



Department of Biology

Houk Prize for Best Undergraduate Research Project

The Biology Department encourages undergraduate students to undertake independent research projects. Thanks to the generous donation of Dr. Richard Houk, Emeritus Professor of Biology, the department awards the *Houk Prize* each year to the top two students who present the best research project at the department's spring semester poster session (1st and 2nd places). The competition is open to any undergraduate Biology Major who completes a biology-based research project at Winthrop beyond what they do in BIOL 300.

Rules for the Houk Prize Competition:

1. Students who wish to enter the competition should make their interest known by completing the Houk Prize Entry Form (see below) and submitting it to Department of Biology Department Chair (westoverk@winthrop.edu) by April 9th. The form requires the title of the project and the faculty mentor's signature. This signature indicates that the student was primarily responsible for this research project.
2. The actual file from which we will print the poster is due by 12PM on April 15th. Bring the file on a USB drive to Lionel J Todman, Administrative Coordinator, in DALT 202. Consult with your faculty mentor as to the exact makeup of your poster. For instructions on how to prepare your poster for printing go to this department web page: <https://www.winthrop.edu/cas/biology/endowment-fellowships-and-prize-awards.aspx>
3. Contestants are required to stand by their posters and defend their research during the time set for the department's poster symposium that will occur between 4pm and 5pm on April 22nd. Members of the faculty will judge posters and speak with students during this time.
4. The entire faculty will vote for the winning project at the final departmental meeting each semester.
5. The department will notify the winners within one week after the poster session on May 3rd.

Houk Prize Entry Form

(Due to the Chair of Biology by 12PM on April 9th)

Student Investigator: _____

Complete Mailing Address: _____

E-mail: _____

Winthrop ID Number: _____

Project Title: _____

I certify that the above student is primarily responsible for the research he/she will present at the poster session as a candidate for the Houk Prize:

Faculty Mentor's Name (print or type): _____

Faculty Mentor's Signature: _____