

Risk Communication Specialty Group ExxonMobil Student Paper Award

Abstract Submission

Data-based (qualitative or quantitative) and non-data-based papers on risk communication will be considered for this award.

Students must be in a degree granting graduate program at the time their abstract is submitted. Non-student co-authors are permitted if a student is the first author. Authors do not have to be SRA members.

Submit the paper abstract by the annual meeting abstract deadline via the SRA Website's 'call for abstracts'.

- Select the 'Risk Communication Specialty Group' as the primary specialty group.
- Select 'Student Merit Award' to get to the award entry screen where you will upload an extended abstract of 900 – 1000 words and complete additional questions.

Abstracts must be accepted for either a poster or a paper presentation at the annual meeting to qualify for being entered into the student paper award. Students must attend the annual meeting if their abstract is selected for the meeting unless extenuating circumstances prevent their attendance.

Students that have accepted abstracts for the annual meeting will be contacted mid-summer with instructions for the full paper that is generally due in October. This due date is subject to change based on instructions from the SRA planning committee.

Paper Submission for 2008 Annual Meeting

You must notify Dr. Griffin **no later than October 1, 2008** (e-mail or phone are fine) that you plan to submit a paper. His e-mail is Robert.Griffin@Marquette.edu and office phone (U.S.) is 414-288-6787. This is essential so the correct number of judges can be recruited. A reminder e-mail will be sent in September regarding the paper confirmation.

Please mail four copies of your full paper to arrive no later than **Thursday October 23, 2008**. We can accept only hard-copy submissions, not e-mail submissions. However, please do accompany your hard copies with two electronic versions (see further instructions below) on a CD or sent to Dr. Griffin by e-mail. MS Word is preferred, but WordPerfect, rtf, or pdf files are also OK.

SRA RCSG Student Paper Competition
c/o Prof. Robert J. Griffin, PH.D.
Diederich College of Communication
Marquette University
1131 W. Wisconsin Avenue

Milwaukee WI 53233 (USA)

- Along with your paper submission, the first author must enclose a letter stating that he or she was enrolled in post-baccalaureate degree program at the time of abstract submission.
- Author name(s) and other identifying information are to appear only on the cover page of the submitted paper. The second page must include the title and abstract. Except for the abstract, figures, tables, and references, all papers are to be double-spaced. Total length absolutely must not exceed 25 pages, with one-inch margins. Papers that exceed this length will be disadvantaged or disqualified.
- There should be two electronic versions submitted as well, one with the cover page and one without.

Each submitted paper will be blind reviewed by a panel of judges. The prize for top student paper is \$500. This prize may not be awarded if judges decide that the papers received are not of sufficient quality or if too few papers are entered into the competition.

Each paper will be judged according to the following criteria:

- The purpose of the paper is stated clearly;
- The paper is organized effectively;
- The literature review is adequate;
- The conclusions are related directly to the purpose of the paper;
- The subject represents a significant direction for risk communication research;
- Risk communication is a central theme of this paper;
- The questions addressed in this study are handled creatively;
- The writing is good; and
- The paper is relevant to the focus of the RCSG.

Papers based on data will also be judged according to the following criteria:

- The research method is described clearly;
- The research method is appropriate and effective;
- The evidence is good and related to the purpose of the paper;
- The evidence is presented clearly; and
- The evidence supports the conclusions.

Judges will also consider their own overall summary evaluation of the quality of each paper submitted. ***Please note that the paper must focus centrally on some aspect of risk communication. Risk communication cannot be just incidental to the theme of the paper.***

The winner of the award will be announced at the business meeting of the RCSG at the Annual Meeting and the student will be presented with a plaque and a \$500.00 check from ExxonMobil.

You can contact Dr. Robert Griffin at Robert.Griffin@Marquette.edu if you have questions regarding the student paper award.