

January 2010 Regional Science and Engineering Fair Update

Dear Affiliated Science and Engineering Fair Educator:

Thank you for affiliating with the Regional Science and Engineering Fair. For those of you working with junior or senior division students on submitting paperwork to Caryl Spira, I want to extend my appreciation for all the time it takes to make sure your students' projects are eligible to be considered for the Regional Fair.

All guidelines and rules followed by the Regional Fair in regard to eligibility and advancement of junior division students have been established by SEFI (Science Education Foundation of Indiana) who coordinate, fund, and host the Indiana State Science and Engineering Fair and guidelines for senior division students are set by ISEF (International Science and Engineering Fair).

In this Update: (all updates will always be posted on the Regional Science and Engineering Fair website several days after they have been sent out to teachers):

www.ipfw.edu/scifair

1. Registration deadline dates for all divisions: elementary, junior, senior
2. Reminder of upcoming Pre-Experimentation Review deadline date for junior and senior division
3. Changes in procedures or paperwork for junior division
4. Announcement of New Regional Scientific Review Committee (SRC) Co-Chairs

1. Important Registration Dates:

Wednesday, February 17, 2010

Online Fair Registration opens for grade K-12

See info/dates below for registration deadlines

Friday, March 5, 2010 by 5 p.m.

Junior/Senior Division: Deadline to Register for Fair

Junior/Senior Division: Deadline to submit Pre-Review Exemption Forms

Junior/Senior Division: Final SRC Review of Paperwork for the fair must be submitted (or postmarked) by Friday, March 5th

Friday, March 12, 2010 by 5 p.m.

Elementary Division: Deadline to Register for Fair

2. PRE-EXPERIMENTATION REVIEW DEADLINE DATE: Wednesday, January 27, 2010 by 5:00 PM

If any of your students are doing projects involved in the following three areas, their project plan and paperwork must be reviewed PRIOR TO EXPERIMENTATION:

PROJECTS INVOLVING HUMAN SUBJECTS

PROJECTS INVOLVING VERTEBRATE ANIMALS

PROJECTS INVOLVING POTENTIALLY HAZARDOUS BIOLOGICAL AGENTS

To determine if your student's project fits in this category go to: <http://www.ipfw.edu/scifair/OnlineEligibilityForm.htm>

Read this page and scroll down to the purple directions to "Click here..." and complete this form.

ALL JUNIOR AND SENIOR DIVISION STUDENT PROJECTS MUST COMPLETE THIS FORM AND SUBMIT IT ON LINE IN ORDER TO BEGIN THE PROCESS OF SUBMITTING PAPERWORK FOR REVIEW AND REGISTRATION.

For specific questions contact: Caryl Spira at spirac@ipfw.edu

3. CHANGES IN PAPERWORK AND/OR PROCEDURES FOR JUNIOR DIVISION LEVEL

According to the SEFI:

Change #1: All hazardous chemicals, devices, and activities are prohibited for projects from grade 6-8 students

Change #2: Bacterial studies are permitted by SEFI under the condition they are conducted in a school setting using one of the approved bacterial cultures with a teacher who is familiar with and trained for BSL-1 risk level. You can read about the BSL levels and how to determine risk levels by clicking on ISEF Rules and Guidelines at:

www.societyforscience.org

Change #3: ALL STUDENT PROJECTS at both the junior and senior level require an abstract to be written when paperwork is submitted at the time of Regional Fair registration (even those that have already been reviewed during Pre-Review).

Please make sure the student's abstract is in a WORD document for later submission to the State Fair if the student should advance.

More information on abstracts is posted on the Regional Fair website: <http://www.ipfw.edu/scifair/OfficialAbstract.htm>

Change #4: All grade 6-12 students that advance to the State Fair are expected (recommended but not required) to have the following items: log book, research paper, exhibit board, approval form (included in the regional forms you will submit).

More information on these recommended items will be posted on the Regional Fair website under State Fair Recommendations.

4. We want to welcome our new Scientific Review Committee Chair:

Professor Stephen Coburn: Professor Emeritus in the Department of Chemistry at IPFW. Dr. Coburn holds a B.S. in Agriculture from Rutgers University, and a M.S. and Ph.D. in Biochemistry from Purdue University. He was the Director of the Biochemistry Department at the Fort Wayne State Developmental Center from 1963-2003 becoming the Director of the Clinical Laboratory in 1989. He began teaching chemistry part-time at IPFW in 1964 until his recent retirement.
Email: coburn@ipfw.edu

Co-Chair for the SRC is Professor Augusto De Venanzi who will assist with junior division projects this year involving human subjects. Dr. De Venanzi holds a B.A. in Sociology from University of Kent (UK) and a PhD from the University of Surrey (UK). He came to IPFW in 2005 and is a Professor of Sociology.
Email: devevana@ipfw.edu

Please do not hesitate to contact Carol Dostal, Caryl Spira, or one of the SRC Chair for questions.

Thank you,

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Indiana Regional Future City www.etcfs.ipfw.edu/fcc
Indiana FIRST LEGO League www.etcfs.ipfw.edu/fll
NE Indiana Reg. Science and Engineering Fair www.ipfw.edu/scifair