



AGC EDUCATION AND RESEARCH FOUNDATION

Announcing the 28th Annual

2010 James L. Allhands Essay Competition

Deadline for Submission: November 1, 2009

The James L. Allhands Essay was established by the late James L. Allhands, one of the founding members of AGC and a prolific writer of construction related works. The award recognizes a student essay on a specific topic that is deemed to be beneficial to the advancement of technological, educational, or vocational expertise in the construction industry.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE

Any full-time student who has attained a four- or five year senior-level standing in a four-year ABET or ACCE-accredited (or candidate status) university construction or construction related engineering program is eligible to compete for the All-hands Award. Class status and full-time registration of the student must be verified in a letter from the faculty sponsor of the student's major department. Each essay may have only one author, and each author may submit only one essay.

ESSAY FORMAT REQUIREMENTS

- The essay must be written using Microsoft Word
- Times New Roman font; 12 point; double spaced
- Margins - top and bottom – 1"; Sides 1.25"
- Pages numbered at center bottom

The essay MUST NOT exceed ten (10) pages including charts, graphics and the bibliography page. The 10 page limit does not include the required cover title page and a one page abstract. The abstract MUST NOT exceed 100 words following the same page format.

TARGET AUDIENCE

The subject relating to construction and/or general contracting will be general management oriented rather than technical in nature, and will change for each Allhands Award competition.

2010 ALLHANDS ESSAY COMPETITION TOPIC

The topic for the 2010 Allhands Essay Competition is: *Building a Professional Construction Company - The case for attracting, educating and retaining highly effective managers.*

In your essay you should completely address each of the following questions related to the topic using research and real world examples to support your position.

1. How do construction companies:
 - a. Define Professionalism?
 - b. Measure and reward professionalism of managers?
 - c. Evaluate ethics in the professional management process?
2. The value added by professional status to:
 - a. Individual manager;
 - b. Company; and
 - c. Owner/Client/Community.

3. How can construction companies improve their methods to:
 - a. Recruit and attract potential managers;
 - b. Educate professional managers at the College/University level and above; and
 - c. Retain managers.
4. Summaries, conclusions, recommendations.

SUBMISSION

Students MUST email: Essay, 100-word Abstract, faculty sponsor letter and checklist, and the student's checklist. E- Mail to sladef@agc.org. Students will receive email notification of receipt. *Only five (5) submissions from each college or university are accepted.*

FACULTY SPONSOR REQUIREMENTS

The faculty sponsor MUST confirm by a signed letter on university stationery the student's full time & class status. A signed checklist is also required to verify that the essay was proofed for grammar and technical errors, it is ready for publication, and has not been plagiarized. Is publication the goal of the essay? The letter and checklist will be part of the student's submission in an adobe file.

AWARDS

For qualified entries, prizes will be awarded as follows:

- FIRST PRIZE, STUDENT: \$1,000 and trip to the 2009 AGC Annual Convention. Prize includes round-trip airfare, plus meals and lodging for five days.
- FIRST PRIZE, FACULTY: \$500 and a trip for the faculty sponsor to the 2009 AGC Annual Convention. Prize includes round-trip airfare, plus meals and lodging for five days.
- SECOND PRIZE, STUDENT: \$500
- THIRD PRIZE, STUDENT: \$300

Note: No cash substitutions will be provided if the first prize winning student or his/her faculty sponsor choose not to participate in the Convention trips.

Allhands Essay winners will be notified by e-mail in Jan/Feb 2010. Public announcement will be made at the AGC Annual Convention in March 2010 by the AGC Foundation President.

In the event an essay is not deemed satisfactory, or did not comply with the essay requirements, the AGC Foundation Board may, at its sole discretion, find the essay unacceptable or limit the number of winners.

AGC EDUCATION AND RESEARCH FOUNDATION

2300 Wilson Blvd - Suite 400, Arlington, VA 22201 ■ Phone (703) 837-5342 ■ Fax (703) 837-5451 ■ e-mail: sladef@agc.org



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Cover Page Checklist

2010 James L. Allhands Essay Competition

Deadline for Submission: November 1, 2009

Complete and return this checklist with your e-mail essay submission for the 2010 James L. Allhands Essay Competition:

ESSAY SUBMITTED BY:

Name:
E-mail:
Social Security Number:
College or University:
Degree Program:
Expected Address in Feb./Mar. 2010:
Street:
City/State/ZIP:
Home Phone:
Mobile Phone:
Essay Word Count:
Essay Page Count:

The following items are to be included with this application for the 2010 Allhands Competition:

1. Completed Cover Page Checklist
2. Double-spaced, typed essay, 10-pages maximum including charts and graphs (see Essay Format Requirements)
3. Letter and faculty sponsor checklist from faculty sponsor confirming student's status and class of author. The faculty sponsor checklist verifies that the essay has been proofed for grammar and technical errors, the essay is ready for publication, and has not been plagiarized.
4. A 100-word abstract (not included in 10-page essay maximum)

I hereby submit the enclosed essay for consideration in the James L. Allhands Essay Competition and attest that I am its sole author.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

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Evaluation Form

2010 James L. Allhands Essay Competition

All essays will be evaluated by a team of contractors and educators from the AGC Foundation Board of Directors. It should be noted that the following items are MAJOR considerations in judging the entries:

- Clarity
- Original, unique ideas
- Specific examples to support opinions
- Grammar, spelling, punctuation
- Neatness
- Adherence to format and MLA standards
- Adherence to guidelines such as length, abstract, bibliography, submission deadline

2010 James L. Allhands Essay Competition Topic

The topic for the 2010 James L. Allhands Essay Competition is: *Building A Professional Construction Company - The case for attracting, educating and retaining highly effective managers.* In your essay, you should completely address each of the following questions related to the topic using research and real world examples to support your position.

Background: The construction world has recently made great strides in an effort to “professionalize” our industry. Much emphasis has been placed on the recruitment, training and retention of craft workers and raising the professionalism of field operations. This topic seeks to highlight the importance of recruiting, educating and retaining highly effective and motivated professional managers to fill the various management needs of the industry. The writer must include, at a minimum, a discussion of the following points:

- How do construction companies:
 - 1) Define Professionalism?
 - 2) Measure and reward professionalism of managers?
 - 3) Evaluate ethics in the professional management process?
- The value added by professional status to:
 - 1) Individual manager;
 - 2) Company; and
 - 3) Owner/Client/Community.
- How can construction companies improve their methods to:
 - 1) Recruit and attract potential managers;
 - 2) Educate professional managers at the College/University level and above; and
 - 3) Retain managers.
- Summaries, conclusions, recommendations.

Each essay should contain at least (3) three references to support the author's position. These references should be used minimally to support the author's unique position, rather than comprise the majority of the essay. You may use any available reference material as a resource, including the Internet, personal interviews with experts in the field, popular magazines, etc. Please use the Modern Language Association (MLA) bibliography format for any works cited:

MAGAZINE & NEWSPAPER ARTICLES

Author. "Title of Article." Title of Periodical Date: First page-last page.

MAGAZINE & NEWSPAPER ARTICLES ACCESSED ONLINE Author. "Article." Periodical Date: Extent. Access Date URL.

ARTICLE FROM A REFERENCE BOOK

Author. "Title of Article." Book Title: Subtitle. Editor. Place: Publisher, Date. First page-last page.

WEBSITE OR WEBPAGE

Author. Title. Editor. Date. Institution. Access Date URL. Websites offering “user generated content” should be noted as such.

Charts and graphical illustrations are welcomed, but should not comprise more than 1-2 pages of the entire essay. Full-color chart and graphs are not required; black and white versions are acceptable unless original, source should be given.

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Faculty Sponsor Checklist

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Complete and return this checklist along with your signed letter. The signed letter must be on university stationary verifying the student's full-time and class status. This checklist verifies that the essay was proofed for grammar and technical errors, is ready for publication, and has not been plagiarized.

FACULTY SPONSOR NAME _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY _____

DEPARTMENT _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP _____

TELEPHONE NUMBER _____

NAME OF STUDENT _____

- Student's essay has been proofed for grammar and technical errors and is ready for publication.
- Student's essay is double-spaced, word processed essay of no more than ten (10) total pages including charts and graphs.
- A 100 word abstract (not counted in the ten (10) page limit) is included.

Signature _____ **Date** _____

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