

**AL-MS APA Student Planning Competition October 7-9, 2015**

**Poster Submission Instructions/Requirements:**

- 1) Students may enter school-related projects or independent study work, including work performed by a team of students, consistent with the requirements and criteria herein.
- 2) Participants must be currently enrolled in planning or a related field from a school of higher education in the State of Alabama.
- 3) Participants must register their projects for submission no later than September 25, 2015. Register by emailing your name(s), school, brief project description or abstract (max. 400 words).

**Alabama Students**, please email your project to: [charlene.lebleu@gmail.com](mailto:charlene.lebleu@gmail.com)

**Mississippi students**, please email your project to: [joan.m.wesley@jsums.edu](mailto:joan.m.wesley@jsums.edu)

Please place **"Student Poster Session"** in the Subject line.

- 4) 1 presentation board with combination of written and graphic materials (max. size – 36"x48")
- 5) 1 page project summary/abstract that includes project purpose, planning methodology and findings/recommendations
- 6) The competition will include a juried Student Poster Session. Participants must be present to discuss their posters with attendees at the designated time during the Conference.

**Poster Review Criteria.** Entries will be reviewed according to the following:

**Comprehensiveness.....20**

- 1) Analysis and evaluation of the topic or site is comprehensive.
- 2) Project findings are comprehensive, addressing the many variables necessary to be effective.

**Analysis and Evaluation.....20**

- 1) Research materials are relevant to the project, up-to-date and have been properly evaluated.
- 2) Analysis of physical and/or socioeconomic conditions, demographic or growth trends, etc. is relevant and has been properly evaluated
- 3) Evaluation of research and analysis materials is thorough and supports project findings.

**Quality of Communication .....20**

- 1) Written and graphic materials communicate the project and its findings clearly and effectively.
- 2) Written materials are free of errors and are otherwise of high quality.
- 3) Graphic materials are legible, attractive and consistent with accepted graphic standards for planning.

**Best Planning Practices.....20**

- 1) The project methodology and findings are consistent with best planning practices as promoted by the American Planning Association.

**Application of Findings.....20**

- 1) The project recommends *effective* and *sustainable* solutions or improvements.
- 2) The project proposes a feasible strategy for applying findings/implementing plan recommendations.
- 3) The project describes how its recommendations may be applied in other locations or circumstances.

**Award. Cash prizes!**