**ALSB Student Paper Competition Rules**

**May 5, 2021**

1. **Types of Student Submissions**
2. **Individual** – Individual students can submit to present their paper for the student paper competition. Students are evaluated on the written paper and oral presentation.
3. **Group** – Student groups of 2-4 can present in the group competition. Students are evaluated on the written paper and oral presentation.
4. Students may only present in one category (either individual or group, not both)
5. Awards will be given in the categories of individual-undergraduate; individual graduate; group-undergraduate; and group-graduate.
6. **Competition Rules**
7. Students should submit a written paper on an original topic in bluebook or APA format (to the best of their ability). Follow the format for the ALSB Proceedings.
8. Students (or their faculty advisors) may not present the same topic on the faculty track and on the student competition track during the same ALSB Conference or any other prior conference.
9. Students may not submit faculty research as their student submission.
10. The student paper must not be excessively edited by a faculty member and must be the students own work.
11. First place winners are not eligible for first place in a subsequent year, but may present in sequential years.
12. The student paper competition is open to undergraduate students (first year students – to senior students) and graduate students (masters and law school).
13. Students must attend the entire student paper competition to hear their colleagues present. Faculty sponsors must also attend the entire student paper competition.
14. A faculty sponsor must attend the ALSB annual conference and be present at the student competition. Faculty are expected to supervise and assist invited students. If a faculty sponsor is unable to attend the faculty member may designate a proxy to serve in this role.
15. If a student is found to have plagiarized content in the paper, she/he will be disqualified.
16. Awards will be distributed in the Individual Category as First Place, Second Place, Third Place, and Honorable Mention. The Group Category will receive its own First, Second, Third, and Honorable Mention awards. If only one group or individual presents an Honorable Mention will be awarded. These awards will be given for the undergraduate track and the graduate track.
17. Students will receive a certificate to recognize awards.
18. Students must submit their individual or group paper by June 1, 2021 in order to be considered. Students will be notified of selection as a finalist by June 15, 2021.
19. Students will complete a registration form, which will include their name and contact information and the same for their faculty sponsor**.**
20. **Financial Considerations**
21. Sponsoring institutions are expected to pay for all expenses related to student competition.
22. Students must ask the sponsoring institution to cover registration fees. If the college or university is unable to cover the registration fee than the student may request a waiver in writing from the ALSB executive board.
23. The ALSB will provide a lunch (when the conference is in-person) for students the day before the competition to brief the students on the presentation process and to provide student presenter bonding.
24. **Selection Criteria of Finalists**
25. The Student Paper Competition co-chairs will narrow the submissions to a list of finalists.
26. Submission of unique and creative topics by the student without excessive intervention is a basis for selection.
27. The reviewers will attempt to select students from a variety of colleges and universities. Faculty should not submit excessive numbers of student papers from their institution, but rather the best papers.
28. The written paper will be worth 50% of the final competition score and the ALSB oral presentation will be worth 50% of the final score. Each faculty sponsor will receive a rubric detailing expectations for the presentation.
29. **Judges for Student Paper Competition**
30. There will be three judges appointed by the Student Paper Competition Co-Chairs. One of the judges will serve as the Chief Judge. Judges must not be faculty sponsors of a student or group competing. Judges will evaluate students based on the written submission (50%) and the oral presentation (50%) in accordance with the rubric provided to them.
31. If an appointed judge is unable to attend the conference the Co-Chairs may appoint a substitute at the conference or if necessary one of the Co-Chairs may substitute for a missing judge.
32. In the case of a tie, the judges may elect to award two first place awards or the Co-Chairs will make the tie-breaking decision.
33. All students and faculty sponsors are expected to attend the annual banquet (when in person) where student finalists, award winners, and sponsors will be recognized, if this does not conflict with the actual competition.
34. **Faculty Sponsors**
35. Faculty sponsors should support and encourage students, but must not write or excessively edit the student’s paper. Faculty sponsors are not co-authors.
36. Faculty sponsors must be present at the oral presentation and the annual banquet. Faculty sponsors will be recognized at the annual banquet with a certificate acknowledging her/his contributions to the education process.
37. Faculty sponsors should assist the student in securing travel and registration funds provided by the institution.
38. Faculty sponsors must mentor students while at the conference.