

OIRA COMMONS

Student Writing Contest

OIRA AND THE MODERN PRESIDENCY

The Center for Regulatory Effectiveness (CRE) is pleased to announce its inaugural nation-wide Student Writing Competition, a writing competition open to all graduate students enrolled in any law, political science, public policy, public administration or economics courses. Exceptional undergraduate research will also be considered. Students may be enrolled either part-time or full time, but must be a student at the time of his or her submission.

The Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs (OIRA) is charged with the responsibility of reviewing proposed collections of information and developing government-wide information policies. At the time of its inception, some thirty-five years ago, its mission was expanded to include the review of executive agency rulemaking. In the ensuing time period, there has been only a limited expansion in OIRA's mission. Consequently, the CRE invites talented student researchers to submit original scholarly articles that provide in-depth analyses and recommendations for ways in which OIRA can adapt its mission to meet the ever-changing needs of today's more significant regulatory public policy concerns as set forth in Section II below.

CONTEST GUIDELINES AND CRITERIA

I. Award Criteria

- A. The CRE will present an award based on originality of research and scholastic excellence to a student who writes a substantive paper on **The Role of OIRA in the Modern Presidency**.
- B. The competition will be judged by nationally recognized scholars (hereinafter the "Committee")
- C. **Student winners will receive an award of \$10,000 and promotion of the winning paper to the media, federal agencies, the Congress and academic institutions. The winner will also receive round trip expenses for a discussion with a participating news organization, Congressional Committee or a Federal Agency.**

II. Suggested Topics

- A. Should the cumulative cost of regulations imposed by federal regulators be capped? Why or why not? What mechanism, if any, should be used to set such a cap on compliance costs?
- B. Should OIRA's regulatory review role be expanded to include independent agencies? Discuss the political, legal, and/or economic implications of such an expansion.
- C. The Department of Justice (DOJ) has informed courts that OIRA is the ultimate decision-maker on Requests for Correction filed pursuant to the Data Quality Act (DQA). What are the implications of this decision? Should the DOJ change its position that decisions made with respect to the DQA are not judicially reviewable?
- D. The Administrative Procedure Act delineates the federal rulemaking process. Does an examination of its history demonstrate that it is a simple codification of the then-existing rulemaking process, or was it aimed at providing a shield to assaults on New Deal programs?

Consult this link to get started: http://www.thecre.com/oira_reg/?p=7518

Background Information at <http://www.thecre.com/forum2/?p=981>

III. Format

- A. Papers should be between 20 and 40 typewritten, double-spaced, letter-sized pages of text with 1 inch margins and Times New Roman 12 font. Citations should conform with the citation style most appropriate to the subject-matter of the submission.
- B. Each contestant must send an electronic copy of their submission to commons@thecre.com by 12:00 p.m. (EST), May 25, 2016.

Please note: Late submissions may be published at the discretion of the Committee but will not be considered for an honorarium. Once submitted to the CRE, papers may not be altered or resubmitted with corrections.

- C. In addition to the author's substantive research paper, each submission must include the following introductory components (respectively):
 - a. Cover page with complete mailing address, email address, and phone number
 - b. Resume
 - c. 150 word abstract
- D. Submissions must be sent to commons@thecre.com as a single PDF and labeled in the following format: [Last name]_[First initial]_2016CRE (Ex: "Doe_J_2016CRE").

- E. Please feel free to contact the CRE at contact@thecre.com with any questions.

IV. Additional Terms and Conditions

- A. The CRE is not responsible for any computer or software errors, internet failures, misdirected emails, printing errors in these rules, or other technical failures incurred by contestants.
- B. By entering this contest, contestant:
1. Represents that his/her essay is original content;
 2. Understands that the CRE will not return his/her submitted essay copy;
 3. Agrees that the CRE may use his/her name and likeness in connection with this contest and a winning essay;
 4. Agrees that the CRE may publish a winning essay and gives the CRE a right of publication worldwide and the right to use contestant's name, likeness and biography in connection with such publication; and
 5. Agrees that the CRE has the right to edit the essay to conform to the periodical's standards of style, technological requirements, language usage, grammar, and punctuation, provided that the meaning of the essay is not materially altered.

ABOUT THE CRE

The Center for Regulatory Effectiveness (CRE), is a regulatory watchdog founded and managed by former [regulatory officials](#) of the regulatory review office (OIRA) in the White House Office of Management and Budget. The CRE's mission is to ensure that regulators comply with the "good government" laws which regulate the regulators. The CRE manages a number of websites dedicated to increasing the effectiveness of the regulatory process, including [OMB Watch](#) and [TheOMB.US](#), a website focused on OMB's role in centralized regulatory review.