

BEST PAPER AWARD BY A MEDICAL STUDENT

Call for 2022 Applications

Deadline: **January 15, 2022 23:59 (Local Time)**

PURPOSE:

- The *COUPE Best Paper by a Medical Student Award* is designed to recognize a student in undergraduate medical training who demonstrates an enhanced level of understanding and interest in a topic related to mental health;
- Furthermore, this prize is intended to acknowledge a student who takes the time and effort to investigate a specific issue relevant to mental health, either within Psychiatry or another area of medicine;
- Finally, this prize is intended to reward a student who best demonstrates an advanced level of scholarship within their program of study.

PROCESS:

The Undergraduate Education Committee of each medical school will advertise the competition each year.

ELIGIBILITY:

- All full-time undergraduate students enrolled in the Doctor of Medicine (M.D. or M.D./C.M.) Program at any of the 17 medical schools in Canada;
- The author of the paper must be an individual student, not a group;
- Submissions cannot have been previously published or be currently under consideration for publication.

REQUIREMENTS:

- Submissions are welcome in either English or French.
- The submission will be an academic discussion of ANY topic within the realm of mental health OR another area of medicine relating to mental health;
 - The topic chosen does NOT have to be drawn from a direct experience. It can address any area within medicine, as long as it relates to mental health
 - The format is broad so that submissions can be in any one of a variety of forms (i.e. essay, review article, original research, argument, poetry, etc.)
- Submissions will not exceed **2000 words** in length;

- A Cover Page will be provided with Title, Author's Name, Word Count (without figures), Number of Pages, Date of Submission, E-mail Address, Mailing Address and Telephone Number;
- Tables/Figures (max. 3 in total) will be allowed in addition to the 2000 word limit;
- All references must be appropriately documented. All pages must be numbered.

DEADLINE:

- Submissions must reach the **COUPE Representative of your medical school** (this will either be the Clerkship Director or Undergraduate Director of your school's undergraduate Psychiatry program), **by email**, no later than **Saturday, January 15, 2022 at 23:59** (Local Time). Paper submissions will not be accepted;
- Late submissions will not be considered.

EVALUATION:

- The Psychiatry Undergraduate Education Committee from each school will be responsible for assessing all local submissions and will forward, via the COUPE Representative, their best **two (2)** papers to the COUPE Chair and Administrator for adjudication by **January 31, 2022**;
- COUPE will nominate a sub-committee to review submissions to select a winner;
- Submissions will be evaluated along 5 dimensions:
 1. **Content**
 2. **Originality**
 3. **Thoroughness of Literature Review**
 4. **Style of Writing**
 5. **Organization**
 - Each dimension will be worth 10 points, for a cumulative mark out of 50 points
 - Submissions will **NOT** be returned after marking;
- In the case of a tie following adjudication, the sub-committee may bring forth submissions to the COUPE Committee for a final decision. The sub-committee/Committee reserves the prerogative to not bestow an award in a given year;
- COUPE sub-committee members will refrain from adjudicating the submission(s) from their own school, or any other submission for which they identify a conflict of interest;
- Barring extenuating circumstances, all applicants will be notified of the results of the competition the **week of May 16, 2022**.

PRIZE:

- The author of the winning submission will be notified by e-mail and invited to attend the COUPE Fall Meeting [usually held in conjunction with the Canadian Psychiatric Association (CPA) Annual Meeting (typically held in September/October each year)], to receive from the Committee formal acknowledgement of their Award. As well, an announcement will be made at the CPA Annual Meeting;
- The winner will receive an honorarium of CAN \$250.00, travel expenses paid to attend the CPA Annual Meeting (up to a value of CAN \$750.00), as well as an engraved plaque from COUPE.

Approved by COUPE: October 28, 2021