**TITLE**

**Preparation of Papers for the National Student Research Symposium**

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**AUTHOR(S)**

**Senior Author1, Junior Author2, and Junior Author3\***

(Center Alignment, Calibri, Font Size 10, Bold Characters)

1**Department, Institution, Country**

**2 Department, Institution, Country**

**3 Department, Institution, Country**

(Center Alignment, Calibri, Font Size 10, Regular Characters*)*

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***Abstract:*** *A brief summary of a research article and it must help the reader quickly ascertain the paper's purpose (max 250 words).*

***Keywords****: Keywords should closely reflect the topic and should optimally characterize the paper. Use about four key words or phrases below the abstract in alphabetical order, separated by commas. Minimum 5 keywords are mandatory;*

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**BODY**

A paper qualifies for publication if it comprises the following headers:

## INTRODUCTION

The introduction should (i) state the research hypothesis tested, (ii) define the research questions and explain their significance, (iii) briefly describe the methodology adopted in such a way that a layman reader can comprehend it and why it was the best approach, (iv) and give a concise conclusion of the paper/results.

## MATERIALS AND METHODS

This section should concisely describe what was actually carried out. It should provide explanation of the procedures employed by the researcher so others could possibly reverse engineer it and figure out what experiments were actually done. Reference accordingly if necessary.

**NB: tables and figures can graphically reinforce your paper**

### RESULTS

This section must be comprised of the findings of your work. List and arrange your results in a consistent manner, i.e. firstly give a brief explanation, and support it with a figure(s) then finally provide a comment on your result in a form of a paragraph. Start each paragraph with an opening sentence depicting what research question is being addressed in the results described in that paragraph. Intuitively focus on results of significance: your paper should convey what worked (success stories), not failures (unless of course the failure is relevant). When referring to a specific figure or table, they must be capitalized (i.e. Table 1, Figure 1, etc.). Only resort to graphical support if necessary.

**NB: tables and figures can graphically reinforce your paper**

## DISCUSSIONS

Construct an argument on whether your results differ from or are in agreement with the hypothesis being tested. Review literature and find reasons why the results are/aren’t in accordance with the hypothesis. Discuss if the research questions were answered or not and specifically use the results to address each research question separately. If the work has identified certain main objectives, use the findings to discuss each of these objectives. Discussion is normally easy if the identified objectives, research questions or/and the hypothesis were clear. Use a succinct statement that gives an overview to the work to start the Discussion section. Summarize the significant results and, if appropriate, support or defend the proposed hypothesis. Also, make an attempt to point out the most appealing, major, remarkable discoveries from the Results section, and compare them to those already reported in the existing literature. Do not hesitate to include a discussion of the potential errors of your interpretation and the shortcomings of your work. Finally, end the Discussion section by stating and discussing the magnitude of the contribution of your work to your field of specialization.

**NB: tables and figures can graphically reinforce your paper**

## CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Conclude by re-introducing the work and then concisely highlighting the key results. End with a statement of how this work contributes to the overall field of study and how future researchers can make an improvement of your work. Identify the gaps that must be filled.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Briefly acknowledge the contributions of any participants/consultants who are not listed as authors of the paper. Outline all the sponsors for the work, without violating the guidelines offered by the funding institution.

## REFERENCES

Strictly use **APA (American Psychological Association)** referencing style.

**Kindly take note of the following:**

* SAY NO TO PLAGIARISM (reference accordingly).
* The abstract **must not exceed 1 A4 page**. (Including the Title, Authors, Affiliated institution, corresponding authors contact details, body of the abstract, keywords)
* Papers must be submitted in Microsoft Word
* Abbreviations, other than those that form part of standard nomenclature, should be defined in full at the point of first mention.
* Please make the most of online applications to scan your paper for typos, grammatical and other errors. The Symposium Committee takes no responsibility for errors in the content.
* **Full papers not conforming to this guidelines will be disqualified**

**Deadline for the Submission of Full Papers 17 August 2018**