ORAL COMPETITION RULES & GUIDELINES
A VIRTUAL UNDERGRADUATE COMPETITION AT THE
ASME E-FEST DIGITAL 2022

SPECIAL NOTICE: ATTENTION E-FESTERS!
Please read this important announcement about ASME E-Fests® in 2022

ASME E-Fest Digital (March 25-26, 2022) and affiliated competitions will NOT be held in-person. They will continue to be virtual for academic year ‘21-’22.

ASME will be hosting a series of year-long digital events including a E-Fest Careers 2021 (November 13), competition “how to” webinars and much more. Please visit http://efests.asme.org for more details.

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Section A Description of the Competition

Like all professionals, engineers must possess a well-developed ability to synthesize issues and communicate effectively to diverse audiences. Among the highlights of the ASME Engineering Festivals® (or E-Fest) is the Old Guard Oral Competition for undergraduate students. This competition is designed to emphasize the value of an ability to deliver clear, concise, and effective oral presentations, particularly pertaining to some sphere in which an engineer is or should be involved. The competition’s sponsor, the ASME Old Guard Committee, offers prize money to competition winners.

Section B Information for Student Entries

ADVANCE registration is required to guarantee a presentation slot during the E-Fest Digital sessions. A maximum of seventy entries will be accepted for judging, with no more than three from the same university. First come, first serve in both cases.

B-1 Eligibility and Requirements

To be eligible to participate in the Oral Competition, each contestant must currently be a student who:

- Has not yet received a bachelor’s degree in Engineering,
- Is an ASME Student Member in good standing, and
- Must submit your title and a 300 - 400 word abstract by February 16, 2022

B-2 The Presentation

Each student presentation is to last no more than fifteen minutes.

Each presentation in the Oral Competition must be delivered in English. The subject matter of each presentation must address a technical, economic, or environmental aspect of engineering or other basic engineering theme, provided it pertains to some sphere in which an engineer is or should be involved. A major portion of a contestant’s total score is based on the judges’ evaluation of his or her capability to communicate orally.

A competitor may utilize any available resource but must realize that the presentation is to be an individual effort. Assistance in the use of visual aids is advisable (PowerPoint, models, etc.). Video clips, if used, may not exceed one-minute total duration (i.e., a maximum of one minute for each student presentation may be used for embedded video, but be aware that embedded video clips may not play well in ZOOM. Use of video clips in the presentation is entirely at the presenter’s risk). Video clips may not be accompanied by any recorded sound, although explanations may be provided by the presenter as the video is being played. Good practice and courtesy suggest credit be given during the presentation for any outside help related to the reported project. A written paper or manuscript is not required.
Students planning to compete are encouraged to review the JUDGING instructions detailed below in Section C – Information for Judges.

**B-3 Competition Entry**

**Advance registration for the Oral Competition is required. This is separate from and in addition to the E-Fest registration. The deadline to register for the Oral Competition is March 15, 2022.** A maximum of only 70 entries, with no more than three from the same university, will be accepted. Your spot in the virtual competition will not be considered until you complete your advance registration. Be sure to complete all information requested when registering. Incomplete registrations will not be accepted. If more than 70 individuals or more than three from the same university register, then only the first 70 registrants consisting of no more than three from the same university, will be accepted to compete. You may only compete in one E-Fest Oral Competition in a given year.

You will be notified if your registration is not accepted for any reason. You are committing to participate by completing the registration process and submitting an abstract. Your speech title and abstract are required for registration.

E-Fest Oral Competition for undergraduate students will be held virtually (via ZOOM) during 2022 E-Fest. The presentation schedule will be published as soon as it is developed. Students who register but do not present risk having their school excluded from the 2023 E-Fest Oral Competition.

**B-4 Conduct of the Contest**

Each presentation in the Oral Competition shall be made by one contestant. Any questions regarding procedure shall be resolved by ASME staff or the Old Guard Committee before E-Fest Digital (send your questions in advance to efests@asme.org).

Depending on the number of presentations the ASME Old Guard committee will determine the number of separate judging sessions to be held. Presentations will be live via ZOOM. Each student will be notified of the date and time for their presentation, and the ZOOM link to be used. Presenters may invite fellow students, professors, and others to attend their presentation, but not to participate in any question-and-answer session following their presentation.

**JUDGING WILL BE BASED UPON THE FOLLOWING:**

**B-5 Content**

- To what extent is the subject of interest to a technical audience?
- Is credit given for source of material or contribution by others?
- How much knowledge of subject was exhibited?
- Is work independent and original?
- Is the subject technical or general in nature?

**B-6 Organization**
• Is there any novel approach to the subject?
• Is there sufficient background information provided to introduce the audience to the subject?
• Are the facts developed in logical and continuous sequence?
• Is there a definite conclusion, and is it adequately based on the facts or data presented?

**B-7 Delivery and Effectiveness**

The effectiveness of each presentation is subject to the following and other pertinent questions.
• Are the words distinctly pronounced with a speed appropriate for the cultural makeup of the audience and judges and was proper volume used to be heard by all?
• Is proper English used, and is the vocabulary sufficient?
• Is personal appearance appropriate?
• Are there any distracting mannerisms?
• Is the manner of delivery (conversation, memorized, read from manuscript) satisfactory?
• If visual aids are used, how effectively are they used?
• Is the presentation within the time limit of 15 minutes allowed?

**Section C = Information for Judges**

**C-1 Judging and Scoring Criteria**

Each competition session is to be judged by the same Judging Team throughout, preferably three judges, but a minimum of two ASME members of mature judgment, who are selected along with one or two alternates.

The Presentations will be judged in four categories Content, Organization, Delivery and Effectiveness as given in B-5, B-6 and B-7 above. See hotlink below for the Judging Sheet to be used.

Judges are to use the Scoring Sheet as the basis for judging the E-Fest Digital. The Scoring Sheet has been developed for the convenience of the judges in evaluating the presentation in competition. Scoring Sheet samples will be sent to the judges for familiarity ahead of the contest. Completed Scoring Sheets are not to be given to the presenters. Judges must agree to serve through the entire contest, be it one or two days.

**Section D = Prize Money available for E-Fest Digital 2022**

Judges will select First, Second and Third Place winners for each presentation session based on the criteria specified in the competition score sheet. An additional award is available for "Best Technical Content."

**D-1 E-Fest Digital Awards – Applicable for 2022 & Certificates**

- First $750.00
- Second $400.00
- Third $200.00
- Technical $100.00

D-2 Winner Announcement

Announcement of the winner placement will be made at the E-Fest Digital Awards Ceremony on Saturday, March 26, 2022 (exact time will be announced on the E-Fest Digital website - visit https://efests.asme.org/ for more information). Judges shall not release winner placement early. The winners might also be recognized and featured at Society events and in various ASME publications and web sites.

Section E = Prize Money available at IMECE the Final Competition

E-1 2022 ASME IMECE

The FIRST-place winners from the E-Fest Digital competition session will be invited to participate in the IMECE finals of the Oral Competition. The SECOND-place winners MAY be invited on a space available basis determined later by the Old Guard Committee.

Finals take place at the ASME IMECE in November 2022. Except for the timekeeper's actions, the rules for the IMECE competition finals will be very similar to the virtual E-Fest competition. It is not known at this time whether the 2022 finals will be live or virtual.

E-2 Presentation Requirements

No substantial changes from the presentation given at the E-Fest Digital may be made for the finals at IMECE. Any substantial change of title or major revision of the presentation given at the E-Fest Digital will result in disqualification and may result in loss of travel reimbursement to attend a live, in-person final at IMECE (No travel reimbursement will be available if the finals are held virtually).

LIVE PRESENTATIONS

In the case of a live presentation, as in the virtual presentation, each student presentation is to last no more than fifteen minutes. In addition, there will be five (5) minutes for Q&A immediately thereafter. Any time remaining from the fifteen minutes will be added to the five-minute Q&A discussion. A five-minute transition time between presentations is recommended. Questions may be asked by any attendee of the competition except those from the competitor’s own educational institution. Each person posing a question to a speaker must stand, identify himself/herself and school, and then proceed with the question.

TIMEKEEPER: In a live presentation, in addition to the judges there will be a timekeeper. The timekeeper will be clearly visible to the speaker throughout the presentation. At the end of twelve minutes, the timekeeper will signal to the speaker that there are three minutes remaining.

At the end of fourteen minutes, the timekeeper will signal to the speaker that there is one-minute remaining.
At the end of fifteen minutes, timekeeper will signal for the speaker to conclude the presentation. The timekeeper will signal at the end of five minutes to terminate the discussion period. The speaker should promptly complete response to the current question and close their presentation.

**E-3 Judging**

The final competition at IMECE is judged by a panel of three volunteers from within the ASME community, based on the same scoring worksheet criteria as the E-Fest events. The winners are also recognized at Society events and featured in various ASME publications and web sites.

**E-4 Competition Finals at ASME IMECE in November 2022**

Society Awards (Finals at IMECE)
- First $2,000.00
- Second $1,500.00
- Third $1,000.00
- Fourth $500.00 (only when there are at least eight contestants)
- Innovation $250.00

**E-5 Travel support from the Old Guard**

When applicable and when ASME in-person travel resumes, travel expenses for attending the final competition will be covered using standard ASME travel reimbursement rules covered by Society Policy P-4.5. A copy of the travel reimbursement expense form may be downloaded from the ASME web site. Reimbursements are limited to a maximum of $1000.00 for winners from North America (Canada, Mexico, or United States), and limited to a maximum of $1500.00 (US$) for winners from outside of North America. The winner is responsible for any expenses above these maximum amounts.

Adopted by the Old Guard Committee
July, 2021