The John F. Kennedy Student Paper Competition was first held at the 25th IAHR Congress in 1993 to honor the memory of **Professor Kennedy**, former IAHR President (1979 to 1983) and Honorary Member (1989 to 1991). He spent much of his career as Professor of Civil Engineering at the University of Iowa and as Director of the Iowa Institute of Hydroscience and Engineering (1966 to 1991). A particularly notable distinction was his election at the unusually young age of thirty-nine to the United States' National Academy of Engineering in 1973. He received the Iowa Governor's Science Medal (1983), an honorary Ph.D. from his alma mater The University of Notre Dame (1989), and posthumously, the Hans Albert Einstein Award of the American Society of Civil

Professor Kennedy was a prolific researcher, whose agenda spanned diverse aspects of classical fluid dynamics and contemporary issues in hydraulic engineering. He also devoted considerable energy to investigating the contributions of famous hydraulicians and publishing their biographies. He was the author, co-author, or editor of more than 250 publications. Throughout his multi-faceted career, one of his foremost concerns was the promotion of students' research endeavors. In this spirit, the Kennedy Student Paper Competition has provided talented students a forum for presenting their doctoral projects to an international audience and honoring their outstanding contributions.

Engineering (1992). Professor Kennedy passed away in 1991 at the age of fifty-seven.

The competition is associated with each IAHR biennial congress. A panel of judges appointed by the respective Congress Local Organizing Committee (LOC) selects one or two winning papers on the basis of written and oral presentations. One or two winners of the competition are awarded cash prizes from the family of Professor Kennedy as well as commemorative plaques. The LOC may offer additional cash prizes and certificates to runners up from its own resources.