

Research Project Competition Guidelines

1. Purpose:

The International Student Research Project Competition on Food Security and Production offers the undergraduate students opportunities to exercise and improve both written and verbal communication skills.

2. Topics:

- a. Agri-Food Processing and Safety
- b. Sustainable Livestock and Aquaculture Production
- c. Sustainable Soil & Water Development
- d. Economic Analysis of Food Security Policy
- e. Energy Application in Agriculture

3. Eligibility:

- a. The entrant must be an undergraduate student at a school.
- b. 2-3 students and maximum 2 advisors are allowed in each group.
- c. The entrant must complete and submit the research project and application form.
- d. A faculty member may serve as an advisor on a project, but the work should primarily be done by the students.
- e. A faculty member cannot be a co-author of the paper.
- f. The paper should be written in a professional journal format, including page numbers and table of contents.
- g. English is the official language of the conference. The written document must be submitted in English for judging at the international competition.
- h. Every principal author must make an oral presentation at their respective topics conference. (Boarding and lodging will be provided)

4. Prizes:

- a. The prizes for the Research Project Competition are as follows:
 - i. 1st Place : 300 USD, a plaque and certificate
 - ii. 2nd Place : 200 USD, a plaque and certificate

- iii. 3rd Place : 100 USD, a plaque and certificate
- b. A certificate in English will be given to each winner and his/her advisor.

5. Important Dates, Deadlines and venue:

- a. Deadline: Submit research project report (6 pages) and application form before October 15, 2015.
- b. Notification of Acceptance (by Email): October 20, 2015
- c. Presentation: November 26-27, 2015 (International College in National Pingtung University of Science of Technology)

6. Judging Criteria:

- a. A judging panel comprised of experts and researchers invited by the Chairman.
- b. Paper evaluation consists of two parts:
 - i. **Research project report:**
Reports will be evaluated and judged on the judging criteria. Evaluation and judging is based on 60 percent given to the written presentation
 - ii. **Oral Presentation:**
Consist 40% of total marks (12mins presentation, 3mins Q and A, total 15mins)
- c. The contestant's final score will be the sum of each judge's "Total Oral and Written Score."

7. Written Preparation

Papers must adhere to the following guidelines:

- a. 21-centimeter x 29- centimeter paper (A4 paper size)
- b. The paper should not exceed 20 pages including appendices.
- c. Font should be Times New Roman.
- d. Margins of 1 inch (2.5 cm) all around.
- e. All papers must be typewritten, Single spacing.

- f. The pages of the paper must be numbered consecutively. The Introduction, Body, Conclusion, Tables, and Diagrams may not exceed 5 pages while the above sections with the Appendices may not exceed 6 pages.
- g. In general, the contents of a student prize paper shall be organized as follows:
- i. **The following information should be placed at the top of the first page:**
 - Paper title: 16 point Times New Roman bold and centered.
 - Author(s) listing: 14 point Times New Roman bold, centered and include names, university, city, state, zip code and country.
 - ii. **Text should be organized into sections and subsections, with an introduction and a conclusions section being advisable. A single line should separate paragraphs; no indentation should be used. Font guidelines are as follows:**
 - Section headings: numbered, 13 point, bold, upper and lower case, left-justified and leave one blank line above only.
 - Section sub-headings: numbered, 12 point, bold, upper and lower case, left-justified and leave one blank line above only.
 - Regular text: 12 point Times New Roman, full justified and a single line between paragraphs.
 - iii. **Sub-bullets must be indented.**
 - iv. **Figures, tables and their captions**
 - Tables and figures when included in the main text need to be as close to the point of their introduction as possible. It is noted that figure and table numbering should be independent.
 - Captions guidelines are as follows:
 - Figure captions: 12 point Times New Roman, centered and place below the figure, leave one blank line above and below.
 - Table caption: 12 point Times New Roman, centered and place above the table, leave one blank line above only.
 - v. **Equations should be centered and numbered, with the number in parentheses, positioned flush to the right margin. Preferably, they should be prepared with an equation writer.**

vi. Appendices:

- Detailed mathematical proofs, development of equations and examples, which are subordinate to the main argument in the body of the paper, but not essential to following the argument, should be treated in the appendices. Main equations as they are developed should be numbered consecutively, with the number in the right margin. The equations, figures, and tables in the Appendices should be numbered consecutively following the numbers used for the equations, figures, and tables in the text (such as, if table IV were last in the text, table V would be first in the Appendices.)

vii. References:

- To enable the reader to consult important works used by the author incidental to the preparation of his manuscript and other related literature which might be helpful, a suitable reference list should be appended. References should be numbered consecutively and should follow the form shown below:
 - **For a periodical:** R.N. Hall, "Power Rectifiers and transformers," Proc. IRE, Vol. 40, pp. 1515-1518, November 1952.
 - **For a book:** W.A. Edison, "Vacuum Tube Oscillators," John Wiley and Sons, Inc., New York, New York, pp. 170-171, 1948.
 - **For an article:** B. Lawrence, B.H. Weil, and M.H. Graham, "Making online search available in a industrial research environment," Journal of the American Society for Information Science, pp. 364-369, Nov-Dec. 1974.

8. Oral Presentation

- a. 12 minutes shall be allocated for the oral presentation and 3 minutes for questions from the audience.
- b. The paper contest chairman shall arrange a timing system, with the following characteristics:
 - i. **A signal will be given at the beginning of the oral presentation.**
 - ii. **A first warning signal will be given halfway through the presentation period.**

- iii. **A second warning signal will be given two minutes prior to the end of the presentation period.**
 - iv. **A stop signal will be given at the end of the presentation period.**
 - v. **The presenter or contestant should cease talking when the stop signal is given.**
 - vi. **The judges will stop the contestant if he/she continues past the stop signal.**
 - vii. **In addition to the presentation period and the discussion period, the judges shall be given up to five (5) minutes to complete their evaluations between presentations.**
-
- c. Individuals asking questions during the discussion period shall state their name and affiliation. If the audience does not present any questions, the judges should do so.
 - d. Demonstration or display apparatus may not be employed as a part of the contest presentation. Visual aids such as slides, placards, charts, view graph pictures and motion picture films may be used.
 - e. Each contestant is responsible for making arrangements with the paper contest chair for audio-visual equipment if needed.
 - f. If any contestant is not present at the time his/her presentation is to begin, the next contestant in the schedule shall present. The skipped contestant will be allowed to present after all other scheduled contestants have presented.

9. Contact Information:

International College, National Pingtung University of Science and Technology

Dr. Yung-Lin Chu TEL:+886-8770-3202 ext.6411 FAX: +886-8774-0290

Email: gfsrc@mail.npust.edu.tw

Address: 1, Shuefu Road, Neipu, Pingtung 912, TAIWAN.