SSRIC Student Research Conference 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 2014 Conference will include three $5,000 best paper awards, as well as awards of up to $100 for other papers presented.

Best paper awards: 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 best paper using 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 conference, but not winning a best paper award, will receive awards of up to $100. The precise amount of these awards will depend upon the number of papers presented.

FAQs (Frequently Asked Questions)

Who is eligible for an award?
CSU students (both undergraduate and graduate), including recent graduates (summer term 2013 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. 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, nor are book chapters.

May a paper be presented at both this and another conference (such as the CSU Student Research Competition)?
It’s fine with us, and with the CSU Student Research Competition. 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 Conference, 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?
Fill out the registration form by the deadlines 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.

Who will select the winners?
A faculty committee appointed by the Social Science Research and Instructional Council.

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. Include a separate title page with the name(s) and campus(es) of the author(s). Do not include such identifying information elsewhere in the paper.

Why do we need to provide our mailing address, phone number, and social security number?
This information is needed to process award payments. If you receive an award, you will need to sign a Services Invoice Form (see http://www.foundation.csupomona.edu/content/f/d//FS01117F.pdf) at the Conference. Note: despite the language on the form indicating otherwise, federal employees are eligible. ]]

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.