

Instructional Design & Learning Special Interest Group



Student Outreach Article Competition

Summary of the IDL SIG's Student Outreach Program

By Sylvia Miller

Student Outreach program chair and STC Fellow



Thumbnail sketch

- Undergraduate- and graduate-level students submit article related to Instructional Design
- Judges review article
- If article is published in our SIG newsletter = a one-year membership in STC and the IDL SIG, courtesy of our SIG
- We submit their article for inclusion in Technical Communication Body of Knowledge (TCBOK) if article has high merits
- If TCBOK chooses to publish the article = another one-year membership in STC and the IDL SIG



Why this is a win for students

Get name in front of ID professionals in as many as 3 ways:

- IDL SIG newsletter
- TCBOK
- LinkedIn (can link from profile to published article)

Free introduction to professional organization

- Can develop professional acquaintances
- Can take advantage of our mentoring program once employed





Special win for academia-bound students

Many academia jobs are now requiring publications early in the career of an instructor

- Example of job ad from University of North Texas: "A record of effective research, publication, external funding, and teaching is expected. . . "
- "Graduate students are told that publishing frequently and in traditional
 journals is key to landing a job. 'In many if not most fields it is now necessary
 to have at least one refereed journal article while still ABD,' writes Karen
 Kelsky, Vitae columnist and academic advisor for hire, on her blog."
 https://chroniclevitae.com/news/291-what-s-the-point-of-academic-publishing



A win for STC and IDL SIG

Fresh, new thinking for readers of IDL newsletter

Potential new additions to TCBOK in area of Instructional Design

Students could become STC and IDL SIG members upon entering the workforce

So...it's a win-win!

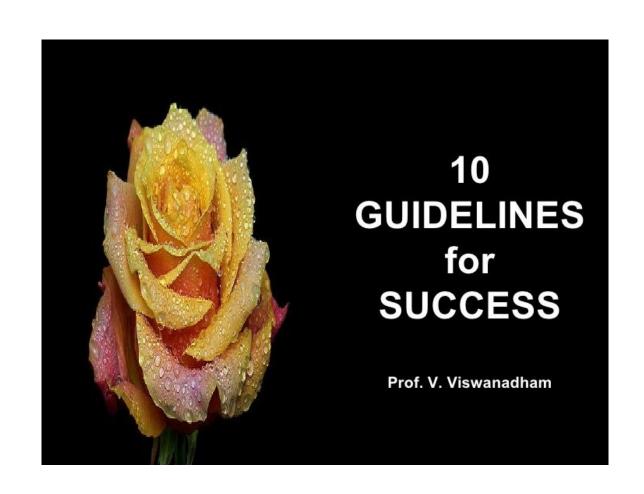




Entry packet contents

- Promotional piece
- Frequently Asked Questions
- List of possible article topics
- Contributor Guidelines
- Final Checklist
- Submission Form

This packet is on our website.





Answers to some FAQs – Part 1

- Student can submit the same article more than once, but the second submission should include improvements made to the article since it was first submitted.
- Articles can be submitted as part of a team project.
- We are awarding up to 15 membership packets per year.
- Our first winning article has just been published in our IDL SIG newsletter; expecting at least 2 to go in our next edition.



Answers to some FAQs – Part 2

- Topic must be one from our list of suggested topics, or student can email alternate topic with description to S. Miller to request permission.
- Student doesn't have to be enrolled in an ID degree or certificate program.
- If a student graduates and enters employment before being awarded the membership, he or she does not forfeit the award, but must be a student when submitting the article.
- More FAQs are available in our packet noted on next page.



To learn more and download Entry Packet

- Go to http://www.stcidlsig.org/students/youcanbepublished/
 - Website recently crashed; working on resolving this.
- Contact Sylvia Miller at StudentOutreach@stcidlsig.org

Also please check our list of degree or certificate programs in fields related to instructional design at http://www.stcidlsig.org/education/. If your program isn't listed contact Sylvia at the email address above.



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Website for the Instructional Design and Learning Special Interest Group

HOME ABOUT TO COMMUNICATION TO MEMBERS TO MENTORING TO STUDENTS TO RESOURCES TO STC WEBSITE TO

You could be published before you graduate!





Today's job market is not easy to break into. According to Knowledge@Wharton, quoting the Economic Policy Institute, "7% of US college graduates [are] unemployed and nearly 15% [are] underemployed." [1] Being "published" with a link in your résumé to your article might give you just the edge you need to land a great job in technical communication or instructional design.

Get your article in front of hundreds of professional readers



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HIV Contract Manager & Training Coordinator

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Instructional Design for Technical
Communicators