



MANRRS

CONTEST GUIDELINES

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Contests Overview

Are you ready to develop and showcase your competencies during the annual training conference and career expo? Student competitions offer a welcoming and fun space to showcase your skills and receive constructive feedback. The top three winners of each contest will be recognized. All contestants must submit the application form for the appropriate contest by their respective deadlines as shown below.

General Benefits to Participants

- Show your talent and apply your skills through comprehensive research.
- Share and learn about the latest research.
- Connect with top employers and peers with confidence.
- Build your resume in an enjoyable atmosphere.
- Challenge yourself to speak concisely while conveying ideas effectively.
- Engage in critical thinking deliberations.
- Develop core competencies, including: Fostering teamwork, Influencing without authority, Building relationships, Analytical and critical thinking, and flexibility

General Eligibility Requirements

- Must be an active MANRRS member
- If representing a university, school, or community group with an established Junior MANRRS or collegiate MANRRS chapter, must be an approved member of said chapter.
- Must be able to attend the annual training conference and career expo.
- For specific eligibilities of each contest, please reference their specific guidelines

Behavior Policy

- All contestants are expected to treat superintendents, judges, and volunteers with respect throughout the duration of national contests. Any reported incidents of misbehavior, inappropriate language, or other unprofessional conduct may result in immediate disqualification. Chapter advisors are also expected to uphold these standards.
- Contest superintendents, judges, and volunteers are required to maintain professionalism and impartiality during all stages of contest facilitation. In cases of potential conflicts of interest, such as a contestant being a family

member or having a close personal relationship, it is essential to notify a National staff member or officer immediately to arrange for a replacement.

- Any concerns regarding behavior, professionalism, or bias should be reported to contest@manrrs.org with detailed information for review.

How to Participate

- Create a submittable account before entry. Complete the electronic MANRRS submission form for each entry at <http://manrrs.submittable.com/submit>
- Electronic submission to each contest is required for participation
- Entries for the Annual Training Conference and Career Expo must be received by 11:59 PM (EST) on **December 31st**.
- **Late entries will not be accepted, with no exceptions.**
- Entries submitted to the wrong contest or division may be disqualified.
- **Questions:**
 - regarding the submission process can be directed to contest@manrrs.org
 - regarding the structure, operations, or rules of contests should be submitted to the designated contest superintendent.

Superintendents & Contest Eligibility

Superintendents may be *subject to change*.

Annual Training Conference and Career Expo (Collegiate MANRRS)			
Contest	Member Eligibility	Superintendent	Email Address
Chapter of the Year	N/A	MANRRS National Office	contest@manrrs.org
Photography	UG, GR	MANRRS National Office	contest@manrrs.org
Written Essay	UG, GR	MANRRS National Office	contest@manrrs.org
Impromptu Public Speaking	UG	Zachary Brown	brow1688@purdue.edu
Prepared Speech	UG	Dr. Wash Jones	wajones@pvamu.edu
Business Pitch	UG, GR	MANRRS National Office	contest@manrrs.org
Three-Minute Thesis	GR	MANRRS National Office	contest@manrrs.org
Undergraduate Oral Research Division I	UG	MANRRS National Office	contest@manrrs.org
Undergraduate Oral Research Division II	UG	MANRRS National Office	contest@manrrs.org
Graduate Oral Research Division I	GR	MANRRS National Office	contest@manrrs.org
Graduate Oral Research Division II	GR	MANRRS National Office	contest@manrrs.org
Research Review	UG, GR	Dr. Kenneth Jones Dr. Yoko Kusunose	kenrjones@uky.edu yoko.kusunose@uky.edu
Undergraduate Research Poster Symposium Division I & II	UG	Dr. Armitra Jackson- Davis	armitra.davis@gmail.com
Graduate Research Poster Symposium Division I & II	GR	Dr. Brielle McElveen	briellemcelveen@gmail.com
MANRRS Bowl	UG	Dr. Sharon Jean-Philippe	jeanphil@utk.edu

UG = Undergraduate Students, GR = Graduate Students

<i>Annual Training Conference and Career Expo (Junior MANRRS)</i>		
Contest	Superintendent	Email Address
Chapter of the Year		MANRRS National Office contest@manrrs.org
Photography		
Impromptu Public Speaking		
Prepared Speech		
Written Essay		

UG = Undergraduate Students, GR = Graduate Students, JR = Junior MANRRS

Contest Registration Timelines

Contest registration periods vary slightly year-to-year and are subject to change at the discretion of the National Office and Executive Committee.

Annual Training Conference and Career Expo

Registration for contests hosted during the annual training conference and career expo opens annually on **November 3rd and closes on December 31st at 11:59 PM EST**. The registration period applies to both Junior MANRRS and collegiate MANRRS. Excluding entries for contests whose winners are revealed at the conference (i.e. Chapter of the Year), all contestants should learn of the status of their entry by February 16, 2025.

- **Contest Registration Opens:** November 3rd
- **Contest Registration Closes:** December December 31st at 11:59 PM (EST)

Annual Training Conference and Career Expo

Get ready for an exciting opportunity at the annual training conference and career expo! MANRRS is thrilled to offer a variety of competitions for both collegiate and Junior MANRRS members. Whether you want to prove your chapter is the best in the nation, showcase your writing or photography talents, or join forces with your peers for the highly competitive MANRRS Quiz Bowl, there's something for everyone! Plus, winners will be celebrated in style, with some even taking home amazing prizes!

Chapter of the Year Award

The Chapter of the Year Award (COYA) is a contest to recognize a chapter for achieving more than excellence throughout the entirety of the year. Any chapter meeting the eligibility requirements can compete for COYA. Chapters will be recognized for exceptional participation and engagement in advancing the MANRRS mission. Winners will be announced and recognized at the annual training conference and career expo.

Eligibility: The National Office of MANRRS will verify that chapters have met the following eligibility standards before advancing the submission to review. Failure to meet a single item will make a chapter not eligible to participate in COYA.

1. Chapter in Good Standing requirements must be met by December 31
2. Chapter of Excellence requirements must be met by December 31
3. Chapter Documentation Form must be submitted by December 31

Contest Results: The Chapter of the Year Award has winners from 1st through 3rd place. Each winning chapter will receive a certificate, and the first-place winner will receive a trophy. Additional prizes with a monetary value vary from year to year.

Contest Rubric: Please check [Appendix F](#) for the detailed rubric/scoring for the contest.

General Guidelines

1. Submit an annual report by 5:00 PM (EST) on December 31st.
2. The report should include a narrative of the chapter's accomplishments for the calendar year (January to December) and a reflection describing the impact of the events and activities that chapter members participated in. The report should expand on the information provided through Chapter Activities submissions and the Chapter of Excellence submission.

3. The report can be a maximum of 5 pages (including cover pages and any appendices). The font of all text should be no smaller than 12-Point Times New Roman Font, but alternative type fonts are permissible. The report should be submitted in PDF format. Failure to adhere to formatting guidelines may result in automatic disqualification - feedback may not be provided.
4. The Chapter can only submit one report for COYA. It is recommended to have the chapter president and/or advisor lead the submission process. Multiple submissions may result in disqualification.

Selection Criteria

An ad hoc committee of three (3) individuals will review and score applications based on the below rubric. The committee will be made up of:

1. One National Executive Committee Member (non-university affiliated)
2. One Advisory Board Member (non-university affiliated)
3. Member of the National Office Staff

Photography

The Photography Contest provides MANRRS members with the opportunity to express their love for agriculture and related sciences in an artistic form.

Eligibility: Undergraduate and graduate collegiate MANRRS members; Junior MANRRS members

Contest Results: The Photography Contest only has a 1st place winner. The winner will receive an award certificate and be recognized during the annual training conference and career expo.

General Guidelines

1. A 90-word essay must be submitted with the photo and should elaborate on its inspiration and how it relates to MANRRS. Additionally, the photograph must be in one of the following formats: .jpeg, .jpg or .pdf
2. The photograph may be in color OR black and white.
3. The photograph must be the work of the individual MANRRS member. Plagiarism is prohibited, and violations of any copyright laws will result in disqualification from the contest. The submission of "A.I." generated photo will also result in immediate disqualification.

4. Contestants are permitted to submit a **single** photo for consideration. Submission of multiple photos, a collage, or other similar violations will result in disqualification.

Judging Guidelines

- The National Executive Committee will determine the top 5 photographs in the preliminary round to advance to Nationals
- The top finalists' entries will be displayed and voted on by conference attendees via electronic voting
- The overall winner will be announced at the Closing Gala Dinner

Written Essay

The Written Essay Contest allows undergraduate students to gain experience in expressing themselves through writing. Essays will be judged by a panel of 3-5 judges, and the winners will be selected before the annual training conference and career expo.

Eligibility: Undergraduate collegiate MANRRS members.

Contest Results: The Written Essay Contest has a 1st through 3rd place winner. Each winner will receive an award certificate and be recognized at the annual training conference and career expo. Additional prizes with a monetary value vary from year to year. The 1st-place essay will be published on the National MANRRS Blog and distributed to the National Society.

Contest Rubric: Please check [Appendix C](#) for the detailed rubric/scoring for the contest.

General Guidelines

Essay Prompt

Choose a grand challenge facing agriculture, natural resources, and related sciences and formulate a novel solution to address the issue.

Instructions for Essay Preparation

- Essays should be typewritten with one-inch margins and saved in a .pdf file.
- To assure anonymity in reviewing, repeat only the title at the top of the first page.

- The page number should appear at the top right of each page.
- Three (3) - six (6) double-spaced pages. The cover page and references are not included in the page count.
- Times New Roman, size 12-point font (or similar)
- Appropriate citations must be used.
- A minimum of three references (not including the manual, if used) should be documented.
- The essay format must conform to the American Psychological Association (APA) writing style
 - Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association
 - Purdue University's writing center website has freely available tips for APA writing (<https://owl.purdue.edu/>)

Impromptu Public Speaking

The Impromptu Speaking Contest is designed to develop the ability of collegiate undergraduate MANRRS members to express themselves on a given subject without having prepared or rehearsed its content in advance. The contest provides an opportunity to grow public speaking skills and critical thinking as contestants formulate their speeches in a limited time. The competition requires contestants to think quickly, present concisely and persuasively, and provide sufficient responses to questions posed by judges based on their speech.

Eligibility: Undergraduate collegiate MANRRS members.

Contest Results: The Impromptu Public Speaking Contest has winners from 1st through 3rd place. Each winner will receive an award certificate and be recognized at the annual training conference and career expo. Additional prizes with monetary value vary from year to year.

Contest Rubric: Please check [Appendix E](#) for the detailed rubric/scoring for the contest.

The Impromptu Speaking Contest is designed to develop the ability of collegiate undergraduate MANRRS members to express themselves on a given subject without having prepared or rehearsed its content in advance. The contest provides an opportunity to grow public speaking skills and critical thinking as contestants formulate their speeches in a limited time. The competition requires contestants to think quickly, present concisely and persuasively, and provide sufficient responses to questions posed by judges based on their speech.

General Guidelines (Preliminary)

1. Contestants will have 90 seconds to tell a short, coherent story based on a randomly selected topic each contest year. The topic will be announced when contest registration opens.
2. Contestants must record their story and upload it to their preferred video platform. A link to the video must be submitted along with their contest registration.
3. All standard Impromptu Public Speaking Scoring Criteria will be used to evaluate the videos, with the exception of the Response to Questions category.
 - a. One (1) point will be docked from contestants for every second over or under the 90 second time limit.
4. In the event of a mathematical tie based on the score sheets, contest judges will be asked to vote to determine the final placement of the tied individuals. Judges are not permitted to abstain from voting.
5. The top 12 scoring contestants will advance to the final round, held at the Annual Training Conference and Career Expo.

General Guidelines (Finals)

The top twelve (12) competitors from the preliminary round are selected to move forward to the final round of the competition. Which follows the below guidelines.

1. The competition is based on a random selection of up to twelve (12) topics related to current issues in agriculture, natural resources, and related sciences. The contest superintendent decides the topics and randomly assigns the contestant a speech topic and presentation order.
2. Contestants are given five (5) minutes to prepare a speech based on their assigned topic. The table below provides an example depicting the structure of the contest. Contestants will receive the list of all topics at least ten days before the competition date. Students will receive their randomly selected topic at the beginning of preparation time. Contestants are given five (5) minutes to prepare a speech based on their assigned topic. The table below provides an example depicting the structure of their assigned topic.

Contestant Name	Contestant Topic	Preparation Period	Start of Competition
Henry Arthur Callis	Does the protection of farm worker rights benefit agriculture production? Please create a response in the affirmative or negative.	1:05 PM	1:10 PM
Charles Henry	Traditional or culturally relevant foods	1:15 PM	1:20 PM

Chapman	have a place in all communities. Should their cultural importance be valued over the production of foods that feed large numbers of people regardless of cultural identity? Please create a response in the affirmative or negative.		
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3. Contestants are given five (5) minutes to prepare a two-to-four-minute speech using any electronically available resources. They are not given their speech topic until the “preparation period.” All contestants are required to prepare their speeches in an isolated space. They are not permitted to ask for assistance in any form. Contestants are responsible for ensuring their access to an electronic device capable of allowing them to prepare for the competition. Wifi will not be provided. Cell phones, tablets, laptops, and other electronic devices are permissible during the “preparation period” but not during the “competition period.” Contestants can leave the preparation room to address physiological needs, but preparation time will not be extended. Contestants can write notes and draft their speeches on note cards provided by the contest organizers. During the preparation time, each contestant will be given a 2-minute warning.
 - a. Suppose a contestant does not have access to an electronic device capable of searching the web due to socioeconomic issues. In that case, the contest superintendent should be contacted in advance to help identify a solution.
4. Each contestant will participate in a ten (10) minute “competition period.” During the “competition period,” contestants will deliver their two-to-four-minute speech.
 - a. At the one (1), two (2), and three (3) minute mark, the contestant will be given a warning card by the timekeeper. Any speech that exceeds four (4) minutes and forty-five (45) seconds will be immediately concluded by the timekeeper. One (1) point will be docked from contestants for every second over or under the speech time limit.
 - b. After the speech, the judges will be given three (3) minutes to ask the contestant questions related to the speech topic. The question period will end after three (3) minutes, regardless of whether the contestant or judge has finished their response.
 - c. The remaining time in the “competition period” is reserved for judges to complete the scoring of contestants. Judges should not discuss scoring with one another at this time.
5. Contestants who do not appear at the start of the designated “preparation period” are NOT permitted to participate in the contest.

6. A national officer, designated professional member, or the contest superintendent monitors the preparation room and contest room.
7. Contestants are required to dress in business casual clothing for the contest.

Method of Winner Selection

The winner(s) are decided by the highest total score calculated using the Judge's score sheets. The timekeeper is responsible for informing judges of any appropriate point deductions.

A national officer, designated professional member, or contest superintendent will be responsible for calculating the final totals for the competition. There must be an odd number of judges and a minimum of three total judges. The judges must have direct professional experience in agriculture, natural resources, and related sciences.

In the event of a mathematical tie based on the score sheets, the contest Judges will be asked to vote on a final placement of the individual(s) that have tied. Judges are not permitted to abstain from the vote.

Scoring Criteria

1. **Knowledge of the Subject:** This evaluates the contestant's ability to demonstrate a strong understanding of their assigned speech topic, regardless of their background knowledge.
2. **Organization of Material:** This assesses the structure and flow of the speech from beginning to end. Is the content presented in a logical and coherent order?
3. **Power of Expression:** This measures the contestant's ability to convey emotion and passion in their speech. Do they effectively engage the audience and express enthusiasm for their topic?
4. **Voice:** This evaluates the quality and clarity of the contestant's voice. Were they too monotone, quiet, or loud, or did they maintain an effective vocal presence?
5. **Stage Presence:** This considers the contestant's ability to captivate and command the audience's attention. Charisma, confidence, and attire contribute to their overall presence on stage.
6. **General Effect:** This refers to the overall impact of the speech. Does it leave the judges with a lasting intellectual or emotional response?
7. **Response to Questions:** This measures the contestant's ability to respond to questions posed by the judges with quick, critical, and thoughtful answers.
8. **Time Deductions:** Points will be deducted if the contestant exceeds or falls short of the required speech length.

Prepared Speech

The Prepared Speech Contest, formerly known as the Public Speaking Contest, allows undergraduate students to gain experience in expressing themselves orally before an audience. This contest has two rounds. Selection of the top 6 submissions will compete at the annual training conference and career expo in front of a panel of 3-4 judges and answer questions.

Eligibility: Undergraduate collegiate MANRRS members.

Contest Results: The Prepared Speech Contest has winners from 1st through 3rd place. Each winner will receive an award certificate and be recognized at the annual training conference and career expo. Additional prizes with monetary values vary from year to year.

Contest Rubric: Please check [Appendix H](#) for the detailed rubric/scoring for the contest.

General Guidelines

Initial Round

- Contestants must submit a prepared speech on the current theme of the annual training conference and career expo.
- All submissions MUST include a .pdf speech transcript, references, and an electronic link to your video presentation. YouTube is the required platform for video submission.
- When submitting a video, the speech MUST be between 6 and 8 minutes long. Speeches outside of this time range will be disqualified.
 - Note: Contestants should state their name and university affiliation at the beginning of their speech. Contestants should also film in a well-lit room and ensure clear audio.

Final Round

- A contestant must score at least 80 points on the initial entry to be considered for the final round. Selection of the top 6 submissions will compete in the final round, in person, at the annual training conference and career expo.
- The contest superintendent will notify contestants before the conference if they have qualified to compete in the final round. The final round of judging will be conducted by professional members at the annual training conference

and career expo. The top 6 contestants will each get 8 minutes to present their speech and 3 minutes to answer questions.

Judging Guidelines

Preferred criteria for judges:

- Strong writing, editing skills, and oral presentation skills
- Preferably someone with previous public speaking experience

The judges will receive copies of the contestants' speeches before the conference. They will score the essay based on its content related to the topic, writing style, opening paragraph, organization and logic, clarity of expression, and use of references.

Business Pitch

Have an idea for a new business or non-profit you would like to start? Then enter the Business Pitch Contest! You will have 5 minutes to describe your idea and why it will change your university or local community. Your business can exist later, but the idea & pitch must relate to agriculture, natural resources, and/or environmental businesses or nonprofits. Think "Shark Tank" meets MANRRS! Instead of asking for investment, our judges will award the top presenter with prize money.

Eligibility: Undergraduate and graduate student collegiate MANRRS members. Applications may be submitted by individuals or teams of up to four (4) people consisting of all undergraduate or graduate students. Teams consisting of both undergraduate and graduate students are not permitted.

Contest Results: The Business Pitch Contest has a first-place winner for the undergraduate and graduate student divisions. Each winner or winning team will receive an award certificate(s) and be recognized at the annual training conference and career expo. Additional prizes with monetary value vary from year to year.

Contest Rubric: Please check [Appendix I](#) for the detailed rubric/scoring for the contest.

General Guidelines

Application process

- Applicants must submit an online application consisting of:

- Presenter's name(s), school or professional affiliation, and LinkedIn profile.
- Description of the business or non-profit which addresses each of the five elements listed below (maximum of 500 words).
 - Name of the proposed business or non-profit
 - Mission/Purpose
 - Size of the opportunity/problem to be solved
 - How this new business will meet the need/solve the problem (products or services to be offered and business model)
- Please do not submit confidential or proprietary information (such as computer code or invention descriptions if not patented). In the real investment/funding world, ideas are not treated as confidential—the differentiating factor is the entrepreneurs' ability to execute.

Presentation Requirements and Process

- Presenters will pitch their business idea to a panel of 3-5 judges and one timekeeper. The presenter(s) may use PowerPoint slides. Presentations should include the following elements:
 - Name of the proposed business or non-profit
 - Mission/Purpose
 - Size of the opportunity/problem to be solved
 - How this new business will meet the need/solve the problem (products or services to be offered and business model)
 - Team—entrepreneur(s) backgrounds (individual or team members)
- Each presentation is limited to 5 minutes. One point will be deducted per second over the time limit.
- Each presentation will be followed by 5 minutes of Q&A from the panel of judges.

Three-Minute Thesis (3MT ®)

The Three Minute Thesis (3MT ®) Contest was developed by The University of Queensland (UQ) to celebrate the exciting research conducted by Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) students. The contest was developed to cultivate students' academic, presentation, and research communication skills. The MANRRS 3MT has been adapted to provide this opportunity to all graduate student members in good standing within the national organization. The competition supports their capacity to effectively explain their research in three minutes in a language appropriate to a non-specialist audience.

Eligibility: Graduate student collegiate MANRRS members.

Contest Results: The Three-Minute Thesis Contest has winners from 1st through 3rd place. Each winner will receive an award certificate and be recognized at the annual training conference and career expo. Additional prizes with a monetary value vary from year to year.

Contest Rubric: Please check [Appendix J](#) for the detailed rubric/scoring for the contest.

General Guidelines

Abstract Requirements

- Competitors must follow the general MANRRS abstract guidelines found in [Appendix A](#).

Presentation Requirements

- A single static PowerPoint slide is permitted. No slide transitions, animations, or 'movement' of any description are allowed. The slide is to be presented from the beginning of the oration. Slide notes are not permitted for use during the presentation.
- The slide should be a standard size based on the widescreen 16:9 landscape format.
- No additional electronic media (e.g., sound and video files) are permitted.
- No additional props (e.g., costumes, musical instruments, laboratory equipment) are permitted.
- Presentations are limited to 3 minutes maximum, and competitors exceeding 3 minutes are disqualified.
- Presentations should be spoken words (e.g., no poems, raps, or songs).
- Presentations are to commence from the "stage."
- Presentations are considered to have commenced when a presenter starts their presentation through either movement or speech.

Oral Research Presentation

The Oral Research Presentation Contest allows undergraduate and graduate students to gain exposure and experience presenting their research before an audience. Graduate and undergraduate students will be judged in separate contests. The top ten contestants will be invited to present at the annual training conference and career expo. Students will select the division to which they are submitting their research abstracts for competition:

- Division I: Biological, Chemical, and Physical Sciences
- Division II: Education, Social Sciences and Business

Eligibility: Undergraduate and graduate collegiate MANRRS members.

Contest Results: The Oral Research Presentation Contest has a 1st through 3rd place winner for each division's undergraduate and graduate student contest. Each winner will receive an award certificate and be recognized at the annual training conference and career expo. Additional prizes with a monetary value vary from year to year.

Contest Rubric: Please check [Appendix K](#) for the detailed rubric/scoring for the contest.

General Guidelines

Initial Round:

1. The abstract is evaluated before the finalists are selected for the National Conference. The abstract is evaluated by the panel of judges and the top 10 abstracts are selected for the oral presentation at the National Conference. It provides a brief overview of your research in 300 words or less, arranged in a single paragraph. Competitors MUST follow the general MANRRS abstract guidelines in [Appendix A](#).
2. Abstracts will be evaluated based on the [Appendix K](#).

Final Round:

1. Ten contestants will be invited to present at the annual training conference and career expo.
2. Invitations to present are based on the abstract scores - top 10 scores are invited.
3. Each presentation will be 8 minutes long, with an additional 2 minutes for questions and answers. Time penalties will be assessed if the presentation goes beyond 8 minutes.
4. All presentations should include:
 - a. Background/Overview/Introduction/Statement of the Problem
 - b. Objective(s)
 - c. Hypothesis
 - d. Methodology
 - e. Results
 - f. Discussion and Conclusion
5. Presentations are evaluated following the rubrics found in [Appendix K](#).

Judging Guidelines

Each contest division has preferred criteria for the make-up of the judging pool.

- Division I - Biological, Chemical, and Physical Sciences
 - Individuals must be working professionals
 - At a minimum, the professionals must have an M.S. in the field of biology, chemistry, physical science, or related fields
 - Preferably, judges will be currently conducting research
- Division II - Education, Social Sciences and Business
 - Individuals must be working professionals
 - At a minimum, the professionals must have an M.S. in the field of education, social science, business, or related fields
 - Preferably, judges will be currently conducting research

Research Review

The Research Review Contest is for collegiate MANRRS members and focuses on improving their ability to review and discuss research articles. Additionally, the contest aims to prepare contestants to communicate effectively and succinctly when discussing scientific topics in the workspace.

Eligibility: Undergraduate and graduate collegiate MANRRS members.

Contest Results: The Research Review Contest has a 1st through 3rd place winner for each division's undergraduate and graduate student contests. Each winner will receive an award certificate and be recognized at the annual training conference and career expo. Additional prizes with a monetary value vary from year to year.

Contest Rubric: Please check [Appendix L](#) for the detailed rubric/scoring for the contest.

General Guidelines

Initial Round

- Contestants will be required to write a short research article review on an article selected by the contest superintendent. The top seven summaries will be selected as semifinalists, and the students will be invited to compete in the Research Review Contest at the annual training conference and career expo.
- The research article will be accessible via Submittable. Please prepare your essay as instructed below:

- Essays must be typed with single spacing except between the title and body of the paper. Each page should have a one-inch margin on all sides.
- Essays must be a maximum of 500 words and must include:
 - An introductory paragraph
 - Body of the paper
 - Concluding paragraph

Final Round

- During the final round, contestants will discuss the review article and written essay. Contestants will be judged by a panel of 3-5 judges based on the criteria:
 - **Definitions** - How well did the participant know or can relate to the topic?
 - **Analysis of topic or subject** - Was the participant able to identify issues, raise factual points, and stay on track? Did they accurately interpret the material or data presented?
 - **Presentations of research material and identification of issues** - Was the participant able to present and discuss material in the discussion logically and move the discussion forward to increase understanding by others?
 - **Delivery** - Was voice quality, projection, enunciation, interaction, desirable sentence structure, and vocabulary adequate?
 - **Cooperative attitude** - Was the participant listening, asking pertinent questions, airing all points of view, summarizing, minimizing major differences, and showing respect for others?
 - **Total effectiveness (general evaluation)** - Was there an overall contribution to the discussion by the participant?
 - **Quality of responses to questions from the audience and/or judges** - Was there demonstrated knowledge, relevance, confidence, and interactive ability?

MANRRS Bowl

The MANRRS Bowl Contest is designed to increase and test the knowledge of collegiate MANRRS members on MANRRS history and topics related to agriculture, natural resources, and related sciences. The contest also increases and further encourages regional pride and support of chapters within regions.

Eligibility:

- Any collegiate chapter in good standing may submit one team of undergraduate members.

- Members may compete twice during their membership.
- Past members of 1st Place teams cannot compete again (Alternates who did not compete at any point are exempt).
- Violating these eligibility rules may result in disqualification, suspension from future competitions, or the return of any distributed awards.

Contest Results: The MANRRS Bowl Contest has winners from 1st through 3rd place. Each chapter will receive a certificate, and the first-place winner will receive a trophy.

General Guidelines

Registration

- Chapters will submit one registration with the names of their captain and team members and 25 questions and answers from the MANRRS Bowl Categories.
- Chapters are not permitted to intentionally resubmit the same questions year-to-year. Efforts should be taken to submit new questions that address relevant topics in agriculture, natural resources, and related sciences. Chapters that are found to have intentionally resubmitted the same questions as past years, may be disqualified.
- The questions must be submitted in an Excel file (.xlsx) with question(s) in one column and answers in the next corresponding column. The questions must be clearly phrased, and the answers must be concise and accurate.
- Incorrect or improperly formatted questions or registration will result in disqualification at the contest superintendent's discretion.

Participants

- A team consists of any number of players who meet all eligibility rules. However, no more than four of a team's players may be actively competing at any one time. Teams may play short, with a minimum of one player.
- Substitutions to any position(s) can only occur before the beginning of each round. If the captain is substituted, the contest superintendent must be made aware.
- The captain will be responsible for communicating information from the contest superintendent and ensuring their team follows all rules.

Structure

- The competition will follow a single-elimination bracket, with seeding determined randomly.

- Each round will consist of 21 regular game questions and five tiebreaker questions if needed. The team with the most points at the end of the round(s) will move on.

Questions

- Once a team buzzes in and receives a verbal acknowledgment from the moderator, they will have five seconds to start their answer.
 - If the correct answer is given, that team receives **two points**.
 - If a wrong answer is given, no points are taken away, and the opposing team can buzz in. If they choose, they will have five seconds to provide the correct answer.
 - If the team buzzes in before the moderator finishes reading the question and gets it wrong, the question will be re-read in its entirety, and the opposing team will have the opportunity to buzz in to answer.
 - If neither team answers correctly the moderator will move to the next question.
- If someone on a team speaks before getting acknowledged by the moderator, the team will be deducted 1 point from their total score.
- Each team has only one chance to answer each question and can buzz in before the question is completely read.
 - The first person to buzz in must answer the question independently, without collaboration. Speaking out of turn will result in a warning first and then a deduction of one point.

Challenges

- Challenges on question content or rule application must be made by raising a hand or an alternative pre-approved signal before the next question is read in its entirety.
- Any team member may initiate a challenge with a team limit of two unsuccessful challenges per round.
- If a challenge is upheld, the question is discarded. No team will lose/gain points.

MANRRS Bowl Categories and Questions

- Questions cover topics including MANRRS Trivia, Agribusiness, Ag Economics, Animal Science, Life Sciences, Agricultural Education, Natural Resources, Robert's Rules of Order and Related sciences.
- Most questions will come from the chapters submitted during registration, with some coming from the MANRRS Bowl pool. The MANRRS Bowl pool

contains questions from previous years as well as questions from the MANRRS Bowl categories. Each year, questions are removed/added/changed.

- A complete set of questions was asked at the national competitions, and submissions from other chapters were provided for all teams to add to their pool of questions for review for that year's competition (excluding year one of the competition).

Tournament Officials

- Three Judges will rule on any challenges, ensure the accuracy and quality of questions, and may submit questions to the MANRRS Bowl committee for review.
- One Moderator will read the questions, designate the first person to buzz in, receive all challenges, and otherwise enforce the competition's rules.
 - The MANRRS bowl committee will provide them with a set of 21 regular game questions and 10 tiebreaker questions in a sealed envelope 5 minutes before the start of the competition for review.
 - Questions will be read in order. If a question is answered before it is fully read, the moderator will pause reading and repeat the full question for the other team to answer if the other team gets it incorrect.
- One Scorekeeper/Timekeeper will enforce time limits, supervise the clock, determine the correctness of responses, and award or deduct points when necessary.
 - The judges will assess any concerns with scorekeeping to provide their final ruling.
- Other officials may assist the moderator with their duties, including, but not limited to, keeping a running score, recognizing players who signal, and supervising the clock.
- Officials shall not be affiliated with the competing chapters or their team members or share questions with teams before the round.
- The Contest Superintendent may enforce the competition rules and oversee tournament officials to ensure the competition is run correctly.

Equipment

- Games will be played with a buzzer system, electronic equipment that determines which player signaled first. Each player should have an independent signaling device to activate the system. If no working buzzer is available, tournament officials may require players to signal by other means.
- If the buzzer system is not fully functional, teams may agree to use a different system, or the game will be played without one.

- If a game is played without a buzzer system, a designated official will be the final judge of which player signaled first.
- If you have any concerns about the buzzer system, you should signal them to the moderator by raising your hand or using other nonverbal signals.

Additional Rules

- No calculators, electronic devices, or personal notes are allowed.
- Audience interference results in the question being discarded.

Event set-up and Takedown

- Rooms must be set up according to the Room Set Up Diagram.
- Each room needs a buzzer system, a question and answer set in a sealed envelope, scrap paper and pens for judges, a stopwatch, tables, chairs, etc.

Research Poster Symposium

The Research Poster Symposium provides collegiate MANRRS members with an opportunity to gain experience presenting research in poster form before an audience. Undergraduate and graduate students are permitted to participate. The symposium is “non-competitive” and participants will not receive an award based on their participation. Students should select the division they are submitting their research abstracts for competition:

- Division I: Biological, Chemical, and Physical Sciences
 - Undergraduate Student
 - Graduate Student
- Division II: Education, Social Sciences and Business
 - Undergraduate Student
 - Graduate Student

Eligibility: Undergraduate and graduate student collegiate MANRRS members.

Symposium Rubric: Please check **Appendix M** for the detailed rubric/scoring for the contest.

General Guidelines

Entry Information

- After the submission deadline, the symposium judges will review all abstract submissions. The main criteria that the judges will use to evaluate the abstract entries are:
 - Strict adherence to formatting guidelines
 - Demonstration of a scientific problem (submissions must contain hypothesis and/or statement of problem, methods/methodology used, the results, and a conclusion)
 - Writing quality, including sentence structure, grammar, punctuation, clarity, and proper citation of sources.
- MANRRS reserves the right to reject any abstract submission.

Initial Round

- The abstract is evaluated before selecting the presenters at the Annual Training Conference and Career Expo.
- Submitters must follow the **Appendix A** abstract guidelines.
- Abstracts will be evaluated based on the rubric in **Appendix M**.

Final Round

1. The top abstracts in each division and classification (undergraduate or
2. graduate) will be invited to create a poster based on their abstract and present at the National Conference.
3. Presentations will be judged based on the rubric in **Appendix M**.

Poster Requirements

- The poster must be 2 feet high by 3 feet wide (24 x 36). The poster must be carefully planned, clear, and concise. It should contain a brief statement of the purpose of the work, experimental methodology and design, and the findings' major results and implications.
- Posters will **NOT** be printed on-site.
- The heading's lettering must be at least 1 inch tall, the author's and sponsoring institutions' lettering must be at least $\frac{3}{4}$ inch high, and all other fonts must be at least $\frac{1}{4}$ inch high. The poster must be readable from 4 or more feet. The text should be printed from a laser printer in a font size large enough to read from that distance. When preparing the poster, do not use free hand-printed lettering.
- Numerals and letters in figures and tables must be at least $\frac{1}{4}$ inch high. The sizes of figures or tables will vary, but they should not be less than 8" x 10".

Backlit photography, sound or projection equipment, and freestanding displays are prohibited.

- DO NOT submit a copy of the poster with the initial submission.

Digital Monitor Requirements (if applicable)

- Please remember that your poster can only be one slide.
- Recommended fonts: Calibri, Arial, or Times New Roman
- Recommended font size: 28pt or larger
- Slide/Poster size: 40.97x23.04, which is a 16:9 ratio.
- Only single slide posters are allowed.
- The ePoster layout should be landscape orientation.
- Please refrain from using animations or videos.

Presenter Tips

- Display boards and digital monitors will be provided at the annual training conference and career expo.
- Be sure to have all materials prepared before arriving at the conference. The time allocated during the conference is inappropriate for preparing or designing the poster. Do not stand directly in front of the poster. Please allow viewing space for spectators and judges.
- All posters must be displayed before the contest starts. Late posters will not be added or considered after the contest evaluation period has begun, as this is disruptive and unfair to the contest participants and judges.
- Carry the poster using tubular packaging or a portfolio case. Mailing it to the conference is not a good idea to avoid potential damage to the poster. Come prepared with any relevant handouts you may wish to share (such as a copy of the poster printed on 8.5" x 11" paper).
- Bring your business card!
- Prepare a brief (about 1.5 min) overview and discussion of your project.
- Have fun! You're the expert in this work, and your judges and spectators are excited to learn from you!

Junior MANRRS

Junior MANRRS Chapter of the Year Award

The Junior MANRRS Chapter of the Year Award (COYA) is a contest to recognize a chapter for achieving more than excellence throughout the year. Any chapter meeting the eligibility requirements can compete for COYA. Chapters will be recognized for exceptional participation and engagement in advancing the MANRRS mission. Winners will be announced and recognized at the annual training conference and career expo.

Eligibility: The National Office of MANRRS will verify that chapters have met the following eligibility standards before advancing the submission to review. Failure to meet a single item will make a chapter not eligible to participate in COYA.

1. Chapter in Good Standing requirements must be met by December 31
2. Chapter of Excellence requirements must be met by December 31
3. Chapter Documentation Form must be submitted by December 31

Contest Results: The Chapter of the Year Award has winners from 1st through 3rd place. Each winning chapter will receive a certificate, and the first-place winner will receive a trophy. Additional prizes with a monetary value vary from year to year.

Contest Rubric: Please check [Appendix F](#) for the detailed rubric/scoring for the contest.

General Guidelines

1. Submit an annual report by 5:00 PM (EST) on December 31st.
2. The report should include a narrative of the chapter's accomplishments for the calendar year (January to December) and a reflection describing the impact of the events and activities that chapter members participated in. The report should expand on the information provided through Chapter Activities submissions and the Chapter of Excellence submission.
3. The report can be a maximum of 3 pages (including cover pages and any appendices). The font of all text should be no smaller than 12-Point Times New Roman Font, but alternative type fonts are permissible. The report should be submitted in PDF format. Failure to adhere to formatting guidelines may result in automatic disqualification - feedback may not be provided.

4. The Chapter can only submit one report for COYA. Having the chapter president and/or advisor lead the submission process is recommended. Multiple submissions may result in disqualification.

Selection Criteria

An ad hoc committee of three (3) individuals will review and score applications based on the below rubric. The committee will be made up of:

1. One National Executive Committee Member (non-university affiliated)
2. One Advisory Board Member (non-university affiliated)
3. Member of the National Office Staff or designee

Impromptu Public Speaking

The Impromptu Speaking Contest is designed to develop the ability of MANRRS members to express themselves on a given subject without having prepared or rehearsed its content in advance. The contest provides an opportunity to grow public speaking skills and critical thinking as contestants formulate their speeches in a limited time. The competition requires contestants to think quickly, present concisely and persuasively, and provide sufficient responses to questions posed by judges based on their speech.

Eligibility: Junior MANRRS members.

Contest Results: The Junior MANRRS Impromptu Public Speaking Contest has winners from 1st through 3rd place. Each winner will receive an award certificate and be recognized at the annual training conference and career expo. Additional prizes with monetary value vary from year to year.

Contest Rubric: Please check [Appendix E](#) for the detailed rubric/scoring for the contest.

General Guidelines (Preliminary)

1. Contestants will have 90 seconds to tell a short, coherent story based on a randomly selected topic each contest year. The topic will be announced when contest registration opens.
2. Contestants must record their story and upload it to their preferred video platform. A link to the video must be submitted along with their contest registration.

3. All standard Impromptu Public Speaking Scoring Criteria will be used to evaluate the videos, with the exception of the Response to Questions category.
 - a. One (1) point will be docked from contestants for every second over or under the 90 second time limit.
4. In the event of a mathematical tie based on the score sheets, contest judges will be asked to vote to determine the final placement of the tied individuals. Judges are not permitted to abstain from voting.
5. The top 12 scoring contestants will advance to the final round, held at the Annual Training Conference and Career Expo.

General Guidelines

1. The competition is based on a random selection of twelve (12) topics related to current issues in agriculture, natural resources, and related sciences. The Contest Superintendent decides the topics. The Contest Superintendent randomly assigns contestants a speech topic and presentation order.
2. Contestants are given five (5) minutes to prepare a speech based on their assigned topic. The table below provides an example depicting the structure of the contest. Contestants will receive the list of all topics at least 10 days before the competition date. Students will receive their randomly selected topic at the beginning of preparation time. Contestants are given five (5) minutes to prepare a speech based on their assigned topic. The table below provides an example depicting the structure of their assigned topic.

Contestant Name	Contestant Topic	Preparation Period	Start of Competition
Henry Arthur Callis	Does the protection of farm worker rights benefit agriculture production? Please create a response in the affirmative or negative.	1:05 PM	1:10 PM
Charles Henry Chapman	Traditional or culturally relevant foods have a place in all communities. Should their cultural importance be valued over the production of foods that feed large numbers of people regardless of cultural identity? Please create a response in the affirmative or negative.	1:15 PM	1:20 PM

3. Contestants are given five (5) minutes to prepare a two-to-four-minute speech using any electronically available resources. They are not given their speech topic until the “preparation period.” All contestants are required to prepare

their speeches in an isolated space. They are not permitted to ask for assistance in any form. Contestants are responsible for ensuring their access to an electronic device capable of allowing them to prepare for the competition. Wifi will not be provided. Cell phones, tablets, laptops, and other electronic devices are permissible during the “preparation period” but not permitted during the “competition period.” Contestants can leave the preparation room to address physiological needs, but preparation time will not be extended. Contestants are permitted to write notes and/or draft their speech on note cards provided by the contest organizers. During the preparation time, each contestant will be given a 2-minute warning.

- a. Suppose a contestant does not have access to an electronic device capable of searching the web due to socioeconomic issues. In that case, the contest superintendent should be contacted in advance to help identify a solution.
4. Each contestant will participate in a ten (10) minute “competition period.” During the “competition period,” contestants will deliver their two-to-four-minute speech.
 - a. At the one (1), two (2), and three (3) minute mark, the contestant will be given a warning card by the timekeeper. Any speech that exceeds four (4) minutes and forty-five (45) seconds will be immediately concluded by the timekeeper. One (1) point will be docked from contestants for every second over or under the speech time limit.
 - b. After the speech, the judges will be given three (3) minutes to ask the contestant questions related to the speech topic. The question period will end after three (3) minutes, regardless of whether the contestant or judge has finished their response.
 - c. The remaining time in the “competition period” is reserved for judges to complete the scoring of contestants. Judges should not discuss scoring with one another at this time.
5. Contestants who do not appear at the start of the designated “preparation period” are NOT permitted to participate in the contest.
6. A national officer, designated professional member, or the Contest Superintendent monitors the preparation and contest rooms.
7. Contestants are required to dress in business casual clothing for the contest.

Method of Winner Selection

The winner(s) are decided by the highest total score calculated using the Judge’s score sheets. The timekeeper is responsible for informing judges of any appropriate point deductions.

A national officer, designated professional member, or contest superintendent will

be responsible for calculating the final totals for the competition. There must be an odd number of judges and a minimum of three total judges. The judges must have direct professional experience in agriculture, natural resources, and related sciences.

In the event of a mathematical tie based on the score sheets, the contest Judges will be asked to vote on a final placement of the individual(s) that have tied. Judges are not permitted to abstain from the vote.

Scoring Criteria

1. **Knowledge of the Subject:** This evaluates the contestant's ability to demonstrate a strong understanding of their assigned speech topic, regardless of their background knowledge.
2. **Organization of Material:** This assesses the structure and flow of the speech from beginning to end. Is the content presented in a logical and coherent order?
3. **Power of Expression:** This measures the contestant's ability to convey emotion and passion in their speech. Do they effectively engage the audience and express enthusiasm for their topic?
4. **Voice:** This evaluates the quality and clarity of the contestant's voice. Were they too monotone, quiet, or loud, or did they maintain an effective vocal presence?
5. **Stage Presence:** This considers the contestant's ability to captivate and command the audience's attention. Charisma, confidence, and attire contribute to their overall presence on stage.
6. **General Effect:** This refers to the overall impact of the speech. Does it leave the judges with a lasting intellectual or emotional response?
7. **Response to Questions:** This measures the contestant's ability to respond to questions posed by the judges with quick, critical, and thoughtful answers.
8. **Time Deductions:** Points will be deducted if the contestant exceeds or falls short of the required speech length.

Prepared Speech

The Prepared Speech Contest, formerly known as the Public Speaking Contest, allows undergraduate students to gain experience in expressing themselves orally before an audience. This contest has two rounds. Selection of the top 6 submissions will compete at the annual training conference and career expo in front of a panel of 3-4 judges and answer questions.

Eligibility: Junior MANRRS members.

Contest Results: The Junior MANRRS Prepared Speech Contest has winners from 1st through 3rd place. Each winner will receive an award certificate and be recognized at the annual training conference and career expo. Additional prizes with monetary value vary from year to year.

Contest Rubric: Please check [Appendix H](#) for the detailed rubric/scoring for the contest.

General Guidelines

Initial Round

- Contestants must submit a prepared speech on the current theme of the annual training conference and career expo.
- All submissions MUST include a .pdf speech transcript, any references, and an electronic link to your video presentation. YouTube is the preferred platform for video submission.
- When submitting a video, the speech MUST be between 6 and 8 minutes long. Speeches outside of this time range will be disqualified.
 - Note: Contestants should state their name and university affiliation at the beginning of their speech. Contestants should also film in a well-lit room and ensure clear audio.

Final Round

- A contestant must score at least 80 points on the initial entry to be considered for the final round. Selection of the top 6 submissions will compete in the final round, in person, at the annual training conference and career expo.
- The contest superintendent will notify contestants before the conference if they have qualified to compete in the final round. The final round of judging will be conducted by professional members at the annual training conference and career expo. The top 6 contestants will each get 8 minutes to present their speech and 2 minutes to answer questions.

Judging Guidelines

Preferred criteria for judges:

- Strong writing, editing skills, and oral presentation skills
- Preferably someone with previous public speaking experience

The judges will receive copies of the contestants' speeches before the conference. They will score the essay based on its content related to the topic, writing style,

opening paragraph, organization and logic, clarity of expression, and use of references.

Written Essay

The Written essay contest allows students to gain experience in expressing themselves through writing. Essays will be judged by a panel of 3-5 judges, and the winners will be selected before the annual training conference and career expo.

Eligibility: Junior MANRRS members.

Contest Results: The Junior MANRRS Written Essay Contest has winners from 1st through 3rd place. Each winner will receive an award certificate and be recognized at the annual training conference and career expo. Additional prizes with monetary value vary from year to year.

Contest Rubric: Please check [Appendix G](#) for the detailed rubric/scoring for the contest.

General Guidelines

Essay Prompt

Choose a grand challenge facing agriculture, natural resources, and related sciences and formulate a novel solution to address the issue.

Instructions for Essay Preparation

- Essays should be typewritten with one-inch margins and saved in a .pdf file.
- To assure anonymity in reviewing, repeat only the title at the top of the first page.
- The page number should appear at the top right of each page.
- Two (2) - four (4) double-spaced pages. The cover page and references are not included in the page count.
- Times New Roman, Size 12-point font (or similar)
- Appropriate citations must be used.
- A minimum of three references (not including the manual, if used) should be documented.
- The essay format must conform to the American Psychological Association (APA) writing style.
 - Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association

- Purdue University's writing center website has freely available tips for APA writing (<https://owl.purdue.edu/>)
- The 1st place essay will be published through the National MANRRS Blog and distributed to the National Society.

Appendix

A. Abstract Guidelines

The following guidelines should be followed for contests requiring an abstract submission. Failure to follow the guidelines will result in a submission being disqualified. Contest superintendents may accept corrected abstracts for their specific contest at their discretion.

Abstract Structure

1. Abstracts must be 300 words or LESS and must include:
 - a. Introduction/Statement of Problem
 - b. Objective
 - c. Methodology
 - d. Results and Conclusion - Must include significant findings and implications.
2. Abstracts must have one-inch margins and single spacing except between the title and authors and between the abstract paragraphs. The abstract must be submitted in Microsoft Word format.
3. Capitalize the entire title as shown on the sample abstract.
4. Type the speaker's initials and surname in capital letters. For all other authors, capitalize only the initials and the first letter of the surnames. Show the current mailing address for the speaker. Note that the author presents the paper with an asterisk (*) at the end of his/her full name. List the College/University and location following the name. Skip one line before starting the text.
5. Do not include graphs, charts, plots, tables, illustrations, or references in your abstract.
6. Enter three keywords as indicated in the sample abstract. At least one of the keywords must be taken from the title of your paper. Refer to the sample abstract in Appendix A for the proper format sample.

B. Sample Abstract

CONSUMER PERCEPTIONS AND DEMAND FOR MUSCADINE GRAPES AS TABLE FRUIT: A SUPERMARKET STUDY

L. Theodore and S. Leong, Center for Viticultural Sciences, Florida A & M University, Tallahassee, FL 32307

Among the different varieties of grapes grown in Florida, the muscadine grapes are the most popular among grape growers because of their resistance to diseases and pests. They also have a unique flavor and aroma that are not found in other kinds of grapes. Unfortunately, muscadine grapes also possess certain inherent disadvantages such as a thick skin and seeds that tend to discourage some consumers from buying them. A market study was conducted at three Winn Dixie Stores in 1995, to determine consumers' perceptions of muscadines as fresh fruit, and their willingness to purchase them at various retail prices. Three hundred and fifty-three supermarket customers were randomly selected to participate in the study. The survey revealed that about 50% of the 353 consumers surveyed had a favorable perception of the muscadine taste after eating the fruit. Thirty-eight percent of Blacks and 29% of Whites liked the taste and flavor. By gender, 51% of males and 24% of females liked the taste after eating the fruit. Consumers' willingness or likelihood to purchase muscadine grapes was determined by using a logit function to estimate likelihood probabilities with respect to sex, race, age and household size. The projected probabilities showed that there is a relatively good fresh fruit market potential for muscadine grapes in the local supermarket stores.

KEYWORDS—Muscadines, Consumer Perception, Logit Analysis

*Abstract Source: Lucinda Theodore, First Place Winner of MANRRS 1996 Graduate Research Competition, Texas A & M University, College Station, Texas

E. Impromptu Public Speaking Contest Rubric

Impromptu Public Speaking Rubric (Preliminary)

Areas of Scoring	Maximum Point Totals	Contestant Numbers														
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Knowledge of Subject	15															
Organization of Material	20															
Power of Expression	20															
Voice	15															
Stage Presence	15															
General Effect	15															
Time Deductions	Varies															
Total Possible Points	100															
Ranking 1st - 15th																

Impromptu Public Speaking Rubric (Finals)

Areas of Scoring	Maximum Point Totals	Contestant Numbers														
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Knowledge of Subject	15															
Organization of Material	20															
Power of Expression	15															
Voice	10															
Stage Presence	15															
General Effect	10															
Response to Questions	15															
Time Deductions	Varies															
Total Possible Points	100															
Ranking 1st - 15th																

F. Chapter of the Year Award Rubric

Chapter of the Year Award Rubric

Components	Points
<u>General Submission Requirements</u> (5 Points) Adheres to the maximum page limit (5 Points) Submitted in PDF format (5 Points) Follows minimum 12-point font requirement	15
<u>Annual Summary Content</u> (5 Points) Proper use of MANRRS Branding Guidelines when applicable. <i>Use of university color schemes, type sets, etc., are appropriate and will not be penalized.</i> (5 Points) Photos, graphs, or tables are legible, have descriptions, and are clear. (5 Points) Clearly defined annual outcomes/achievements (10 Points) Report is organized in clear sections or flows chronologically from January to December (10 Points) Overall formatting and design of the report (20 Points) Rich, descriptive narrative of chapter activities depicted	55
Total Points	

G. Written Essay Contest Rubrics

Written Essay Rubric

Participant:		
Written essays should be judged based on the following criteria with a 100-point scale:	Maximum Points	Points Received
Content Related to Topic Content related to the topic includes the appropriateness of the essay's content to the topic selected and the extent to which the author addressed the topic selected.	10	
Style Style includes adherence to the rules of style listed in the rules for essay preparation and submission.	10	
Opening Paragraph The opening paragraph includes how well the opening catches the attention of the reader and how it leads into the body of the essay.	10	
Organization and Logic Organization and logic include the organization of the content, unity of thought, logical development, language used, sentence structure, accomplishment of purpose/conclusions, and material related to subtopics.	30	
Clarity of Expression Clarity of expression includes the clarity and conciseness of writing; conveyance of thought and meaning; and the extent to which the essay was interesting, understandable, convincing, enjoyable, and held the reader's attention.	25	
Use of References Use of references includes the importance and appropriateness of the references, suitability of the material used, and the accuracy of the statements included.	10	
Formatting Follows formatting guidelines and remains within the page length requirements (3 - 6 pp.)	5	
Total Possible Points	100	
Contestant Rank:		
Judge's Comments:		

H. Prepared Speech Contest Rubrics

Prepared Speech Rubric

A contestant needs to score a minimum of 80 points on the initial entry to be considered for the final round. A committee will select six finalists from the pool of contestants who score more than 80 on their initial entry.	Maximum Points	Points Received
Content Related to Topic Content related to the topic includes the appropriateness of the essay's content to the topic selected and the extent to which the author addressed the topic selected.	10	
Style Style includes adhering to the rules and structure requirements listed in the guidelines. Speech is 6-8 minutes long, and the audio, screen, and sound are clear.	10	
Organization and Logic Organization and logic include the organization of the content, unity of thought, logical development, language used, sentence structure, accomplishment of purpose/conclusions, and material related to the subtopic.	20	
Clarity of Expression Clarity of expression includes the clarity and conciseness of writing; conveyance of thought and meaning; and the extent to which the essay was interesting, understandable, convincing, enjoyable, and held the reader's attention.	30	
Use of References The use of references includes the importance and appropriateness of the references, the suitability of the material used, and the accuracy of the statements included. <u>Exclusion of a reference list is grounds for disqualification.</u>	10	
Elocution The speaker is prepared and knowledgeable about the topic. Speech is eloquent, with minimal to no filler words. Eye contact is held.	20	
Response to Questions (Final Round Only) The speaker responds to the judges' questions with a clear demonstration of the topic.	15	
Total Possible Points	100 (initial round) 115 (final round)	
Contestant Rank:		
Judge's Comments:		

I. Business Pitch Contest Rubric

Business Pitch Rubric

Participant/Team: Product/Business/Non-Profit:		
	Maximum Points	Points Received
Content The business idea relates to natural resources, agriculture, or related sciences sectors	10	
Innovation Idea stands out and is innovative	10	
Mission Statement Business mission statement is clear and compelling	10	
Size of Market Opportunity/Problem Answered in specific terms (e.g. either a quantitative or qualitative clear description of whom the business is targeting)	10	
Broader Impact Business idea elaborates not just on what the problem is, but how this new business will address that problem through its products or services	10	
Time Deductions One point will be deducted per second over the time limit.	N/A	
Total Possible Points	50	
Judge's Comments:		

J. Three-Minute Thesis Contest Rubric

Three-Minute Thesis (3MT ®) Rubric

Participant:		
Written abstracts and presentations should be judged based on the following criteria:	Maximum Points	Points Received
<u>Presentation of Research</u> Introduction (abstract score) Hypotheses/Aim (abstract score) Research Method (abstract score) Results (abstract score) Discussion and Conclusion (abstract score)	10 10 10 10 10	
<u>Visual Attractiveness, Organization, & Mechanics</u> Content clear and error-free (abstract score) Graphics and & visuals	10 10	
<u>Elocution</u> Speaker preparation and eloquence Eye contact Knowledge	10 5 5	
<u>Handling of Questions</u> Presenter demonstrates knowledge and ease in providing responses	10	
Total Possible Points	60 (Abstract) 100 (Presentation)	
Contestant Rank:		
Judge's Comments:		

K. Oral Research Presentation Contest Rubrics

Oral Research Rubric - Written Abstract

Written abstracts should be judged based on the following criteria with a total of 50 points.	Maximum Points	Points Received
Mechanics The abstract is readable and contains proper spelling, grammar, complete sentences, syntax, and diction. Formatting guidelines were followed.	10	
Introduction The abstract briefly states the subject of the investigation purpose of the project, and its context.	10	
Methods The abstract briefly states the subject of the investigation purpose of the project, and its context.	10	
Results The abstract briefly states the subject of the investigation purpose of the project, and its context.	10	
Conclusion The abstract briefly states the subject of the investigation purpose of the project, and its context.	10	
Total Possible Points	50	
Judge's Comments: 		

Oral Research Rubric - Presentation

Category	Description	Points
Research	Overall, the problem, goal/ hypothesis, methods, results, and conclusions are very clear; the main points are thoroughly and concisely presented. The introduction/background gives a very clear perspective of the problem. The hypotheses/aims are very clearly stated and highly relevant to the problem. Research methods are very appropriate for testing the hypothesis and are clearly described; statistical methods/analysis are used and clearly described. The results are clear and very relevant to the aim of the study. Discussion of results is clear, concise, and correct. A clear understanding of limitations and future research needs. Discussion and Conclusion are very related to the aim and results. Does an excellent job putting the results in the context of the problem.	10
Presentation	The slides are visually appealing and not cluttered. Colors and patterns enhance readability. The content is arranged in a logical sequence, allowing the viewer to follow the order without narration. Font sizes and variations are consistent and support readability. Graphics, such as tables and figures, are readable, clearly labeled, and engaging. Graphics significantly enhance the text. There are no typos, spelling, or grammar mistakes.	10
Delivery	Overall delivery (posture, gesture, eye contact, and vocal expressiveness) makes the presentation compelling. The speaker appears prepared, polished, and confident and uses a clear voice, correct pronunciations, and appropriate terminology. Maintains eye contact- with no dependence on notes.	20
Handling of Questions	The presenter is at ease with all questions and provides clarity through responses.	10
Time Penalties: Presentations are limited to 8 minutes. 5 points will be deducted for exceeding the time limit. After 8 minutes and 30 seconds have passed, an additional 2 points will be deducted for every 30 seconds.		

L. Research Review Contest Rubrics

Research Review Rubric - Essay

Participant:		
Written Presentation: Preliminary judges will score essays and select 5-7 semifinalists to compete in the annual training conference and career expo.	Maximum Points	Points Received
Content Related to Topic Content related to the topic includes the appropriateness of the essay's content to the topic selected and the extent to which the author addressed the topic selected.	30	
Opening Paragraph The opening paragraph includes how well the opening catches the attention of the reader and how it leads into the body of the essay.	15	
Organization and Logic Organization and logic include the organization of the content, unity of thought, logical development, language used, sentence structure, accomplishment of purpose/ conclusions, and material related to subtopics.	30	
Clarity of Expression Clarity of expression includes the clarity and conciseness of writing; conveyance of thought and meaning; and the extent to which the essay was interesting, understandable, convincing, enjoyable, and held the reader's attention.	10	
Closing Paragraph Closing paragraph includes how well the closing summarizes the writer's information and how it ties the content of the essay together.	15	
Total Possible Points	100	
Contestant Rank:		
Judge's Comments:		

Research Review Rubric - Discussion

Participant:		
	Maximum Points	Points Received
Definitions - How well did the participant know or can relate to the topic?	10	
Analysis of topic or subject - Was the participant able to identify issues, raise factual points, and stay on track? Did they accurately interpret the material or data presented?	15	
Presentations of research material and identification of issues - Was the participant able to present and discuss material in the discussion logically and move the discussion forward to increase understanding by others?	15	
Delivery -Was voice quality, projection, enunciation, interaction, desirable sentence structure, and vocabulary adequate?	15	
Cooperative attitude -Was the participant listening, asking pertinent questions, airing all points of view, summarizing, minimizing major differences, and showing respect for others?	15	
Total effectiveness (general evaluation) -Was there an overall contribution to the discussion by the participant?	15	
Quality of responses to questions from the audience and/or judges -Was there demonstrated knowledge, relevance, confidence, and interactive ability?	15	
Total Possible Points	100	
Contestant Rank:		
Judge's Comments:		

M. Research Poster Symposium Rubrics

Research Poster Rubric - Written Abstract

Contestant: Division:		
Written abstracts should be judged based on the following criteria with a total of 50 points.	Maximum Points	Points Received
Mechanics The abstract is readable and contains proper spelling, grammar, complete sentences, syntax, and diction. Formatting guidelines were followed.	10	
Introduction The abstract briefly states the subject of the investigation purpose of the project, and its context.	10	
Methods The abstract briefly states the subject of the investigation purpose of the project, and its context.	10	
Results The abstract briefly states the subject of the investigation purpose of the project, and its context.	10	
Conclusion The abstract briefly states the subject of the investigation purpose of the project, and its context.	10	
Total Possible Points	50	
Judge's Comments: 		

Research Poster Rubric - Poster Presentation

Contestant: Division:		
Poster presentations should be judged based on the following criteria:	Maximum Points	Points Received
<u>Presentation of Research</u> Introduction Hypotheses/Aim Research Method Results Discussion and Conclusion	10 10 10 10 10	
<u>Visual Attractiveness, Organization, & Mechanics</u> Poster Visuals and Graphics Content Clarity, Technical Writing, and Grammar	10 10	
<u>Elocution</u> Speaker Preparation and Eloquence Eye Contact, Posture, and Body Language	10 10	
<u>Handling of Questions</u> Presenter demonstrates knowledge and ease in providing responses	10	
Total Possible Points	100	
Judge's Comments:		