



WATER RESEARCH PAPER

Competition Date: Thursday, April 19, 2018

Competition Location: Sacramento State Campus

Summary:

The Mid-Pacific Student Water Research Competition is an initiative to promote the education of undergraduate/graduate students in various water and wastewater related topics. Winners of the competition receive a cash prize.

Submission Deadline:

Please submit your paper (in PDF format) and an oral presentation PowerPoint (or equivalent) by Saturday, March 17, 2018 at 11:59 PM PST.

Contact:

Any questions regarding the Water Research Paper Competition may be sent to:

Stefanos Word

2018midpacwaterresearch@gmail.com

TOPIC

This year's topics should focus on research relating to sustainable water infrastructure.

Examples include:

- Research findings, including literature reviews, field studies, experimental work, or mathematical modeling studies on sustainable water infrastructure.
- "Water infrastructure" can include, but not limited to, infrastructure related to management, collection, storage, treatment, or distribution, for example, as applied to water supply, storm water, groundwater, or water/wastewater treatment, and flood control.
- Topics related to sustainable water infrastructure such as asset management, surface water or ground water resources management, policies, regulations, small- or large-scale collection and treatment systems.
- Papers or research describing alternative methods for water/wastewater treatment infrastructure that reduce the need for large, costly systems. A focus could be directed towards green technologies.
- Papers describing strategies for storm water planning and management. Focus could be directed towards low-impact development (LID) strategies/"sponge" cities, green infrastructure, or methods to decrease the imperviousness of an urban environment.

PAPER

The paper must include/will be:

- Limited to 8 total typed pages, including an abstract of no more than 350 words.
 - An appendix, if included, will not count against either the final page or word count; however, the appendix should be clearly marked as such in the report.
 - Any Bibliography or References section is excluded from the final page count.
- 1" margins, 12-point Times New Roman font, with line spacing set to 1.5. Pages must be numbered.
- A descriptive title.
- Author's full name, department and university address, and email.
- Name(s), title(s), and role(s) of any individual(s) who reviewed, supervised, or contributed to the work

The paper should generally include the following, although not all may be applicable to a given topic:

- An introduction, which should include citations of published related work to assess previous research and identify the gaps in knowledge of the topic, as well as a statement of the objectives of the work.

- Sections on methods, results, discussion, and conclusions, and an appendix (appendices will not count against page count).
- An acknowledgment section following the conclusions, which may include any credits for funding or for assistance in the study. Faculty advisors cannot be listed as coauthors; however, they may act in an advisory capacity, and should be listed in an acknowledgment. A list of references, alphabetized by the last name of the first author cited. Students are encouraged to use Water Environment Research reference formatting guidelines, which can be found at the following website:

<https://wef.org/resources/publications/journals/water-environment-research/guidelines-for-submitting/>

The references section will not count against the final page or word count. References must be cited in the paper as follows: (last name(s), year of publication), e.g., (Vargas, Roberts, and Lee, 2017) or “Vargas, Roberts, and Lee (2017) evaluated...”

ORAL PRESENTATION

- Each paper must be presented at the conference.
- Presentations must be no longer than 5:30 minutes in duration (\pm 10-seconds without penalty).
 - Presentations that go beyond the 10-second allowance will receive a 0.05-point penalty per second difference from the buffer, i.e. a final time of 6:00 or 5:00 would each receive a 1-point deduction for being 30 seconds outside of the buffer.
- A 5-minute question and answer period will immediately follow the presentation.
- Presentations should be accompanied by a visual aid of some kind (e.g. PowerPoint). The laptop that will be available at Mid-Pac 2018 will be able to open Microsoft PowerPoint and Word files, but specialized software such as Prezi or video players may not be available.

COMPETITION SCORING

Scoring will be out of 100 points total, with a maximum of 75 points for the paper and a maximum of 25 points for the oral presentation, as follows:

Paper Scoring Criteria	Score	Presentation Scoring Criteria	Score
Technical content and adherence to topic	/45	Technical content and adherence to topic	/10
Use of prior research and references	/5	Organization of presentation, use of appropriate visuals and tables	/5
Clarity, format, professional quality, and organization of paper	/10	Quality of oral presentation	/5
Writing quality: mechanics, grammar, sentence structure, interesting to read	/10	Ability to answer questions	/5
Use of visuals, tables, supporting data or information	/5	Time penalty (5:30 min \pm 10 sec)	
Paper Sub-Total	/75	Presentation Sub-Total	/25
Overall Score		/100	

The overall scores will be tallied and the papers ranked accordingly. Prizes will be awarded as follows:

1st place: \$100

2nd place: \$75

3rd place: \$50

AUTHORSHIP AND SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Authorship

Only one contestant from each participating school may enter the competition and write the paper. The paper must be written and presented by the same individual unless warranted by extenuating circumstances (e.g., documented health emergency). Authors must be registered as an undergraduate or graduate student at the time of submittal and presentation of the paper.

Submission Requirements

The paper shall be sent electronically (PDF format) to 2018midpacwaterresearch@gmail.com.