

Call for Research Papers

Closing Date: 15 May 2017!!!

The Unisa Research, Postgraduate Studies, Innovation and Commercialisation Portfolio in collaboration with the Unisa National Student Representative Council (NSRC) invites all registered Unisa students (postgraduate and undergraduate) to submit research papers to be considered for presentation at the 2017 Annual Unisa Student Research and Innovation Showcase scheduled for **16 - 18 August 2017**.

Students are invited to submit research papers in any of the following disciplines:

- 1. Social Sciences**
- 2. Natural and physical Sciences**
- 3. Humanities**
- 4. The Arts**

The following types of research papers can be submitted:

a) LONG PAPER (8 pages) – For Masters and Doctorate students

A long paper may be suitable for those students that have either commenced with their research and have research results to report or completed their research. Your paper should state what is new in the research, how it builds on past research, and/or how it has developed new research directions and pathways. Some level of critique must exist.

b) SHORT PAPER (2 pages) – For undergraduates and honours students

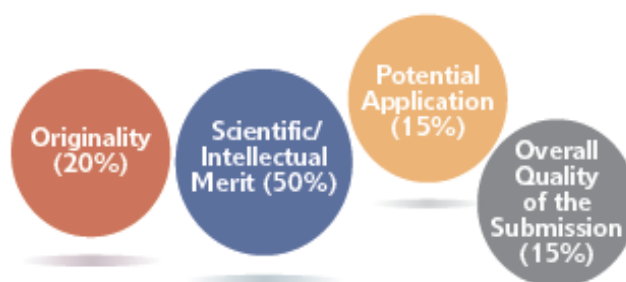
A short paper may be suitable for those students that have an idea of a research project they want to do and may have started their research but have no results to report yet. This category is intended for research that is at the beginning stage, perhaps with no data collected but ideas on questions that the research is going to explore and a review of literature.

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS:

The showcase is open to all registered undergraduate and postgraduate students from all disciplines.

APPLICATION PROCESS

- Masters and PhD students can only submit Long papers. Undergraduate and honors students can submit a short paper.
- **To submit a research paper:**
 - a. REGISTER ON THE Unisa Student Research and Innovation Showcase (USRIS) WEBSITE:
<https://upjournals.co.za/index.php/USRIS/user/register>
 - b. If you are already registered in another role you can edit your profile when logged in to also register as an Author. Please see the Users' Guide:
<http://pkp.sfu.ca/ojs/docs/userguide/2.3.3/basicsRolesProfile.html>
 - c. Submit a research paper ONLINE
<http://pkp.sfu.ca/ojs/docs/userguide/2.3.3/authorUserHome.html>
 - d. For further information, please see the User Guide for further information:
<http://pkp.sfu.ca/ojs/docs/userguide/2.3.3/basicsRolesRegister.html>
- **Please note that papers that exceed the stipulated number of pages will be rejected without further consideration.**
- The research papers will be evaluated by discipline specific technical committee based on the following criteria:



- The best research papers from each discipline will be invited for oral presentations during the Unisa Annual Student Research and Innovation Showcase.

PRIZES

- The cash prizes per category in each discipline are listed below.

	Short Paper (Oral presentation)	Masters (Oral Presentation)	PhD (Oral Presentation)
Winner	R5000	R5000	R5000
First Runner-up	R3000	R3000	R3000
Second Runner-up	R1500	R1500	R1500

The winners in each discipline will be announced during the award ceremony to be held in August 2017.

- The winners and runner ups will receive framed certificates. The winners will also receive trophies

- *The winners in each category will form part of a Unisa student delegation to go on an international exchange program.*

Should you experience any problems accessing the information or wish to ask any question relating to the Showcase, please feel free to contact the following people:

Ms. Nonkululeko Shongwe: tshongn@unisa.ac.za (012 429 8368)

Mr. Lunathi Hontoti: hontol1@unisa.ac.za (012 429 3355)

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON THE RESEARCH PAPERS

LONG PAPER

This covers research projects that are in progress or closer to completion or completed. The research paper should state what is new in the research, how it builds on past research, and/or how it has developed new directions and pathways. Some level of critique must exist. This may be suitable for students who have already undertaken the research and have results to report.

Two types of papers are possible under the Long paper category:

a) Empirical studies

These include observational, ethnographic, experimental, quasi-experimental, and case studies. Papers on empirical studies should contain, at minimum, the following:

- *a statement regarding the focus of the submitted paper;*
- *the study's theoretical framework;*
- *references to the related literature;*
- *an indication of and justification for the study's methodology; and*
- *and a sample of the data and the results (additional data can be presented at the conference but some data ought to accompany the proposal)*

b) Theoretical, conceptual and philosophical essays

These should contain, at a minimum, the following:

- *a statement regarding the focus of the submitted paper;*
- *a statement about the paper's theoretical or philosophical framework;*
- *references to related literature;*
- *a clearly articulated statement regarding the author's position on the paper's focus or theme; and*
- *Implications for existing research in the respective*

What should students submit?

A research paper not exceeding **8 pages** (including references). All submissions should be in Times Roman, 12 point and 1.5 spaced.

SHORT PAPER

Short papers, for the purposes of the R&I Showcase, are intended for research that is at the beginning stage, perhaps with no data collected but ideas on questions that the research is going to explore and a review of literature. This may be suitable for students who have an idea of a research project they want to do but they may have not completed it yet.

Short papers should consist of a text part describing the research and a reference section providing the references cited in the text part. The text part should contain the following essential aspects (in an order that makes sense):

- a short description of the theoretical background or framework;
- research goals, questions or hypotheses;
- methods used for the study (in the case of empirical studies this includes information about the sample, the design, the instruments, the method of data analysis);
- If any, results obtained by the study (due to space limitation better presented as text and not as table or figures);
- if the proposal presents a planned study, then expected results must be described (with reasons why these results are expected); and finally
- a short discussion or conclusions should be mentioned, giving an idea how the research question or goals are satisfied; if possible the new knowledge provided by this proposal should be stressed.

Due to space limitation it is not necessary to give a lot of references. To cite one or two sources would be preferable so that the reviewers get an idea in which paradigm or perspective the study is located.

What should the student submit?

A research paper not exceeding **2 pages** (including references). All submissions should be in Times Roman, 12p and 1.5 spaced.

NOTES ON THE PREPARATION OF SUBMISSIONS

1. Students are advised to take note of the University's Policy on Plagiarism. The papers should be properly referenced.
2. No student will be allowed to have his or her name on the program more than two times, as an author or co-author, on any kind of presentation.
3. **Presentations of Long Papers** will be allocated a total time of **30 minutes of which 20 minutes will be for the actual presentation and 10 minutes for questions and comments.**
4. **Presentations of Short papers** will be allocated a total time of **15 minutes of which 10 minutes will be for the actual presentation and 5 minutes for questions and comments.**

All research papers should be submitted electronically to:

<http://pkp.sfu.ca/ojs/docs/userguide/2.3.3/authorUserHome.html>

5. The due date for the submission of research papers is **15 May 2017**. No late submissions will be considered.

INFORMATION SESSIONS AND WORKSHOPS

Please note that we have scheduled information sessions and workshops on "How to write a research paper" in most of the regional offices. Kindly consult the schedule of visits for more information.

Should you wish to attend any of the sessions, kindly RSVP to DITT@Unisa.ac.za at least five days before the session you wish to attend.

MARCH/APRIL 2017

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
<p>6</p> <p>Sunnyside Campus Undergrads + Honours SB14/2-59 SB14/G-59 SB14/1-62</p> <p>Postgrads (M&D) SB14/G-56 SB14/1-67 SB14/1-70</p>	<p>7</p> <p>Ekurhuleni Undergrads + Honours Block F(a)</p> <p>Postgrads (M&D) Block F(b)</p> <p>Vaal Triangle Agency Undergrads + Honours Room 3</p> <p>Postgrads (M&D) Room 5</p>	<p>8</p> <p>Science Campus Undergrads + Honours Thamsanqa Nkambule GJ Gerwel 3 -93</p> <p>Postgrads (M&D) GJ Gerwel 4 -97 GJ Gerwel 5 -89</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10</p> <p>Bloemfontein Undergrads + Honours Room 5</p> <p>Postgrads (M&D) Room 6</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Potchefstroom Undergrads + Honours 1st Floor classroom a</p> <p>Postgrads (M&D) 1st Floor classroom b</p> <p>Kimberly Agency Undergrads 1st Floor Room 1</p> <p>Postgrads (M&D) 1st Floor Room 2</p>	<p>12</p>
<p>13</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15</p> <p>New Castle Agency Undergrads + Honours VC Room</p> <p>Postgrads (M&D) VC Room</p>	<p>16</p> <p>Mthatha Undergrads + Honours Front Basement room 5</p> <p>Postgrads (M&D) Tutorial Class 25</p>	<p>17</p> <p>East London Hub Undergrads + Honours Church Hall</p> <p>Postgrads (M&D) New Fellowship Hall</p> <p>Mafikeng Agency Undergrads + Honours</p> <p>Postgrads (M&D) VC Room</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Cape Town Campus Undergrads + Honours Room C -01</p> <p>Postgrads (M&D) Room C-02</p> <p>Port Elizabeth Agency Undergrads + Honours Hall</p> <p>Postgrads (M&D)</p>	<p>19</p>
<p>20</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Giyani Agency Undergrads + Honours</p> <p>Postgrads (M&D)</p>	<p>24</p> <p>Durban Hub Undergrads + Honours Room A1</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Richards bay Agency Undergrads + Honours Learning Centre 1</p>	<p>26</p>

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
			Pietermaritzburg Undergrads + Honours Gym Hall Postgrads (M&D) Ress Hall	Postgrads (M&D) Room A2 Makhado Undergrads Postgrads (M&D)	Postgrads Learning Centre 2 Polokwane Hub Undergrads + Honours Main Hall Postgrads (M&D) Library Reading Room	
27	28	29	30	31	1	
	Wild Coast Undergrads + Honours Room 10 Postgrads (M&D)				Middleburg Undergrads + Honours Room 2 Postgrads (M&D) Room 3 Rustenburg Hub Undergrads + Honours Seminar Room 40 Postgrads (M&D) Seminar Room 41 Nelspruit Hub Undergrads + Honours Room 3 Postgrads (M&D) Room 2	