



## BRIEFING DOCUMENT

<b>EVENT</b>	Civil Engineering University Research and Investigation Project (IP) Showdown
<b>HOST</b>	SAICE
<b>DATE</b>	8 February 2018
<b>TIME</b>	15h30 for 16h00
<b>VENUE</b>	Southern Sun Newlands, Cape Town
<b>PREPARED BY</b>	Lorraine Mpofana

### INTRODUCTION

The civil engineering university research and investigation project is part of the national curriculum for final year civil engineering undergraduate students. Students are paired in teams of two and are required to select an issue, which is current in the industry. They do so by conducting research in accordance with pre-set deliverables over a fixed period, leading up to the final year examinations. Once all the research and investigations on the specific issue is complete, the student teams then present their findings to a panel of judges, which comprises of both selected industry leaders and non-engineers. The presentations are then adjudicated based on a set of agreed criteria.

### EVENT

SAICE National Office has once again joined forces with the six leading universities across the country to invite the winning teams from those regions to compete on a national level.

The following universities will be participating:

- 1) University of the Witwatersrand
- 2) University of Pretoria
- 3) University of Cape Town
- 4) University of Kwa-Zulu Natal

- 5) Stellenbosch University
- 6) University of Johannesburg

## OBJECTIVES

The main objective of this event is to create a platform for the winners to compete on a national level. The teams will be adjudicated through: -

- Identifying if teams have gained an in-depth understanding of the research project
- Determining if teams showcase adequate communication skills by presenting their work to a diverse audience
- Exposing these top students to the industry and to key players within the industry.

## CRITERIA OF PRESENTATIONS

The presentations should be done in 3 parts:

### **Part 1 – Selected medium of presentation: Audio Visual OR Visual**

For this section students may choose any of the following to demonstrate their project:

- 1) A 10 minute (max) PowerPoint presentation on a rolling screen OR 2) A 5 minute video presentation followed by narration

Students will be requested to provide their presentations electronically on a flash drive to the SAICE organisers at least **2 days prior to the event date.**

### **Part 2 – Presentation**

Students using a PowerPoint presentation are not limited to this alone. The use of other props together with PowerPoint are accepted. The presentation will need to be articulated in front of a panel of judges and a public audience. The judges will comprise of three civil engineers who are leaders and champions in the industry, and any two non-engineers, who are professionals in other working spheres (politicians, marketers, accountants, doctors, teachers, etc.).

### **Part 3 - Motivation**

Students are to give a 3 minute motivation on why they believe their presented project is deserving of a win. This motivation is to be given at the end but as part of their presentation.

## **Part 4 – Q & A**

Students are to answer no more than 3 questions tended by either of the judges sitting on the adjudication panel regarding their presentations.

The total duration of the presentation is 10 – 13 minutes, and then a further 7 minutes will be allowed for a question and answer session.

### **All presentations must have:**

- 1) The names of the students
- 2) The university which they represent
- 3) The name of the supervising lecturer
- 4) The logo of the university and of SAICE

### **PRIZES FOR THE WINNING TEAMS**

- 1) First prize - A cash prize
- 2) Second prize - A cash prize
- 3) Third prize - A cash prize

## **ADJUDICATION CRITERIA**

Students will be judged on:

### **Technical Knowledge:**

- Methodology; present a detailed description of the experimental or theoretical research work undertaken and data analysis
- Report on the results and provide discussion of the significance of these results
- Present the conclusions which can be drawn from the findings of the research
- Make recommendations for further research and / or make recommendations for addressing the problem identified.
- Usefulness of IP/ Application.

### **Structure:**

- Introduction to the subject of the IP; a clear statement of the topic/problem under investigation

- Purpose of the IP; justify the need for this research, and state the aims; review relevant previous studies in the research field
- Positioning: Slides should not have more than 7 words per line and 7 lines per slide. Consider location of illustrations and words
- Theme: Consistency in terms of look and feel should be used on all slides.

**Effective Communication:**

- Language; written fluency
- Technical knowledge
- Transmitting of message
- Aesthetic appeal
- Use of words: Ability to articulate and communicate technical work so that an audience can appreciate the value of that work
- Use of pictures/ illustrations: Use of captivating colour, efficient use of space, number of words utilised, and quality of pictures, graphs, and other illustrations
- Answering questions.

**For more information**

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