



### **Call for Student Research Papers**

University Research Center (URC) is hosting its second annual *Advancing Mississippi* Conference on Thursday, June 8, 2017 in Jackson. The student research paper competition is a unique opportunity for college students to contribute to making Mississippi's future brighter for all citizens. Student research papers should address long-term economic challenges facing the state with policy recommendations. Economic challenges include any topic that could inhibit and/or enhance growth in the state including but not limited to education, health, criminal justice, family dynamics, and public policy. The committee has a strong preference for papers that display some originality and include some data analysis. Ideally, participation in this conference will give Mississippi's students an outlet for their scholarship, while uncovering productive ways to overcome challenges and foster growth in the state.

Student papers will be accepted through May 1, 2017. All students who submit papers will be invited to participate in our poster presentation session. This year we will have a separate competition for graduate and undergraduate students. The first place paper for each group will earn a \$300 book scholarship. Each second place paper will earn a \$200 book scholarship. The authors of all 4 papers will be given the opportunity to present their papers during the conference and have their papers published in *The Mississippi Economic Review*. The selection committee will announce the top 4 student papers by June 1, 2017.

Papers should be 15 pages or less. The students may submit their paper in the writing style of their choice (APA, MLA, etc.) as long as citations are clear and consistent. Papers that are co-authored by faculty members and/or professionals will not be considered. Group papers are allowed, however note that the book scholarships are per paper and not per author.

Student papers should be submitted to [scollins@mississippi.edu](mailto:scollins@mississippi.edu) using "Student Paper Competition" in the subject line. The presentations of student paper winners from last year's conference can be found by clicking [here](#) and then scrolling to the bottom of the page.

*The Mississippi Economic Review* is URC's newest peer-reviewed journal. The aim of the journal is to publish articles that examine long term economic issues affecting the state. Although the journal is peer-reviewed, those who choose to participate in the student paper competition will have their papers reviewed by a URC committee instead. Students, particularly those pursuing PhDs, who would prefer to have their papers peer-reviewed should submit directly to the journal. You can find the submission guidelines for *The Mississippi Economic Review* [here](#).