



Georgia Junior Science & Humanities Symposium

February 22 - 24, 2015

Contact Information

Office of Academic Special Programs

The University of Georgia

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JSHS Judging

Page 1 of 2

THE JUDGING PROCESS

At the Georgia Junior Science & Humanities Symposium (GJSHS), the first round of judging will occur when the students' written reports are reviewed by a scientist or expert in the field. Resulting from this review, selected students are invited to orally deliver their research at GJSHS February 22 - 24, 2015. Selected presentations will represent the finest efforts of high school students in the state or region toward either original laboratory research, field research, or applied research. Judging of the oral presentations on Monday, February 23 will be used to select approximately 12 students for the run-off on Tuesday, February 24. The selection of the student delegates who will advance to the National JSHS will be chosen from the 12 finalists.

At the National Junior Science & Humanities Symposium, student research presentations will be organized in concurrent sessions by discipline. Military-sponsored scholarships and other awards will be made to 1st place finalists and runner-up finalists from each of six final sessions. Each of the 1st place finalists will be invited to participate in the London International Youth Science Forum.

In the evaluation of the presentations, judges should keep in mind that a key element of JSHS is the intellectual development of the individual student as an experimenter and researcher. The student presentation should clearly demonstrate in its quality and content that it is an appropriate example for the major objectives of the U.S. Army, Navy, and Air Force Research Offices' National Junior Science and Humanities Symposium.

JUDGING CRITERIA

Regional and national judges evaluate the oral presentations using the below criteria. National judges will use a total score of 30 points for each of the six criteria with each criteria weighted on a scale from 1 to 5. The scores are tallied for each presenter and used as the basis for discussion among judging team members where each criterion is considered.

- Statement and identification of research problem
- Scientific or engineering thought; creativity and originality
- Research or engineering design, procedures, results
- Discussion/conclusions
- Skill in communicating the research results ; oral presentation and written reports
- Acknowledgement of sources and major assistance received

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Page 2 of 2

THE GJSHS JUDGING TEAM

The GJSHS Judging Team includes individuals who 1) hold either a Ph.D. or have equivalent experience, or 2) are actively engaged in research. Judges will have experience in the general fields of research that are represented by the GJSHS student presenters. Specialized experience in each student's field of research at the GJSHS may not be represented by each and every one of the judges. Therefore, student presenters are reminded of their responsibility to communicate their results so that they may be understood by both the non-specialized audience and by the judges. Judges are also selected for their interest in encouraging the students and in the future development in the science, engineering, or mathematics fields.

The judges review the GJSHS student presentations as follows:

- All of the written reports (e.g. abstract and paper) are read. The paper is used as supporting documentation during the judging process.
- Oral presentations are evaluated by each member of the assigned session judging team.
- The questioning period which follows the oral presentations aids judges by clarifying the student's depth of understanding, the amount of work and level of effort the student put in to the project, and the individual contributions to the research problem.
- Following the sessions, the individual session judging teams meet and deliberate to select finalists from each session.
- Judges utilize the "National JSHS Judges Score Sheet" as a tool and consider the weight of each factor during their deliberations.

The GJSHS Office, Academy of Applied Science, and the Judging Panel recognize the enormous effort that students undertake in conducting their research. Therefore, our objective is to ensure an equitable competition by selecting qualified judges and by communicating the rules of competition to both students and judges. We realize that in any competition of this nature, differences of opinion about the judges interpretations may occur. **It is the policy of the sponsors of the JSHS Program (e.g. the Army, Navy, and Air Force) to support the interpretations and final decisions of the judges panel.**