MUM Senior Project Honors Competition 2018
Dates and General Guidelines

The MUM Senior Project Honors Competition (formerly known as the Knowledge Fair) is a celebration of the Senior Projects that undergraduate students have completed in their majors.

**Purpose:** The purposes of the Senior Project Honors Competition are multiple, including to:

- Bring the undergraduate student body and faculty together to share an inspiring academic experience, modeled on the structure of an academic conference
- Demonstrate the value of the MUM undergraduate curriculum, including the unifying value of integrating the Science and Technology of Consciousness into the academic disciplines
- Demonstrate the growth of knowledge and skills that allowed the presenter to do the research and answer the selected research question
- Give continuing students a vision of the goal and inspire them to do interesting, challenging Senior Projects that they will want to share with the student body
- Demonstrate presentation skills

**Dates:** The Senior Project Honors Competition involves three events:

- **Saturday afternoon, June 16:** Presenters present to the judges and their advising faculty between 1:00 and 4:00 pm.
- **Sunday afternoon, June 17:** Presenters receive coaching on their presentation and delivery skills from 1:00 to 4:00 pm.
- **Thursday afternoon, June 21:** Presenters present to the undergraduate student body and their faculty from 1:00 to 3:00 pm, followed by a reception.

**Location:** All events are in Dalby Hall, in the Argiro Student Center, MUM campus, Fairfield, Iowa

**Audience:** The audience for the Senior Project Honors Competition consists of:

- Peers (undergraduate students)
- Faculty
- MUM Trustees
- Outside judges (who are neither current students, MUM faculty, nor Trustees)

**Task:** The presenters synthesize their Senior Projects in concise oral presentations for a diverse audience who may or may not be familiar with issues in the discipline.

**Format:** One student from each department presents his or her Senior Project:

- In a 6– to 7-minute live, oral presentation with visual supporting material to the judges on Saturday afternoon, followed by 5-8 minutes of questions and answers to questions posed by the judges, and
- In a 6– to 7-minute live, oral presentation with visual supporting material to the assembled audience on Thursday afternoon, followed by 2 minutes of questions and answers to questions from the audience.
At both events, the presentations will be introduced briefly by the emcee and timed by a timekeeper. The final presentations will be video-recorded, and with the permission of the speaker, some of the presentations may be posted on YouTube.

**Awards:** The University and the Student Government provide award(s), as follows:

1. **University Awards.** As in the past, the University provides three cash awards: first place ($300), second place ($200) and third place ($100). Criteria for these awards are described on the 2018 Evaluation Criteria. Judging for these three awards is conducted by three outside evaluators. The winners receive their awards at the Commencement Awards Ceremony on Friday evening.

2. **Student Award(s).** Student Government presents awards based on criteria that Student Government develops. They announce these awards on Thursday afternoon, at the end of Senior Project Honors Competition.

**Resources**

Sample Senior Project Honors Competition presentations are posted on YouTube. Search for “MUM Senior Project Honors Competition.”

Many books on presentations skills are available in the MUM Library, such as:

- Gallo, C. *Talk like TED: The 9 public speaking secrets of the world’s top minds.* Call number: HF5718.22.G353 2015
- L. Wilder. *Seven steps to fearless speaking.* Call number: PN4121 .W3865 19993.
- T. J. Koegel. *The exceptional presenter: a proven formula to open up and own the room.* Call number: HF5718.22.K64 2007

Please address all questions about the Senior Project Honors Competition to Jane Schmidt-Wilk, Dean of Teaching and Learning: jschmidt@mum.edu