THE 38th ANNUAL CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY STUDENT RESEARCH COMPETITION

Hosted by California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo

Friday, April 26 & Saturday, April 27, 2024

SONOMA STATE UNIVERSITY PROCEDURE & GUIDELINES

Purpose:

The CSU Student Research Competition is a system-wide event held annually to promote excellence in undergraduate and graduate scholarly research and creative activity throughout the twenty-three California State University campuses.

Each campus may select up to 10 entries to send to the competition being hosted **in-person** this year by California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo. The Sonoma State University (SSU) Office of Research & Sponsored Programs is holding an internal competition to determine the 10 research projects that will represent SSU at this event. Students selected to represent SSU will be reimbursed by SSU for travel and 2 nights lodging in San Luis Obispo.

Who May Apply:

Undergraduate or graduate students currently enrolled at SSU, as well as alumnus/alumnae who received their degrees from SSU in spring, summer, or fall of 2023 are eligible. A small team of students making a single presentation counts as a single entry.

Presentations from all disciplines are welcome, and the research presented should be appropriate to the student's discipline and career goals. Proprietary research is excluded. There will be separate undergraduate and graduate divisions for each category (unless a division has four or fewer entrants, in which case the division may be combined).

The ten disciplinary categories are as follows:

- Behavioral, Social Sciences, and Public Administration
- Biological and Agricultural Sciences
- Business, Economics, and Hospitality Management
- Creative Arts and Design *(see below for more about this category)*
- Education
- Engineering and Computer Science
- Health, Nutrition, and Clinical Sciences
- Humanities and Letters
- Interdisciplinary
- Physical and Mathematical Sciences

Creative Arts and Design Category

Creative projects are welcome! Entrants in the Creative Arts and Design category may present an audio and/or visual recording of a performance they have given or a work they have created; their oral presentation should focus on the rationale and historical context underlying their interpretation of the material.

Presentation Format:

Students chosen to represent SSU will present their work orally before a jury and an audience. Each student will have 10 minutes for the oral presentation of their work and 5 minutes to listen and respond to juror and audience questions.

Note: Student researchers chosen to represent SSU at the system-wide competition must be available to present on both Friday, April 26<u>th</u> and Saturday, April 27<u>th</u>, 2024

HOW TO APPLY

An application, including a written summary of the proposed presentation, must be submitted to SSU's InfoReady competition site (https://sonoma.infoready4.com/#competitionDetail/1929624) by **Friday, March 1st, 2024 at 11:59 p.m.**

The rules governing the written summary include:

- The summary must include the name(s) of the student(s) and title of the presentation.

- The narrative may not exceed *one single-spaced page* and must use fonts that ensure legibility.

- Appendices (bibliography, graphs, photographs, or other supplementary materials) may not exceed *three* **pages**.

- Research that includes human or animal subjects must have appropriate institutional review (IRB). <u>The IRB approval letter must be included with the application submitted to InfoReady.</u>

SSU Review Process:

The written summaries will be reviewed by a committee to be named by SSU's Office of Research and Sponsored Programs (ORSP), and students chosen to advance to the system-wide competition will be notified by **Friday March 8th, 2024.**

Each written summary submitted to SSU will be evaluated based on the following:

- Clarity of purpose
- Appropriateness of methodology
- Interpretation of results
- Value of the research or creative activity
- Organization of the material presented

Scoring Rubric:

Please refer to the rubric below for further details on the scoring of proposals and the criteria by which proposals will be evaluated. It is expected that your Faculty Sponsor will review your written summary, using the scoring rubric as a guide.

SCORING RUBRIC FOR THE SSU REVIEW PROCESS

Written summaries will be evaluated using the following criterion, with a total possible score of 10 points.

CRITERION	0	1	2
Clarity of Purpose	There is not an identifiable central purpose, hypothesis, or research question.	Central purpose/hypothesis/research question is somewhat clear but the central premise could be more specific.	Central purpose/research question is clearly stated, leaving no question as to the central premise of the project.
Appropriateness of Methodology	Methodology/Design does not support the central purpose; the methodology was not clear or was missing altogether.	Methodology/Design was presented, although it lacked some detail and did not clearly support the central purpose.	Methodology/Design was clearly stated and links directly to and supports the purpose of the research/creative project.
Interpretation of Results *(Please indicate any preliminary results and if results will be ready to present prior to the competition dates)*	The narrative does not include interpretation or analysis of results.	Although information/data were collected, a more in-depth analysis was needed to clearly connect the results to the central purpose, hypothesis, or research question.	Information/data that clearly links to the purpose of the research were collected, clearly described, and interpreted in a thoughtful and thorough way.
Value of Research/Creative Activity	The value and broader implications of the research has not been addressed.	The value and broader implications of the research is addressed, but there is limited discussion of why the research has significance inside or outside of the field.	The value of the research and broader implications of the project are persuasively argued and it is clear that the research has significance inside or outside of the field.
Organization of Material	The written narrative lacked organizational structure and did not follow the rules governing the written summary outlined in the *How to Apply* section.	The written narrative was somewhat organized and demonstrated the researcher's ability to communicate about the project, although it was not always clear and some aspects of the research were discussed more clearly than other aspects.	The written narrative is well-organized, clear, interesting to read, and is free from glaring grammatical errors. The researcher uses appropriate language for an educated reader, both in and outside of the academic discipline being explored.

NEXT STEPS IF SELECTED BY SSU TO ADVANCE TO THE STATEWIDE COMPETITION

- If a student's work is selected for presentation at the system-wide competition, Office of Research & Sponsored Programs will submit a list of students who have been selected to California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo by March 13th, 2024.

- Students will be contacted by SSU's Office of Research & Sponsored Programs, with instructions on how to complete the **Student Delegate Registration Form** and register for the competition. **The deadline for student registration is Friday March 15th, 2024 end-of-day.**

- SSU Student Delegates will be required to complete pre-travel documents, and travel funding will be provided by the Office of Research & Sponsored Programs (ORSP), including lodging for 2 nights in San Luis Obispo.

MORE ABOUT THE STATEWIDE COMPETITION PROCEDURES AND GUIDELINES

- Students will present their work orally before a jury and an audience at the system-wide competition at Cal Poly SLO on April 26th & 27th, 2024. Students will compete by discipline category and, where feasible, by division (undergraduate/graduate), as described above in *Who May Apply*.

- Student presenters will have **ten minutes for an oral presentation** of their work and **five minutes to listen and respond to juror and audience questions**. All entrants may use audiovisual materials as appropriate, and presenters are encouraged to use delivery techniques that promote interaction with the audience.

- It is expected that a student will not make a presentation by simply reading directly from the written narrative.

- Each entry (oral presentation plus written narrative) will be judged on the following:

  - Clarity of purpose
  - Appropriateness of methodology
  - Interpretation of results
  - Value of the research or creative activity
  - Ability of the presenter to articulate the research or creative activity
  - Organization of the material presented
  - Presenter's ability to handle questions from the jury and general audience

AWARDS

Based on the recommendations of the jurors, cash awards will be provided to the outstanding presenter and the runner-up in both the undergraduate and graduate divisions of each category. If the undergraduate and graduate divisions of a category have been combined, awards will be provided to the outstanding presenter and the runner-up without regard to class standing. In the event that there are five or fewer presenters in a session, only the outstanding presenter will receive an award.

QUESTIONS

For questions about the competition, please contact the Office of Research & Sponsored Programs at orsp@sonoma.edu.