

The University of Saskatchewan Undergraduate Research Journal Best Paper Prize

Terms of Reference

Purpose:	To recognize top-quality undergraduate research published by USURJ, showcase undergraduate accomplishments, and contribute to a culture of research across years and disciplines of study.
Source and Amount of Funding:	Undergraduate Research Funding from the Office of the Vice President, Research, at \$400 total.
Tenability:	This fiscal year only, and thereafter at the discretion of the sponsor, the Undergraduate Research Initiative.
Designation and Composition of the Awards Committee:	Three faculty judges from diverse disciplinary backgrounds (including the journal's librarian faculty advisor), and a graduate student will adjudicate. These faculty judges and graduate student will sit on the Committee on an ad hoc basis. The committee will be appointed by the editors-in-chief and the staff advisor.
Number and Value of the Award:	Two annual awards of \$200.
Eligibility Restrictions:	Open to current U of S students who have published an article in USURJ in the regular session before April 30th each academic year. If the paper was co-authored, the primary author as listed on the publication agreement will receive the financial portion of the award, but the award recognition will be assignable to all authors.
Selection Criteria:	Awards will go to students whose papers are judged by the Awards Committee to be the best published in USURJ within the timeframe outlined in the Eligibility Restrictions. Papers will be shortlisted by the journal's editors using the Selection Criteria Rubric. The Awards Committee will be guided by the same rubric to determine the winning papers.

Selection Criteria Rubric

Criteria	Score (0-10)	Weight	Total Score
Quality/Impact of Analysis <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Originality of argument or analysis; or contribution to knowledge and/or impact• Coherent structure		50	
Quality of Writing <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Quality of writing style in terms of precision, clarity, readability, and organization of the paper.		30	
Positioning <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Clear articulation of the place and/or significance of the paper in existing literature.		20	