

# HUMAN COMPLEX SYSTEMS MINOR

## BRAGIN PRIZE GUIDELINES

01 May 2008

### **I. Prize**

The prize is for the best computer simulation project in human group phenomena. Although aspects of the arts, humanities and natural sciences may be part of the projects, these may not be the focus of the work.

Projects which address the policy implications of theoretical and empirical research are especially encouraged. Purely aesthetic projects are not eligible.

### **II. There are three awards**

1. First Prize: \$300 and a certificate.
2. Second Prize: \$200 and a certificate.
3. Third Prize: \$100 and a certificate.

### **III. Eligibility**

Any UCLA undergraduate who is officially enrolled in the HCS Minor by the deadline. Enrollment in an HCS course alone is not sufficient. He or she must have signed up for the Minor. Projects done by more than one student may be submitted, but only those who are declared Minors can receive a certificate and check.

In addition the project must have been begun in a course given by one of our HCS Core Faculty and must be submitted with his or her approval. It may be that a student has improved upon the project since its submission for course work, so the student should pass it by his or her instructor for final approval/nomination, before sending in the submission.

### **IV. Judging**

The committee is composed of three HCS faculty members. Decisions are by consensus. It may be that one or more awards are not given in any year.

Continued →

## V. Guideline Details

1. The project can concern any aspect of the social sciences or organizational management that involves modeling and simulation on a computer.
2. The project may be done using a software package that does not require the student to write code, such as an Excel-based Multi-Influence Iterative Network, Pajek, UCINET, etc. Or it may be one in which the student has written original code or modified code originated by others, such as Borland C++, Mathematica, Matlab, Netlogo, Repast, JavaScript, etc.
3. Include a **Project Narrative** in hard copy that describes the question being addressed, and/or the hypothesis being tested. And the methodology used, including the theoretical and empirical basis of the project, which can be from one's own ideas and/or research, or from the literature. The model and instructions for its simulation should be explained in clear, step-by-step form. Netlogo simulations must have a description and directions for the project included in the "Information" section of the file.
3. If the student has written **Code** for the project, there should also be a hard copy of this included.
4. Include a **CD-rom** with a Word file of the Project Narrative, the Code (if the student has written or modified a program), and the software that can be run by the judges. The judges must be able to run the program on their computers without having to access special software or using special servers. Students do not need to include the following software packages: Borland C++, Excel, Netlogo, Starlogo, Pajek, Mathematica, Matlab, JavaScript, and Repast. However, if a student uses another software package, please be sure it is included on the CD-rom so that the judges can run the program.
3. The judges will pay very close attention to the quality of the narrative description and instructions. These need to be written in clear, concise English with care in spelling, grammar, structure and completeness.