IUURC Best UG Research Project Award Guidelines

The Best UG Research Project Award competition will take place in 3 phases.

**Phase 1:** If you are interested in entering the competition please check the corresponding box when submitting your abstract and upload the support letter from your mentor. Note that both your abstract and the support letter need to be uploaded at the same time. Applications without the support letter will be considered incomplete and removed from the competition. The mentor support letter needs to describe your command of the subject matter and your specific contribution to the project including your intellectual contribution.

**Review Process:** Each IUURC campus representative will select the top 3 abstracts for her/his campus. Selected students will move to phase 2.

**Phase 2:** Up to 3 students selected per campus will be invited to submit an extended abstract of up to 4 pages by early November. The extended abstract should be organized under the following headings: Introduction, Significance, Methodology, Results, Discussion, References, and Figures/Tables (if necessary). Please note that references are included in the 4-page limit. Required font: Times New Roman, size 11.

**Review Process:** The IUURC campus representatives will, as a committee, select 5 finalists who will be competing at the IUURC event on December 2nd. Review criteria include project quality and written communication skills (being understandable to someone outside the discipline).

**Phase 3:** The morning of the IUURC event the 5 finalists will compete in a TED Talk format of 5 minutes in front of a judging committee. Students are allowed to use up to 3 slides. Each presentation will be followed by 5 minutes of questions.

**Review Process:** An interdisciplinary judging committee will select the winners based on the quality of the short presentation and the student’s ability to answer questions.

The winners of the competition will be announced at the end of the IUURC.

**Prize money:**
- First prize: $500
- Second prize: $300
- Third prize: $100