the time to encourage, mentor, and inspire newcomers to the field. This Award is intended to honor and to carry on this aspect of his legacy.

Requirements for the Award were announced in the FTCS-27 Call for Papers. To qualify for the Award, a paper must have been submitted to FTCS as a regular paper and must have been single-authored (senior-authored with the dissertation advisor or committee member) by a current graduate student or a former student who is no more than two years past degree completion. A paper is self-nominated for the Award by certifying on its title page that it has met the requirements for consideration.

All Carter Award submissions accepted to the Symposium as regular papers were evaluated by the Carter Award Committee established by the TC-FTC Chair. The Committee selected two papers as final contenders. When the authors of these papers submitted their final manuscripts, the Committee selected this year's winners.

This year the prize is shared by two exceptional papers:

"COFTA: Hardware-Software Co-Synthesis of Heterogeneous Distributed Embedded System Architectures for Low Overhead Fault Tolerance"
by Bharat P. Dave, Princeton
(Niraj K. Jha, advisor)

"Fail-Awareness: An Approach to Construct Fail-Safe Applications"
by Christof Fetzer, University of California at San Diego
(Flaviu Christian, advisor)