To: Campus Coordinators  
Student Research Competition

From: Keith I. Polakoff, Director  
California Pre-Doctoral Program

Subject: Twenty-Third Annual CSU Student Research Competition

The Twenty-Third Annual California State University Student Research Competition will be held May 1 and 2, 2009, at California State University, Los Angeles. This system-wide competition will showcase excellent research conducted by CSU undergraduate and graduate students in the full range of academic programs offered by the CSU. Student participants will make oral presentations before juries of professional experts from major corporations, foundations, public agencies, and colleges and universities in California.

The guidelines for the competition are similar to those in effect in past competitions. Cash prizes will be awarded for the best presentations in each category of the competition. Please note that students are encouraged to present and discuss creative projects in the Creative Arts and Design category; guidelines for entrants in this category appear under “Competition Guidelines” in Attachment 1.

A campus may deliver a maximum of ten presentations. The CSU Los Angeles steering committee will accept only those submissions endorsed by you as campus coordinator.
As usual, your campus is free to promote the competition, establish a campus selection process, and screen the final submissions in whatever manner you and your campus think best. While multicampus planning committees have endorsed a few general guidelines and procedures, creativity in designing a local competition that best meets the needs of your campus is encouraged.

Attachment 1 is a sample announcement of the competition. Campus-specific information needs to be added: your name and telephone number, campus deadlines, local competition dates, any campus provisions for defraying students’ travel expenses, etc.

Attachment 2 is a student delegate registration form. A copy of this form should be completed by each student selected by your campus as a delegate to the statewide competition and then attached to the five-page summary of the student’s research. **We shall be e-mailing you a Rich Text Format version that can be filled out on a computer, saved, and printed.**

This year only one copy of each student’s delegate registration form and written research summary, in PDF format, should be e-mailed in sufficient time to arrive at the CSU Los Angeles campus no later than **March 13, 2009**. The forms and summaries for all students proposed for your campus should be e-mailed together to:

Philip LaPolt, Director of Research Development
plapolt@exchange.calstatela.edu

Also attached is what we believe to be a correct list of the current campus coordinators. If the campus coordinator for 2008-2009 is not correct or subsequently changes, please let me know by telephone (562-951-4774) or e-mail (kpolakoff@calstate.edu) the correct name, title, telephone number, fax number, and e-mail address of the coordinator.

We look forward to an exciting event and thank you in advance for your contribution to its success. If you have any questions, please contact Philip LaPolt by e-mail to plapolt@exchange.calstatela.edu or by telephone at (323) 343-3799.

cc: Presidents (with attachments)
    Provosts/Vice Presidents, Academic Affairs (with attachments)
    Associate Vice Presidents/Deans of Graduate Studies (with attachments)
    Associate Vice Presidents/Deans of Undergraduate Studies (with attachments)
    Chairs, Campus Academic Senates (with attachments)
    Presidents, Associated Students (with attachments)
    Chair, Academic Senate CSU (with attachments)
ANNOUNCING

THE TWENTY-THIRD ANNUAL
CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY
STUDENT RESEARCH COMPETITION

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, LOS ANGELES
MAY 1 and 2, 2009

PROCEDURES AND GUIDELINES

PURPOSE

The competition is held to promote excellence in undergraduate and graduate scholarly research and creative activity by recognizing outstanding student accomplishments throughout the twenty-three campuses of the California State University.

WHO MAY APPLY

Undergraduate or graduate students currently enrolled at any CSU campus, as well as alumni/alumnae who received their degrees in Spring, Summer, or Fall 2008, are eligible. The research presented should be appropriate to the student’s discipline and career goals. Proprietary research is excluded. Presentations from all disciplines are invited. There will be separate undergraduate and graduate divisions for each of the following categories (unless a division has four or fewer entrants, in which case undergraduate and graduate divisions may be combined). The California State University, Los Angeles steering committee reserves the right to combine or subdivide these categories, or to move an entrant from one category to another, as numbers of submissions necessitate. The ten categories are as follows:

- Behavioral and Social Sciences
- Biological and Agricultural Sciences
- Business, Economics, and Public Administration
• Creative Arts and Design (creative projects are welcome—see “Competition Guidelines”)
• Education
• Engineering and Computer Science
• Health, Nutrition, and Clinical Sciences
• Humanities and Letters
• Physical and Mathematical Sciences
• Interdisciplinary

A campus delegation may include up to ten entries in the ten categories. (A small team of students making a single presentation counts as a single entry.) Every CSU campus is encouraged to submit as many entries as possible, up to the maximum of ten.

HOW TO APPLY

Each CSU campus appoints a campus coordinator and develops its own procedures for selecting its student delegates to the system-wide competition. Interested students should contact their campus coordinator for information on how to have their work considered at the campus level. Only those students endorsed by a campus coordinator can enter the statewide competition.

If a student’s work has been selected by the campus for presentation in the system-wide competition, the student will submit a Student Delegate Registration Form and one (1) copy of a written summary of the research to the campus coordinator. The rules governing this written summary are as follows:

• The summary must include the name(s) of the student(s) and the title of the presentation.
• The narrative may not exceed five doubled-spaced pages. Use fonts and margins that ensure legibility.
• Appendices (bibliography, graphs, photographs, or other supplementary materials) may not exceed three pages.
• It is expected that the student will not make an oral presentation by simply reading directly from this summary.

Each campus coordinator must forward all registration forms and summaries, in PDF format, in a timely manner to:

Philip LaPolt, Director of Research Development
plapolt@exchange.calstatela.edu
The forms and summaries must arrive **no later than March 13, 2009**. Campus coordinators will be notified in writing by the California State University, Los Angeles steering committee of the times of their student delegates’ presentations, local hotel and transportation options, and program details.

**COMPETITION SITE**

California State University, Los Angeles is a distinguished comprehensive urban university with a long history of commitment to access and excellence. With a 175-acre hilltop campus just five miles from the civic and cultural center of Los Angeles, Cal State L.A. (as it is popularly known) has been a leader in providing high-quality higher education since 1947, and now counts more than 205,000 alumni. Six colleges offer more than 60 nationally recognized graduate and undergraduate programs in the sciences, arts, business, criminal justice, engineering, nursing, education, and the humanities. The University has strong connections with the biotechnology and entertainment industries, and provides an extensive array of involvement and enrichment opportunities through service learning and collaborations between students and faculty.

For more information about Cal State L.A., please visit [www.calstatela.edu](http://www.calstatela.edu).

**COMPETITION GUIDELINES**

Students will present their work orally before a jury and an audience. Students will compete by discipline category and, where feasible, by class standing (undergraduate/graduate), as described above in “Who May Apply.” Each student will have ten minutes for an oral presentation of his or her work and five minutes to listen and respond to juror and audience questions. All entrants may use audiovisual materials as appropriate, 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.

Each entry (oral presentation plus written summary) will be judged on the following:

- Clarity of purpose
- Appropriateness of methodology
• Interpretation of results
• Value of the research or creative activity
• Ability of the presenter to articulate the research or creative activity
• Organization of the material presented
• Presenter’s ability to handle questions from the jury and general audience

AWARDS

Based on the recommendations of the jurors, cash awards will be provided to the outstanding presenter and the runner-up in both the undergraduate and graduate divisions of each category. If the undergraduate and graduate divisions of a category have been combined because there are fewer than four presenters in one division, awards will be provided to the outstanding presenter and the runner-up without regard to class standing. In the event there are five or less presenters in a session, only the outstanding presenter will receive an award.

QUESTIONS

Student questions should be directed to the local campus coordinator. Coordinators may contact Philip LaPolt by e-mail (plapol@exchange.calstatela.edu) or telephone (323-343-3799).
TWENTY-THIRD ANNUAL CSU STUDENT RESEARCH COMPETITION
CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, LOS ANGELES
May 1 and 2, 2009
STUDENT DELEGATE REGISTRATION FORM

Please type all information or fill out and print the RTF version electronically transmitted to your campus.

Personal Information

Name: ________________________________

Address:  

STREET      CITY      STATE      ZIP

E-Mail Address: ________________________________  Telephone: ________________________________

Home Campus: ________________________________  Faculty Mentor: ________________________________

Degree objective when research was completed: Degree:   Major:  

Class standing when research was completed: Undergraduate   Graduate

Category of Competition (please indicate your preferred category and a second choice, if appropriate)

___ Behavioral and Social Sciences   ___ Engineering and Computer Science
___ Biological and Agricultural Sciences   ___ Health, Nutrition, and Clinical Sciences
___ Business, Economics, and Public Administration   ___ Humanities and Letters
___ Creative Arts and Design   ___ Physical and Mathematical Sciences
___ Education   ___ Interdisciplinary

Program Information

Title: ________________________________

__________________________________

Synopsis (25 words or less) ________________________________

__________________________________

__________________________________

__________________________________

Audio-Visual Equipment Required

Digital projectors and screens will be available in all rooms. Other equipment may also be available. Please specify all audio-visual equipment needed to support your presentation:

__________________________________

__________________________________

Attach this form to one (1) copy of the summary of your research.
See the “Procedures and Guidelines” for information about how to prepare this summary paper.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title</th>
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## CSU Student Research Competition
### List of Campus Coordinators, 2008-2009

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