26th Annual Ishmael Essay Contest

1st Prize - $750
2nd Prize - $500
3rd Prize - $250
(2) Honorable Mention - $100

In 1987, Dr. and Mrs. Don Ishmael established the annual Ishmael Essay Contest inviting dental and dental hygiene students to submit an essay related to dentistry. Dr. Ishmael was a distinguished dentist in Oklahoma City, and was a strong advocate of scholarship and professionalism.

ELIGIBILITY: ALL DENTAL AND DENTAL HYGIENE STUDENTS. ALL SUMMER RESEARCH STUDENTS FUNDED BY THE J. DEAN ROBERTSON SOCIETY ARE REQUIRED TO SUBMIT AN ESSAY.

TOPIC OF ESSAY: Any subject related to dentistry (appropriately referenced). Work must be original, and ideas may be sought from faculty. This may be in the form of a research paper or an original essay on an ethical or philosophical topic in dentistry.

LENGTH OF ESSAY: Minimum of six and maximum of eight, 8 1/2" X 11" inch typed pages, double-spaced.

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS: You are encouraged to use tables, graphs, or photos to illustrate your paper, but they are not required. Submit essay paper to the Office of Research Development on or before Friday, February 15, 2013, as follows:
1) Original copy of Ishmael Essay paper
2) One title page with title and author’s name
3) One title page with title of paper only -- do not include author's name
   IMPORTANT: All of the above should be placed together with a paperclip or binder clip (do not place in a binder or report cover)
4) An electronic copy of the Essay via email to Luellen-Chenoweth@ouhsc.edu

SEMI-FINALISTS: Five semi-finalists will be named the week of Spring Break. The five semi-finalists will present their papers during Scientific Day at The Embassy Suites in Norman on April 16, 2013.

JUDGING: Two judges from the College of Dentistry faculty are chosen to read all essays submitted and select five semi-finalists. The final judging will be based on the presentations of the five semi-finalists during Scientific Day. The first-place paper is generally published in the Oklahoma Dental Association Journal.*

JUDGING CRITERIA FOR PAPER:
All papers submitted will be judged on four criteria (75% of overall score)

• Originality
• Organization
• Clarity (including grammar and spelling)
• Importance to Oral Science or Dental Practice

JUDGING CRITERIA FOR ORAL PRESENTATION: (25% of overall score)

• Evidence-Based Presentation
• Importance to Oral Science or Dental Practice
• Clarity and Appeal of Visual Aids
• Ability to Convey Concepts to General Audience
• Thorough Understanding of Subject and Ability to Respond to Questions
• Dignified/Professional Appearance, Demeanor, and Language

Submission Deadline to the Office of Research Development is Friday, February 15, 2013

*The Dean's Office will contact the student of the first-place paper to discuss and manage publication in the Oklahoma Dental Association Journal.