The Outstanding Student Paper Award recognizes the student paper that makes the most significant contribution to the annual SIGAda conference. This year Mr. Robert Soricone was awarded the Outstanding Student Paper Award at the 2004 SIGAda conference. Mr. Soricone is shown here presenting his paper at the conference in Atlanta, Georgia.

Mr. Soricone’s paper, entitled *Comparative Analysis of Genetic Algorithm Implementations*, describes testing that has been done with two implementations of a Genetic Algorithm system. One system was written in Ada95 and the other was written in MatLab. Compared to MatLab, Ada 95 allows the programmer to solve alternate classes of problems. This applies to both the representation of the chromosome and the main operation of the genetic algorithm. For more information, please see his paper which can be found in the conference proceedings published in the December issue of Ada Letters. Mr. Soricone’s paper is based on research that was done while he was a Master’s student at the Northern Arizona University in Flagstaff, Arizona. His advisor, Dr. Melvin Neville, is a co-author on the paper. Mr. Soricone graduated from Northern Arizona University in May 2004.

This year, the prize for the Outstanding Student Paper Award was an Xbox video game system donated by Microsoft Corporation through the efforts of Mr. Richard Conn. Mr. Conn is shown here announcing the winner of the award.

Congratulations to Mr Soricone for winning the Outstanding Student Paper Award at the 2004 SIGAda conference. A very special thanks goes to Mr. Richard Conn from Microsoft for donating this year’s prize.

Ricky E. Sward
Program Chair
SIGAda 2004 Conference