

BUILD Competition
(Better Use of Information and Library Databases)
Holyoke Community College Library
2008-2009

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1. Purpose

The Holyoke Community College Library in partnership with the Department of English is pleased to announce the 2nd annual BUILD research competition. The purpose of BUILD is to encourage and support student research using library resources. The competition rewards students who show exceptional skill and creativity in the application of library resources to a research project. It is designed to complement the Information Literacy Program at the Holyoke Community College Library.

2. Award

The grand prize winner, as determined by the judges' evaluation, will receive a \$250 award. The runner-up will receive a \$100 award. These prizes will be presented to the winners at the HCC Annual Awards Night held on May 21, 2009.

3. Eligibility

- All students enrolled at Holyoke Community College are encouraged to submit research papers/projects.
- Both individuals and teams may submit papers/projects. (Scholarship prizes will be divided among team members.)
- Papers/projects submitted must be the result of work completed for a credit course at HCC during the Fall 2008 semester or Spring 2009 semester.
- Research papers/projects must be supported by the faculty member responsible for the course.
- Individuals or teams must agree that the winning paper/project will become the physical property of the HCC Library and Archives.

4. Evaluation Criteria

Successful research papers/projects should exhibit the following elements:

- Extensive and creative use of library resources and collections in any format.
- Demonstrated application of information literacy principles.
- A well defined and expressed thesis.
- Ability to integrate original thought and documented research from library resources.
- Clarity of written work.
- Use of consistent citation and bibliographic format throughout the paper/project.

5. Application Procedure and Deadline

Each application must be complete upon submission to be considered and include the following:

- Application Cover Sheet
- Faculty Statement of Support
- Reflective Essay
- Paper/Project

We will accept only a final version of the research paper/project. (Sorry, no drafts accepted.) Please deliver your completed application to the Circulation Desk of the HCC Library by Wednesday, April 15th, 2009 by 4:00 pm.

6. Evaluation Committee for 2008-2009 BUILD Competition

- Erica Bergquist, Professor of Biology
- Frank Johnson, Coordinator of Writing Center
- Kathleen McDonough, Coordinator of Library Services
- Fred Cooksey, Associate Professor of English

7. Important Dates

Application Deadline: Wednesday, April 15, 2009 by 4:00 pm
Winner Notification: Wednesday, May 6, 2009
Awards Ceremony : Thursday, May 21, 2009

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Application Cover Sheet

Name _____

I.D. # _____

Mailing Address _____

E-Mail _____

Telephone _____

Title of Paper/Project _____

Date Completed _____

Course Name/Number _____

Faculty Name _____

Contact Information _____

If selected as the winning entry, I agree that this paper/project will become the physical property of the Holyoke Community College Library and Archives.

Signature

Date

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Faculty Statement of Support

Faculty Name _____

Department/Division _____

Student Name(s) _____

Date _____

Your signature below indicates that you agree that the submitted paper/project meets at least the minimum requirements for consideration in the BUILD Competition. Additional comments in support of this submission may be made in the space below.

Faculty Signature _____

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Reflective Essay

The purpose of this essay is to give you an opportunity to explain how you developed your research strategy (process) and how you used the collection (sources) of the Holyoke Community College Library to complete your project. The essay will be carefully considered by the judges when evaluating your project.

Please limit your essay to 500 words. Use the following questions to help guide your thoughts:

- How did you create a search strategy for your topic? What specific library search tools were the most effective? Did you alter your search strategy at any point?
- Of all the possible sources that you could use, how did you determine which sources to actually use? Did you experience difficulty finding information that you thought might be easily available? How did you overcome this obstacle?
- What did you learn about the research process while preparing this project? Would you change the research process if you could start again?

Please submit your printed double spaced essay as part of your application package no later than 4:00 p.m. on Wednesday April 15, 2009 to the Holyoke Community College Library Circulation Desk.

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Application Checklist

- Application Cover Sheet
- Faculty Statement of Support
- Reflective Essay
- Paper/Project

Submit all of the above materials to the Holyoke Community College Library Circulation Desk no later than 4:00 p.m. on Wednesday, April 15, 2009.

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Rating Criteria for Judging Papers

Composition Criteria

- The main idea (thesis) must be well defined and well expressed.
- The research paper must have an effective introduction and conclusion.
- Each paragraph in the paper must develop the thesis.
- The flow of ideas from one paragraph to the next must be clear.
- Sentences must be free of grammatical and spelling errors.
- Sentences must demonstrate variety in length and structure. In addition, words and phrases must be economical and precise.

Research Criteria

- References to outside sources must be timely (as the topic allows), relevant, and applicable to developing the thesis.
- The text must demonstrate skillful integration of original ideas with documented facts and opinions of others.
- The majority of sources used for the research paper must be from the HCC Library and may include databases, electronic journals, print, microform, or audiovisual material.
- A consistency of citation and bibliographic form must be rigorously maintained.

For each of the above criteria listed above, points are assigned as follows:

- 0 - No control
- 1 - Little control
- 2 - Average control
- 3 - Skilled control

Ideas expressed in the "Reflective Essay" will be carefully considered when evaluating submissions.