

TECHNICAL PAPER PRESENTATION COMPETITION

This year's technical paper will use the 2015 National Daniel W. Mead Student Contest topic.

TOPIC:

"Should the Engineer of Record (who has sealed a set of plans) be held responsible, to any degree, for injury or death to builders or bystanders that occurs during the construction of his/her design?"

The following can be used to stimulate, but should in no way limit, the discussion:

An engineer's prime focus is safety of design, but safety concerns may sometimes be limited to the end-product users without additional care taken for the safety of the builders. While constructability is typically a factor in design, safety of individuals during the construction is usually considering a Contractor's Issue.

Recently, Engineers and Architects have been severely criticized for the "human costs" of building their projects, despite these designers having no influence during the construction stages. The incidence of human costs differs greatly, yet is often higher with the most innovative and cutting edge designs.

- Should an Engineer assume and be held accountable for the safety of construction of their design plans, despite having no control after placing his or her Seal? If so, to what degree?
- Does this responsibility change if no Contractor negligence has been proven?
- What are the ethical implications of holding or not holding Engineers accountable?
- How does the ASCE Code of Ethics address this topic?
- How have the courts handled these issues in case studies? Should there be changes to the laws?
- What is the appropriate ethical stance in regards to the concept of Prevention Through Design?

TECHNICAL PAPER PRESENTATION COMPETITION - RULES

1. Papers are not to exceed 2,000 words in length, must be written by only one person, and should not have appeared in any publications other than in school or chapter publications.

Reference citations of the papers should conform to official ASCE Journal Submission Guidelines, which can be found on the ASCE Publications website:

<http://www.asce.org/Audience/Authors,--Editors/Journals/Authors/Resources-for-Authors/>

Entries for the contest shall be limited to one paper from each ASCE or AEI Student Organization and must be submitted through the Faculty Advisor.

A complete bibliography should also be included, if appropriate.

2. Authors must be undergraduate students, Student Organization members in good standing, and ASCE and/or AEI members in good standing at the time of submission and at the time the award is made to be considered. Entries should include a cover letter from the Faculty Advisor stating the name, ASCE/AEI member ID number, mailing address, phone number, and e-mail of the paper's author.
3. One electronic copy of the paper should be submitted to Julia Dury at asce.mcsc@gmail.com. Papers must be received by March 13th, 2015.
4. Each author will be expected to make a 5-minute* oral presentation on the paper. Up to five minutes of questioning by the judges will be allotted following each presentation. (*Allowance of + or – 5 seconds without penalty.)
5. 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.

SELECTION:

Winners will be selected by a panel of at least three (3) judges to be identified by the host school. Prizes for winners are as follows:

- 1st Place - \$400
- 2nd Place - \$200
- 3rd Place - \$100

PAPER PRESENTATION COMPETITION SCORING SUMMARY SHEET

Author's Name: _____ Date: _____

ASCE Student Organization Represented: _____

<i>PAPER SCORING CRITERIA</i>	<i>SCORE</i>
1. Adherence to Topic	/ 10
2. Presence of original ideas and research involved	/ 10
3. Command of subject matter	/ 10
4. Spelling and grammar / length (2000 word maximum)	/ 5
5. Overall clarity, organization, quality of paper and references	/ 15
Paper Sub-Total	/ 50

<i>PAPER SCORING CRITERIA</i>	<i>SCORE</i>
1. Degree to which presentation addressed and supported key concepts of written paper and theme 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 (5 minutes +/- 5 seconds) (beyond 5-second allowance: 0.05 point penalty per second difference from required 5 minutes, i.e. 5:20 or 4:40 = 1 point penalty)	/ 5
6. Errors in logic or facts (up to 10 point penalty)	()penalty
Presentation Sub-Total	/ 50
Paper Sub-Total	/50
Overall Score	/100

