

49th Annual Midwest Sociological Society Student Paper Competition in Honor of R. Dean Wright

The Midwest Sociological Society announces the 2012 Student Paper Competition. The competition is open to currently-enrolled undergraduate and graduate student members of MSS. Papers are judged through a blind review with separate panels of judges for graduate and undergraduate papers.

Three prizes in each division: 1st Prize: \$250 2nd Prize: \$150 3rd Prize: \$100

plus waiver of annual meeting registration fee.

Prizes may be picked up by the winner at the annual meeting in Minneapolis.

MSS reserves the right not to award prizes, or to award 2nd or 3rd prizes without awarding a 1st.

----- Rules for the 2012 Competition -----

Papers

1. Research-based papers involving research on human subjects must secure Institutional Review Board approval prior to beginning research; or undergo an equivalent review procedure and describe it in the methodology section of the paper.
2. Papers may be co-authored by students, but not by students and faculty. Advisors are expected to provide guidance, but not to assist with writing the paper. A student may author or co-author only one paper in the competition.
3. Students may nominate their own work. With a student's permission, an advisor may submit a paper on a student's behalf.
4. Maximum text length is 25 double-spaced pages (12-point font), not counting abstract, references, tables or figures.
5. Students who submit papers to this competition may submit the same paper to sessions at the annual meeting and/or to the editor of *The Sociological Quarterly* for publication consideration.

Submission Procedures and Deadline

6. Student competitors must pay MSS dues for 2012 prior to submitting a paper. [Pay online at www.TheMSS.org]
7. The paper may be submitted as two to three pdf files [preferred!] or as two to three text files, but it must be submitted as two to three documents, as follows: (1) A cover sheet including title of the paper; the name, institutional affiliation, email address, telephone number, mailing address and the graduate or undergraduate status of the author(s); and the name, email address, telephone number, and mailing address of the student's advisor. (2) The paper itself must include NONE of the identifying information from the cover page, but must include, at the top of its first page, the full title of the paper, followed by the abstract, if one is included. [See www.theMSS.org for sample documents.] (3) IRB certification or appropriate documentation must be submitted as a third document, for research-based papers involving human subjects.
8. **All submissions must be received by January 9, 2012.** Send submissions electronically ONLY to: MidwestSS@centurytel.net. [**IMPORTANT: Do not send submissions to the competition chairs.**]
9. Your submission will be acknowledged by email when received. If your submission is not acknowledged within 72 hours of your sending it, it is your responsibility to follow up with the MSS Executive Director at: midwestss@centurytel.net; or with a call to (608)787-8551.

Notification of Competition Results

10. All competitors will be notified of results by February 1, 2012.

Questions / Other

11. Questions? Please contact Graduate Competition Chair Kathleen McKinney at kmckinne@ilstu.edu or 309-438-7706, or Undergraduate Chair Kathleen Abrahamson at kathleen.abrahamson@wku.edu or 270-745-6973. **NOTE: DO NOT send papers to the chairs!**
12. NO reviews will be provided to competitors, either verbally or in writing.