Event Information

**Date:** Saturday, March 28, 2015  
**Location:** University of California, Irvine

All HTCC Research Conference activities will take place in Conference Center which is part of the Student Center Building (number 113) located across Pereira Drive. There will also be signs to lead participants from the parking area to the Conference. All participants will park the Student Center parking structure (fee of $10 per vehicle).

**Methods of Participation:**
- Research Poster
- Individual Presentation – 12 minute presentation followed by 5 minute discussion
- Small Group Presentation – 20 minute presentation followed by 10 minute discussion
- Large Group Presentation – 40 minute presentation followed by 10 minute discussion
- Performance – Student created art, music, creative writing, drama, dance performance that incorporates an explicit research component

**Who Should Participate?**
Any Honors Program accepted student who wishes to enrich their education, possibly win monetary awards, or strengthen a transfer application should participate. Topics for research can include any subject within the humanities, sciences, arts, social sciences and pre-professional programs. If it can be thoroughly researched, you can present it.

**Timeline:**
- November-December 2014: work with a faculty mentor and the honors director to prepare a proposal for research. Also, contact the honors program director for any deadlines in research preparation.
- Late January 2015: notifications of acceptances will be received.
- March 1: moderator applications are due for any students who wish to help run the conference.

**Day of Timeline:** March 28, 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:30-9:15 AM</td>
<td>Registration, Breakfast, &amp; Posters</td>
<td>Pacific Ballroom</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:15-10:00 AM</td>
<td>Conference Plenary Session</td>
<td>Pacific Ballroom</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:15-11:30 AM</td>
<td>Session 1: Concurrent Presentation</td>
<td>Student Center</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:45-1:00 PM</td>
<td>Session 2: Concurrent Presentation</td>
<td>Student Center</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:00-2:00 PM</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
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<tr>
<td>2:15-3:30 PM</td>
<td>Session 3: Concurrent Presentation</td>
<td>Student Center</td>
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<tr>
<td>3:45-4:30 PM</td>
<td>Awards &amp; Grand Finale</td>
<td>Pacific Ballroom</td>
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*Schedule is tentative*
Abstracts

What is an Abstract?
Abstracts are summaries communicating the central ideas of an argument or project. Abstracts give the audience a short preview of your research.

Requirements
To apply for the conference, students are required to submit two abstracts. The first is a 25 word proposal description. The second is a 250 word summary called a proposal abstract. There are also two optional abstracts you can submit. The abstracts listed below do not have to be completely different abstracts. They can be adaptations and revisions of each other.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Mandatory Abstract</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Submission time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>25 Word Description</td>
<td>Part of application. Appears in conference program.</td>
<td>After Nov 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>250 Word Proposal Abstract</td>
<td>Part of application. Used by committee to determine if you can present at the conference.</td>
<td>After Nov 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Optional</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>400 Word Award Abstract</td>
<td>The awards abstract. These abstracts are the basis for the awarding of honors and grants, not your actual presentation.</td>
<td>Jan-Feb</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>250 Word Publication</td>
<td>Abstract to be published in the post-conference booklet if selected.</td>
<td>After Conference</td>
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Format:
Use MLA formatting, 12 size Times New Roman font and ragged (not justified) margins. Abstracts of 250 words or more should have multiple paragraphs that show a logical progression. The 250 word proposal and 400 word award abstracts should be single-spaced. The publication abstract should be double spaced. You should do your best to adhere to the word counts, but a couple of words over or under are acceptable.

Content:
Proofread very carefully and multiple times. Be concise, clear, and check the accuracy of any claims or evidence. Titles are not included in word counts. Make your title informative and original. Pick one title for all versions of your abstract.

- 25 Word Description-concise single sentence or fragment that articulates the thesis or purpose of the presentation. Make this intriguing as well as informative. This proposal should draw attendees to look at your poster or hear your presentation. If you already have finished your research, then attempt to assert your findings. Otherwise, allude to a conclusion that will be presented once the research is done.

- Proposal and Award- Begin with an intriguing sentence to introduce your topic (may be the same as the 25 word description). Clearly articulate the thesis or reason for the research. Provide the background and context of your research. Explain your research methodology and types of supporting evidence. Highlight any specific key evidence with citations. Explain the significance of your work. Include a relevant and catchy epigraph. Make your concluding sentence emphatic and thoughtful.
Content Continued:
Consider your audience and write in a way that a broad audience can easily read your abstract. Try not to use overly complex language or terminology that only people from your area of research will understand.

Documentation:
Include a works cited list with your abstract. Works cited are not counted toward the word requirement. Again, use MLA formatting. Make sure any works that you cite in your abstract are properly annotated in the body of the abstract. Use good quality academic resources. You should not use Wikipedia as a cited source. If you use Wikipedia it should be to find any sources you could investigate that Wikipedia cites in an article pertaining to your research.

Evaluation Criteria:
The following will be considered in judging abstracts:

- Quality of critical thinking
- Originality of topic, argument, or approach
- Clarity, logical organization, and cogency of argument
- Quality, relevance, and specificity of research
- Quality and appropriateness of style
- Grammatical correctness
- Correctness of MLA documentation
HTCC Student Research Conference

Presentations

**Research Poster:**
Posters are presented all together in the Pacific Ballroom. This is similar to a science fair format where presenters are present next to their poster to explain their work to anyone who is interested. Guests will be walking around the room to look at various presentations. This is a good choice for researchers who absolutely do not feel comfortable giving a presentation in front of a watching audience. The quality of the work is not more relaxed than an oral presentation, but it can be less stressful to present in this way.

**Individual Oral:**
This is a 12 minute presentation where you will present your research and findings to an audience. Other presenters will be set up in the same room as you and each of you will take a turn giving your presentations. Each presentation will be followed by 5 minutes of question and answer period.

**Small Group Oral:**
This is a similar concept to the individual oral. This is a 20 minute presentation given by two presenters, followed by 10 minutes of question and answer period.

**Large Group Oral:**
This presentation format includes three or more presenters. There is a 40 minute presentation period followed by a 10 minute question and answer period.

**Performance:**
This includes student created art, music, creative writing, drama, or dance performance that incorporates an explicit research component.

**Important Notes:**
Students may present a maximum of one individual presentation or performance AND one group presentation or performance AND one poster presentation. No two presentations may be on the same topic. Computers will be available and you will have internet access on the day of the conference. You are encouraged to use PowerPoint ONLY if you creatively exploit its visual potential in a manner that enhances your presentation. Consult with your mentor and Honors Program coordinator about what will work best for your presentation.
Presentation Tips

**Attire:**
Participants should be dressed in “business casual” (i.e. button-up shirt, tie, slacks, nice blouse & skirt/dress). Your appearance is going to be your first impression you give others. No jeans and no hats.

**Scouting:**
Arrive early to locate your room and get a feel for the setup. Check any equipment you will use for visual/presentation aids. Have backups ready.

**Introduction:**
Be sure to inform your audience of your name and which school you attend. You may also provide any information about yourself that you feel would be appropriate for your audience to know. Introduce your research. Discuss what subject was researched, what method of research was used, and why it was of interest. Use your best judgment and keep your introduction to around one minute.

**Timing:**
Make sure you rehearse your presentation and get the timing down. The moderator will inform you by way of signs when you are approaching your time limit and will also signal if you are over your time limit. REHEARSE!!! If you go over your time it will cut into another presenter’s time. Be courteous and afford others the same opportunities you would hope to receive.

**Courtesy:**
Turn off your cellphone for presentations. Once again, turn off your cellphone. Do not be the one whose cellphone starts playing Taylor Swift’s most recent hit in the middle of someone else’s presentation or your own presentation for that matter. Also, try to keep small noises and movement to a minimum while other presentations are going on. The name of the game is to try and be the cause of as little distraction as possible so that other presenters can focus on presenting.

**Handouts/Aids:**
Never read to your audience. Know the material and use any cue cards or PowerPoint presentations to add depth to what you already know. Make sure that visuals include bullet points rather than long text. If you are using an electronic aid, make sure that it is cross compatible on either PC or Mac computers. Check it on several computers to be sure that you have a reliable backup. Find a way to be prepared to continue even if none of your media works.

**Content:**
It is better to cover two or three points at great length than it is to cover 10 or 12 points quickly. Make sure that you structure your presentation to showcase your deep understanding of a few main points.