



The Sustainable Engineering Society

...engineering in harmony with ecology

National Student Sustainable Engineering Award Guidelines *for the best final year project incorporating sustainability*

The Sustainable Engineering Society (SENG) is committed to promoting the practice of engineering in accordance with a sustainability ethic that leads to sustainable development.

To encourage the development of a sustainability ethic throughout Australia, the Society is offering annually a Branch Sustainable Engineering Award to undergraduate students. The winning student project from each Chapter is then eligible for the National Student Sustainable Engineering Award.

One nomination will be accepted from each Branch annually based on the results of the Branch Student Sustainable Engineering Awards.

The National Award

The National Student Award will be judged and awarded in March annually; however, the award will be presented biennially at the SENG conference.

The National Award, valued at up to \$2,500, includes:

- a certificate for each author of the winning project; and
- airfares, accommodation, and registration to the biennial SENG conference for one representative, unless otherwise agreed by the SENG Board, where:
 - the recipient will present their conference paper; and
 - the award will be presented at the conference dinner.

The award provides for one author of each annual national student award, to attend the biennial SENG conference. If the award is given to a sole author, who cannot make it to the conference, the certificate will be sent to the author. Where there is more than one author of the winning project, then the authors not attending the conference will each receive a certificate.

The Submission

A valid nomination must be accompanied by the following:

- A copy of a presentation on the nominee's final year project
- Name, address, telephone and email of all students who submitted the project
- A one-page submission developed by the nominating students, which discusses the project in terms of sustainability. This will include the following types of discussion points (where applicable):
 - How does the project contribute to sustainability (i.e. how does the project add to natural AND social capital)?
 - How does the project improve our understanding of natural ecosystems or processes to assist in the future management of the system studied or modelled?
 - How could the project outcomes assist with reducing the need for energy, water, and natural resources such as minerals and metals?

Key Assessment Criteria

In particular, the panel will be looking for evidence in the submission of:

- Technical excellence and good engineering method
- Research representing practical and/or theoretical contributions to the art and practice of engineering
- The project has been developed and implemented with sustainability ethic
- The author understands and demonstrates how the project fits into the bigger “engineering and sustainability” picture
- How the project contributes positively to natural, economic and social capital
- That the project demonstrates integrity, objectivity and is ethically defensible.

The size of the research project will vary from course to course, based on the number of authors and the subject weighting of the research project. It is therefore up to the judges to best judge the above criteria, given the range of research projects that are likely to be nominated. The judging panels reserves the right not to award a winner in any year.

Conditions of Entry

1. Each Branch winner (awarded in November each year), to be nominated for the National Student Sustainable Engineering Award will be determined based on the national award key assessment criteria.
2. A minimum of three people from the National SENG Board, or chosen by the National SENG Board (the panel), will judge the award, or recommend no award for a particular year. The judge’s decision is final.
3. The panel will choose the student(s) paper that best demonstrates the application of the key assessment criteria detailed previously.
4. The panel may contact a nominator and/or nominee to clarify any aspects of the nomination.
5. The award recipient(s) and the relevant University will be notified as soon as the Board of the Society has ratified the panel’s recommendations.
6. All nominees must be eligible to be a member of the Sustainable Engineering Society.

How to Apply

For more information and to apply please contact the chair of your SENG Branch. Contact details for each Branch are available at www.seng.org.au.

Applications for the Branch Awards close at the end of November. The winners of each Branch Award will progress to the National Award judging which will occur in March the following year.