

16th Annual Cal State L.A.

Symposium on Research, Scholarship and Creative Activity

February 29, 2008

PROCEDURES AND GUIDELINES

This year's Cal State L.A. Symposium on Research, Scholarship and Creative Activity has been scheduled for Friday, February 29, 2008. This event is held annually to provide a local forum for our students to gain experience in delivering a professional presentation. The Symposium is juried, and 10 local winners selected to represent Cal State L.A. in the statewide competition, where they will be eligible for cash prizes.

Purpose

The Symposium on Research, Scholarship and Creative Activity is sponsored jointly by the Office of Research & Sponsored Programs, the Office of Graduate Studies & Research and The Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi. The competition is held to promote excellence in undergraduate and graduate scholarly research and creative activity, as well as to provide a local forum for students to gain experience in delivering a professional presentation.

Symposium Activities

The Symposium consists of the presentation of students' work, followed by a reception the following week, at which the winners are announced. Two kinds of activities are held as part of the Symposium—an oral presentation and a poster session. The oral presentation is a 10-minute talk delivered by one or more students before a panel of judges. The poster session is an exhibit on a 3 ½' x 5' poster board summarizing the scholarly research or creative activity of one or more students. The students are expected to be available by the posters to answer questions.

Who May Apply

Currently enrolled CSULA undergraduate or graduate students as well as recent graduates who received their degrees the previous year's spring, summer, or fall are eligible. The Symposium is open to students from all majors, and to both undergraduate and graduate students. Proprietary research is excluded. Topics for these presentations may be in any of the following 10 categories:

- Behavioral and Social Sciences
- Biological and Agricultural Sciences
- Business, Economics, and Public Administration
- [Creative Arts and Design**](#)
- Education
- Engineering and Computer Science
- Health, Nutrition, and Clinical Sciences

- Humanities and Letters
- Physical and Mathematical Sciences
- Interdisciplinary

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

How to Register

Students may register for either an oral presentation or a poster session by submitting the following materials. **NOTE: Students must submit an electronic file version via email and a printed hard-copy version of the application form, with original signature of faculty mentor.**

DEADLINE TO SUBMIT REGISTRATION FORMS and applicable documents:

FRIDAY, JANUARY 25, 2008, BY 5:00 P.M. There will be no extensions.

Students should submit electronic materials to bfigueroa@cslanet.calstatela.edu and the hardcopy signed application form to the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs, Golden Eagle 220.

- Registration Form
- An abstract of the student's work of up to 200 words. Abstract must include students' names, degree objective and major, and title. (*All entries*)
- A 25-word synopsis of the project along with the summary (*Oral presenters only*).
- A written summary of the work being presented, maximum five pages in length, plus up to 3 pages of references. Provide the names of all presenters and the title of the presentation, (*Oral presenters only*)

Procedures for the Oral Presentations

Student oral presenters will deliver their talks before an audience and a jury. They will compete by discipline category as described above. Each student will be allotted 10 minutes for the presentation and three minutes to respond to juror and audience questions. Standard forms of audiovisual equipment (e.g., overhead projectors, slide projectors, VCR/Monitor, Power Point) may be used, and presenters are encouraged to use delivery techniques that promote interaction with the audience. Entrants in the Creative Arts and Design category may present an audio and/or visual record 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.

Students will be judged both on their oral presentations and their written summaries, using the following criteria:

- Clarity of purpose (15%)

- Appropriateness of methodology (15%)
- Interpretation of results (15%)
- Value of the research or creative activity (15%)
- Ability of the presenter to articulate the research or creative activity (15%)
- Organization of the material presented (15%)
- Presenter's ability to handle questions from jury and audience (10%)

Judges will select one outstanding presenter and one runner-up in each category. The 10 overall outstanding presenters will receive an expense-free trip to compete in the statewide competition during the spring quarter.

Questions

Questions can be directed to Ben Figueroa at bfigueroa@cslanet.calstatela.edu, Ellen Stein at estein@cslanet.calstatela.edu, or the Office of Research & Sponsored Programs at 323.343.5366. Questions may also be directed to Evelyn Winchester at ewinche@cslanet.calstatela.edu, in the Office for the Advancement of Science, Technology, Engineering and Math Education.