Maurice Prize Competition

Letter of Intent

Due by 5:00 p.m. on Friday, January 29, 2016

Purpose

The Maurice Prize Competition is intended to foster innovation, creativity, originality, ingenuity and resourcefulness among undergraduate students at the University of Illinois at Chicago. This is an annual competition with an annual prize of $5000 for which all undergraduates at UIC are eligible to compete. $5,000 is the total award, if a team is selected as the winner, the total award will be divided equally. The award must be reported to the Office of Student Financial Aid and is taxable income to the recipient(s).

The Maurice Prize is offered in the belief that the education students receive derives benefit when students undertake projects of their own choosing and in doing so: apply knowledge, tap ingenuity, identify valuable resources, and exercise the ability to work with others. The Maurice Prize Evaluation Committee will award the Maurice Prize annually to the participating individual or team deemed to have done the most outstanding work on a project.

Eligibility

Individual students or teams of two or more students shall be eligible to compete for the Maurice Prize. Although they may collaborate with individuals or teams from other institutions the Maurice Prize may be awarded only to UIC students.

Faculty and staff may participate only as resources for the students.

Projects must be of the participants’ own choosing and may include any endeavors or activities in which the participants are interested.

Projects entered into the competition, while they may be related to the participants’ studies, shall be extra-curricular and shall not be subject to direction and/or evaluation for credit towards fulfillment of degree requirements. This structure applies to independent studies as well as to formal classes. No class projects or papers are eligible to win this prize.

Individuals and teams may enter the competition more than once if what they learned during an earlier competition lets them develop their projects further. Once a student has won the Maurice Prize, however, he or she shall not be eligible to enter the competition again.
Deliverable

A formal analysis of the Maurice Prize Project must be submitted to the Evaluation Committee by **5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, April 13, 2016**. The analysis can be submitted via email to bcuz@uic.edu or a hard copy can be delivered to the Student Recreation Facility, 737 South Halsted Street, Room 114.

The formal analysis shall be a descriptive analysis of the project an individual or team undertook and what the individual or team accomplished with it. The formal analysis shall be delivered in whatever form is most appropriate to the nature of the project. Acceptable forms shall include, but shall not be limited to text, graphics and representations of studio and performing arts, in the form of reports, or on posters, CDs or DVDs.

The formal analysis shall include a descriptive analysis of the follow elements:

- The purposes and goals of the project
- The participants – why they were included, what role they played, what contribution they made, and what they learned from the project
- The degree to which the purposes and goals of the project were met
- Successes and disappointments – the factors that led to success or failure
- Recommendations for future endeavors in the area of the project or in similar areas

Evaluation

In evaluating the Maurice Prize projects and selecting the finalists and winning participant(s), the committee shall use the following criteria:

- Importance and / or originality of the project
- Innovativeness of the design and execution of the project
- Depth of the learning experience the project gave to the participant(s)
- Impact of the project on the UIC community and/or on external communities
- Quality, clarity, and if called for, ingenuity of the formal analysis
- Quality, clarity, and if called for, ingenuity of the presentation of the formal analysis

Intent to Participate

Please provide an abstract describing the project you intend to complete for the Maurice Prize Competition. This abstract should be less than 500 words and can be typed on a separate sheet. This application to participate is due by **5:00 p.m. on Friday, January 29, 2016**.
Participant Information:

*Student 1:*

Last Name ___________________________ First Name ___________________________ MI ______

_________________________________________ ______________________________________
UIN Email Address

_________________________________________ ______________________________________
Cell Phone Number Major/College

_________________________________________
Class

*Student 2:*

Last Name ___________________________ First Name ___________________________ MI ______

_________________________________________ ______________________________________
UIN Email Address

_________________________________________ ______________________________________
Cell Phone Number Major/College

_________________________________________
Class

* Feel free to provide additional team members’ information on a separate sheet.

Return Letter of Intent to:

Mr. Brian Cousins  
Chairman, Maurice Prize Competition Evaluation Committee  
Director of Campus Recreation  
Student Recreation Facility  
737 South Halsted Street, Room 114 (MC 127)  
Chicago, IL 60607  
(312)413-5262  
bcuz@uic.edu