The U.S. voluntary standards system administered by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) is a dynamic tool for U.S. economic growth. Through deployment of standards, innovative development of critical emerging technologies such as Smart Grid, healthcare IT, and cybersecurity are spurred. This competition invites students to explore their own unique perspective on how standards facilitate innovation and how society as a whole can benefit.

Submission criteria
Papers must demonstrate why and how standards spur innovation, drive U.S. competitiveness, and benefit society. All entries must be submitted by 5 pm ET on August 1, 2012, to lrajchel@ansi.org, and adhere to the following:

- Must be written and submitted by student(s) (associate, undergraduate, or graduate, in any discipline) enrolled during the period of March 2012 to September 2012 in a U.S. higher education institution
- Must have a title, a list of names of all contributing authors and their contact details, indicate the affiliated academic institution, and be prefaced with an abstract of no more than 400 words
- 2,000 words maximum (not including notes, tables, charts, and bibliography, which may not exceed 3 pages)
- In English and suitable for publication (assistance will be offered for final editing before publication of winning paper)
- Electronic format only, preferably Microsoft Word or other revisable format, in12-point type size
- Original and not previously published (copyright will remain with the author; winners grant publication rights to ANSI and to any of the sponsoring organizations, as well as the right to release entries to other media)

Judging and presentation
Three members of the ANSI Committee on Education (COE) Student Paper Competition task group will screen all entries and recommend finalists for consideration by ANSI (ANSI reserves the right to award no prizes). First, second, and third place winners will be awarded $2,500, $1,000, and $500 respectively. The winning papers will be announced on October 10, 2012, during the Annual ANSI Awards Banquet and Ceremony, and awards will be presented at an ANSI COE event on October 12 in Washington, DC (a small stipend will be given for travel for the first and second place winners if travel is required). Selected papers will be published on ANSI’s website, www.ansi.org.

MORE INFORMATION  Contact Lisa Rajchel, ANSI Committee on Education; 212.642.4932; lrajchel@ansi.org