**Outstanding Undergraduate Research on Food Distribution and Marketing**

**Statement of Intent Form**

Please complete the fields below and return this form, along with all other application materials, to Dr. Kathy Kelley via email at KathyKelley@psu.edu. To be considered for this award, please be sure that you submit all of your application materials as one **PDF file in the following order by January 1, 2020**. When labeling your PDF files, please include your first and last name and name of your university.

1. Statement of intent form
2. Cover letter that includes a brief synopsis of academic training, any food industry experience, and/or research experience and career interests and goals.
3. Letter of recommendation from the research paper advisor.
4. The complete research paper. Write the research paper following the formatting guidelines provided on page 2 and 3.

**Your name:**

**University/College Affiliation:**

**Mailing Address:**

**Phone number:**

**e-mail address:**

**Academic class (check one):**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| * Freshmen
 | * Sophomore
 | * Junior
 | * Senior
 |

**Expected Graduation Date**:

**Tentative paper title:**

**Name and affiliation of research paper advisor(s):**

### PRIOR TO submitting your application, please complete the checklist below:

* Does your paper fit within the criteria of focusing on the area of food distribution and marketing? Broadly defined, this area encompasses all economic functions that occur between the farm gate and final consumer.
* Have you thoroughly proofread your paper?
* Are you submitting your application materials as one PDF in the order listed above?

**Undergraduate Paper Formatting Guidelines**

**Text preparation.** All paper components, including references, tables, and any footnotes, should be double‐ spaced and formatted for 8‐1/2‐ by 11‐inch paper. Papers should use 1‐inch margins and 12‐point Times Roman or a similar‐style font. Authors should include short headings for each section and subsection, and check that at least one sentence of text occurs between any two headings. All headings and subheadings should be placed flush left, and sections or subsections should be unnumbered. Please write section headings in bold and subsection headings in italics, and do not indent the first paragraph after any heading. Finally, please do not use a heading before the first paragraph of the paper (i.e., no heading for “introduction”), and do not indent the first paragraph. When referring to your paper within the text, use the word “article.”

If a paper reports the results of an economic experiment or survey conducted by the authors, a copy of the experimental instructions or survey instrument should be included as an appendix (and does not count toward the page limit).

**Page limit.** **Papers (including the abstract) should not exceed 20 double‐spaced pages.** Pages containing figures, tables, and references do not count toward this limit. In addition, any appendices included do not count toward the page limit. Please note paper length is not necessarily an indication of quality.

**Abstract.** The first page of the manuscript (not the title page) should list the title of the paper immediately followed by an abstract not to exceed 250 words. The heading “Abstract” should appear in bold, flush left, before the body of the abstract.

**Acknowledgements.** Authors may optionally include any acknowledgements in the title page after the paper title and identifying information.

**Mathematical notation and equations.** Only use mathematical notation and equations when necessary. Simple equations (no ratios or multiple sub/superscripts, etc.) may be written in the body of the paper. More complex equations should be numbered consecutively, placed in parentheses and left‐justified on the same line as the equal or inequality sign. Such equations should be inserted using the Microsoft Equation Editor.

Footnotes. If footnotes are included in the paper, please use the insert footnote feature in Microsoft Word. Footnotes should be numbered consecutively throughout the paper and not page‐by‐page. Footnotes should be only explanatory and not for citations.

**Tables and figures.** Each table and figure should be placed on a separate page at the end of the paper. All tables and figures should have a title. Titles for tables should be placed at the top of the table and titles for figures placed at the bottom of the figure. Titles should be fully descriptive, flush left, and bold with no periods at the end. For tables, capitalize the first letter in each major word of the title. For figures, capitalize only the first letter of the first word together with proper nouns and adjectives of the title.

Examples:

**Table 1.** Summary Statistics for Pennsylvania Wheat Crops, 1998‐2000

**Figure 1.** Annual net sales of Mississippi catfish farmers, 2002‐2003

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**In‐text citation style of table or figure.** Unless they appear at the beginning of a sentence, use lowercase for the words “table” and “figure” in the text.

**Footnotes to tables.** Place footnotes for specific items in tables below the bottom line of the table in (unindented) paragraph form, using lower‐case English letters. The heading “Note:” may be used to define the use of asterisks (e.g., \* or \*\*) to denote statistical significance levels. For example, "Asterisk (\*) and double asterisk (\*\*) denote variables significant at 5% and 10%, respectively."

Footnotes to figures. Figures typically do not carry footnotes. If necessary, the heading of “Note:” and any explanatory information may be placed below the figure title.

**References and citations.**

Examples of how to list specific types of references and citations can be found in the AJAE Reference Guide.

References should be placed in a list immediately at the end of the paper, double‐ spaced (without extra blank lines between references). References should be formatted with hanging indentation (first line flush left, second and subsequent lines indented), and only cited works should be included in the reference list. Citations should appear in the body of the paper using the author’s name and year and include page numbers when necessary. These citations should omit any comma or other punctuation between the author name and the year of publication, and can be inserted parenthetically; e.g., (Doe 1998, p. 5). If the author’s name is used as part of the sentence, include year of publication parenthetically, with page numbers if necessary; e.g., “Doe, Smith and Jones (2002) show that.” Use et al. only with four or more authors. For citations listing more than one source, separate each source with a semi‐colon: (Doe 1998; Smith and Jones 2000; Smith, Jones, and Erp 2003; Thomas et al. 2004). Do not use et al. in the reference section.

**Supplementary data/appendices.** Authors may include appendices if the nature of the material is relevant but does not belong in the body of the paper. Any appendix should be inserted at the end of the paper after all other materials. As noted above, appendices do not count toward the page limit.

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