Student Symposium Paper Competition

Paper Submission Due: Friday, March 1st, 2024

Oral Presentation Date: Thursday, April 4th, 2024

Presentation Location: TBA

Summary:

The ASCE Student Symposium Paper Competition emphasizes the importance of being able to write and present a paper as essential communication skills for all engineers and often necessary for advancement in your career.

This is a mandatory paper submission and presentation for any student chapter participating in the 2024 ASCE Mid-Pacific Student Symposium that *wishes to be eligible to advance to* ASCE Society-wide (National) competition finals and SSBC National Finals.

This is not required for competing in Mid-Pac 2024. This is a requirement only for schools aiming to compete in the ASCE *National* Concrete Canoe Competition, ASCE *National* Sustainable Solutions Competition, or AISC/ASCE *National* Student Steel Bridge Competition, after winning first place/best overall performance in their regional competition hosted at Mid-Pac 2024. If your Canoe / Sustainable / Steel Bridge team wins best overall at Mid-Pac, but their student chapter did NOT participate in this Student Symposium Paper Competition, then they cannot compete at Nationals.

Participation in the Student Symposium Paper Competition requires a **paper submission and oral presentation** by a member of the ASCE Student Chapter.

This topic is the same topic as the Daniel W. Mead Prize for Students. However, the Student Symposium Paper Competition and the Daniel W. Mead Prize for Students are two separate competitions and must be submitted separately. **The Student Symposium Paper Competition paper is due March 1, 2024, and submitted to ascemidpac2024@gmail.com.**

The Daniel W. Mead Prize is a national paper competition hosted by ASCE that has nothing to do with Mid-Pac. The Daniel W. Mead Prize for Students is also due March 1, 2024, and submitted to student@asce.org, for those wishing to participate in the *National* Paper Competition.

Contact:

Any questions regarding the Student Symposium Paper competition can be directed towards:

Personal: c_anderson24@u.pacific.edu, Mid-Pac email: ascemidpac2024@gmail.com

Claire, **@v0ctin**, on the official Mid-Pacific 2024 discord: https://discord.gg/RuZyFaBhgf

Topic:

Civil engineers are responsible for planning, designing, constructing, maintaining, and operating infrastructure while protecting and advancing the health, safety, and welfare of the public. Technology, particularly the use of Artificial Intelligence (AI), has the potential to change engineering in the future and design the built environment for generations. Ethical responsibilities of an engineer may or may not align with the use of AI on engineering projects.

Discuss how engineers need to evaluate their ethical responsibilities as they determine whether or how to use AI to aid in their work.

Symposium Paper Rules:

1. Papers for the Mid-Pacific Student Symposium Competition shall:
    a. Be limited to one paper from each Student Organization
    b. Not exceed 2,000 words in length
    c. Be written by only one person
    d. Not have previously been published other than in school or Society publications.
2. Reference citations of the papers used should conform to official ASCE Journal Submission Guidelines, which can be found on the ASCE Publications Website
3. A complete bibliography should be included, if applicable. The bibliography will not count towards total word count.
4. Authors must be undergraduate students and both ASCE Student Organization members and ASCE society student members in good standing at the time of submission.
5. **Absolutely NO use of AI generated content is allowed in the creation of all or parts of the paper, even if cited. Papers need to be written by ONE person only. Measures may be taken to ensure all papers abide by this rule, with instant disqualification and suspension from future Symposiums among some of the actions taken against the competitor.**
    a. The only permitted use for AI in the context of this paper is through grammar and writing aid programs from the following list:
        i. Grammarly
        ii. ProWritingAid
        iii. Word/Google Docs Editor
        iv. Scribbr/Quillbot
    b. Other programs can be checked by the Competition Lead on request.

Mid-Pacific Student Symposium Presentation Rules:

1. Each competitor must formally present their paper at the Mid-Pacific Student Symposium. Presentations must be five (5) minutes in duration (+/- 5 seconds without penalty.) Please see the scoring rubric for further scoring details (will be included in future Mailers)
2. Presentations must be accompanied by visual aids.
    a. The host chapter will provide a projector and screen.
    b. Any additional equipment shall be provided by the presenter if needed.

     c. The specifications of the meeting room and type of usable input for the projector will be provided in a later Mailer.
3. The host school will *not* provide a timer for the presenter's use. The presenter may ask someone in the audience to aid in time tracking but shall not distract the judges.
4. At the end of each presentation, the judges will have up to five (5) minutes to ask questions.

Judges may choose to limit audience members to those individuals associated with the presenter's student organization. Audience policies will be discussed at the Captains' Meeting.

Paper Format:

1. Use 12-point Times New Roman or Arial font, single spaced, using normal width character spacing, and 1-inch margins on all sides.
2. Include paper title, author name, and university at the top of the first page.
3. Sequential page numbers shall be placed at the bottom of each page and centered.

Submittal Requirements:

1. Paper

Submit paper (PDF) to ascemidpac2024@gmail.com on March 1st, 2024, by 11:59PM PST.

Paper Submission File MUST follow the format below:

Symposium Paper Submission - Author's Last Name - Name of University.pdf

2. Presentation

Submit presentation slideshow to ascemidpac2024@gmail.com by March 29, 2024, by 11:59PM PST.

Presentation Submission File MUST follow the format below:

Symposium Paper Presentation - Author's Last Name - Name of University

Scoring and Awards:

1. The paper and presentation carry equal weight of 50 points each, for a maximum overall score of 100 points.
2. Judges will score the paper and presentation individually. The average of the judges' scores for each author/presenter will be ranked to determine final placement.
3. Awards will be given as followed: TBA

Scoring criteria and rubric will be detailed in Mailer II.