

6.2.2 ASCE

6.2.2.1 ANNUAL STUDENT PAPER PRESENTATION COMPETITION

The annual Student Paper Presentation Competition is a Texas-Mexico Student Conference competition sponsored by the Texas Section of the American Society of Civil Engineers (hereinafter the “Competition”). The Competition is held at the annual ASCE Texas Student Symposium. Participation in the Competition is a Society requirement for Student Chapters to be in good standing and eligible for participation in the National Steel Bridge or Concrete Canoe Competitions. At least one representative from a Student Chapter must compete in the Student Paper Presentation Competition at the Texas-Mexico Student Conference level. The format of this competition follows the requirements outlined for the Society’s Daniel W. Mead Paper Competition for Students in order to allow the student to not only enter the Competition, but to also be eligible to submit their paper for the Society Competition. The Daniel W. Mead Paper Competition has a specific topic outlined each year that the student must write about for the Competition <http://www.asce.org/mead-student/>. Texas Section will accept the Mead topic or any meaningful presentations on technical subjects relating to the practice of civil engineering for the Competition. The deadlines for the Mead paper and the Student Paper Presentation Competition might not coincide and using the Mead topic for the Competition should not be construed as entry in the Society’s Daniel W. Mead Prize for Students which must be submitted by the Student Chapter’s Faculty Advisor. The presentations will be judged at the Competition on the basis of the inherent quality of the material presented and the effectiveness of the presentation.

The rules governing the competition are as follows:

- A. **Eligibility:** An author must be a civil engineering undergraduate student carrying a minimum of 9 hours and both an ASCE Student Organization member and Society-level (i.e. ASCE Global) student member in good standing at the time of submission.

Papers shall be limited to one paper; not exceed 2,000 words in length; be written by only one person; and not have previously been published in other than school or Society publications. Reference citations of the papers should conform to the official *ASCE Authors’ Guide to Journals and Practice Periodicals*, which can be found on the ASCE Publications website <http://www.pubs.asce.org/authors/index.html>. A complete bibliography should also be included, if appropriate.

In the event an author is unavailable to present at the Competition, another student from the same school may present on the author’s behalf. The presenter must meet the same requirements outlined above for the author.

- B. **One Entry per Student Chapter:** Each student chapter of the Texas-Mexico Student Conference is entitled to one entry in the Competition. Responsibility for procedures by which contestants are selected to represent each individual chapter will rest with the respective chapter faculty advisor. One electronic copy of the paper must be submitted to the Student Activities Competition Coordinator prior to the competition.
- C. **Scoring:** The presentation will be evaluated by judges (see Rule E) with the following maximum point values attributed to specific criteria:

Paper Scoring Criteria

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|---|----|
| 1. Adherence to topic | 10 |
| 2. Presence of original ideas and research involved | 10 |
| 3. Command of subject matter | 10 |

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|---|----|
| 4. Spelling and grammar / length (2000 word max) | 5 |
| 5. Overall clarity, organization, quality of paper & references | 15 |

Presentation Scoring Criteria

- | | |
|--|--------------------------------|
| 1. Degree to which presentation addressed and supported key concepts of written paper and them of contest | 10 |
| 2. Ability to communicate key concepts from written paper and to convince audience of their importance | 25 |
| 3. Personal bearing (i.e. appearance, poise, eye contact) | 5 |
| 4. Delivery style (i.e. reading, memorized, conversational) / pronunciation and proper use of technical language and grammar / enthusiasm and voice projection | 5 |
| 5. Time (see Rule D) | 5 |
| 6. Errors in logic or facts | <u>up to 10 points penalty</u> |
| | Total = 100 |

See the scoring sheet summary form for papers in Appendix B (13.2.1)

D. **Timing:** Each presentation is to be (5) five minutes* in duration of formal delivery. Up to five minutes of questioning by judges will be allotted following each presentation.

*Allowance of + or – 5 seconds without penalty; 0.05 point penalty per second difference from required 5 minutes (i.e. 5:20 or 4:40 = 1 point penalty).

E. **Judging:** Presentations at the contest will be judged by a minimum of three judges selected in advance of the competition by the Student Activities Competition Coordinator. The judges will evaluate the presentations independently and will not compare their ratings until all presentations have been completed. The paper portion of the competition constitutes 50% of the final score, while the oral presentation accounts for the remaining 50% of the score. A detailed breakdown of the scoring procedure is outlined on the scoring summary sheet.

F. **Prizes:** Unless specified otherwise by the Board of Direction, the following prizes will be awarded:

1. First prize - \$400 in cash, a certificate, and other gifts as may be made available from the Texas Section.
2. Second prize - \$200 in cash and a certificate.
3. Third prize - \$100 in cash and a certificate.

G. **No Ranking of Presentations:** There will be no stated ranking of the presentations other than the first, second, and third prize winners.

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