

Frequently Asked Questions

SSRIC 2016 Social Science Student Symposium (S⁴)
Faculty Memorial Awards

Thanks to a generous donation from Dr. Gene Geisler, Professor Emeritus of Political Science at San Francisco State and a key founding member of the SSRIC, the 2016 Symposium will include three \$5,000 best paper awards, as well as awards of up to \$150 for other papers presented.

Best paper awardsⁱ: Awards will be in three categories: the McCall Award for best undergraduate paper, the Nesvold Award for best graduate paper, and the Rummels Award for paper demonstrating the best use of quantitative data. Awards will be based only on the written papers submitted, but papers must actually be presented in order to be eligible for an award.

Other awards: Papers presented at the symposium, but not winning a best paper award, will receive awards of \$75, with an additional \$75 in travel money for those papers presented by students from other than the host campus.

FAQs (Frequently Asked Questions)

Who is eligible for an award?

Currently enrolled undergraduates, Master's level graduate students, and students in the first two full years of a CSU doctoral program, including recent graduates (Fall term 2015 or later) presenting work completed prior to graduation. Students may make a presentation without having submitted a paper, but will not be considered for an award. In the case of papers with multiple authors, all authors must be eligible for an award. Papers co-authored by both graduate and undergraduate students will be considered to be graduate papers. California community college students are welcome to present, but are not eligible for awards.

What about papers that have been published elsewhere?

Papers that are published or forthcoming in a peer-reviewed journal (excluding student journals) are not eligible for awards, nor are book chapters.

May a paper be presented at both this and another symposium (such as the CSU Student Research Competition)?

It's fine with us, and with the CSU [Student Research Competition](#). FYI: In 2016, the Competition will be held April 29-30 at CSU Bakersfield. For other conferences, check with the conference organizers.

Do I need to be present to win?

Basically yes, but see next question.

If a paper has multiple authors, how will awards be allocated?

For best paper awards, at least one author must present the paper at the Symposium, but awards will be divided equally among all authors listed on the paper, including those not actually presenting. For other awards, the full amount of the award will go to the first author listed on the paper who is among those presenting.

Are papers co-authored by faculty eligible for an award?

No. Only students may be listed as authors, and students must have done the bulk of the work. These

are student awards for student work. Faculty advisers are expected to be just that: advisers.

How do I submit a paper online?

Fill out the registration form by the deadline indicated. Include an abstract (100 words or less) of your paper/presentation. To be considered for an award, the full paper must be submitted with the registration. If you don't wish to be considered for an award, you don't need to submit a paper, but still do need to register and submit an abstract to participate and present your research.

Who will select the winners?

Awardees will be selected by a faculty committee appointed by the Social Science Research and Instructional Council. Reviews are done anonymously, and no faculty members review work by students from their own campus.

What are the length and formatting requirements for papers?

Not more than 20 pages (excluding title, abstract, tables and graphs, and list of works cited), double-spaced, 12 point font, with 1" margins. So that members of the Awards Committee can be as objective as possible, do *not* include identifying information, such as author(s) name(s), campus(es), or email address(es), anywhere in the paper or abstract. You are already providing this information through the registration process. MS Word format is preferred, but PDF is acceptable.

Why do we need to provide our mailing address, phone number, and social security number?

When registering, you will be asked for your mailing address and phone number in case we need to contact you and there is a problem with your email. At the Symposium, you will need to provide your social security number in order to process your award payment.

Do awards have income tax, health insurance, and/or financial aid implications?

We don't give tax or insurance advice; you'll have to check with someone who does. If you have questions regarding your financial aid, check with the financial aid office on your campus.

¹ The award for best undergraduate paper is named after Dr. Charles McCall (Political Science, Bakersfield). Charles was one of the SSRIC founders. He was SSRIC Council Chair (AY 1974-75), served on the Council of the Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research, and was ICPSR Council chair. He died in 2013.

The best graduate paper award is named after another of the Council's founders, Dr. Betty Nesvold (Political Science, San Diego). Betty was the very first SSRIC chair (AY 1972-73). Like Charles, she also served on the Council of the ICPSR, and was ICPSR Council Chair. She died in 1992.

The award for the best use of quantitative data is named after Gloria Rummels (Staff, State University Data Center [SUDC]). Until the early 1990s, SUDC served as the "hub" for the data bases, and the late Gloria Rummels was one of several staff members who provided fantastic support for data users. From the time of her death until SUDC was disbanded some years later, Gloria's SUDC colleagues funded this prize out of their own pockets.