The RACS Dissection Prize Competition Committee is eager to receive your dissection proposals for consideration for this year’s competition.  We will be accepting submissions until 5pm Friday 14th October 2011.  Any late submissions will not be considered under any circumstances.

***How to Enter the Competition:***

1. Email Matt Wissemann ([m.wissemann@uq.edu.au](mailto:m.wissemann@uq.edu.au)) **and** Andrew Veprek ([a.veprek@uq.edu.au](mailto:a.veprek@uq.edu.au)) with three dissection plans utilising **3 different specimen types** (i.e. not 3 different dissections of the head, for example) that you wish to dissect. The three proposals must be from **different** regions of the body.
2. All specimens contain a size restriction; as a result the specimen has to be able to be potted. Potted entails placing your specimen in a perspex display case, performed by the staff of the Facility. The approximate size of the pots is as per the size in the museum. (Ie. You will not be provided with an entire lower limb or torso for example). **In addition**, please provide the sectioning parameters along with each preference (ie. upper limb sectioned mid humerus with elbow/forearm/hand intact, or knee joint sectioned a few inches above and below the patella, or sagittal head only [no neck required], or sagittal pelvis required sectioned above the ASIS and mid humerus. You have to provide the proximal, distal, lateral and medial margins of the specimen if applicable). This information lets the staff know how to section your specimen so it is most suitable for your dissection proposal. Note: specimens are not guaranteed.
3. Provide your dissection experience so that the Committee can determine your eligibility. You may have had numerous accounts of dissection, please provide all details. Ie. Enrolled in BIOM3002 (human dissection course), MEDI1000 Dissection Experience, etc.
4. Include information on (i) the course you’re currently enrolled in, (ii) the year that you’re currently in, and (iii) if graduating at the end of the year, information on your future studies or otherwise.  If you’re not going to be a UQ student throughout the period the competition runs, you’ll have to complete a Volunteer Form in order to be eligible.

**The above four points must be included in your proposal as an eligible application!** Remember, not everyone who submits a dissection proposal will gain a place in the Competition.  Not everyone will get their first preference of specimen.  Entries are based on a first come first serve basis.

***Additional Information:***

**Inductions:**

1. You will also need to complete a 30-45min competition-specific, local lab induction with Matt Wissemann and Andrew Veprek prior to the commencement of the competition.  These inductions will be performed in the Gross Anatomy Facility (Level 2) and is a chance for the participant to ask questions or to clarify any information that may not be clear.   The details of these will be distributed after submissions have been received.  These inductions will be performed in groups and several timeslots will be available. You **do not require** PPE for when you attend your induction.
2. Anyone who has not completed a School Induction run by Robyn Oram or James Lynch in the last 5 years will need to complete one.  You will need to supply the Committee with a copy of your training sheet to prove you’ve completed this induction. If you have not completed a School induction, these dates/times/locations will be supplied to you after submissions have been received.

All inductions must be completed by the end of the last week of October so the competition can begin in November.

**Competition Timeline:**

The competition starts in November and runs through to the end of January.  You will be supplied with dates and times that you will be able to dissect in the Dissection Lab after you have completed your inductions.  All dissections must be performed during these times as no afterhours access is permitted.

Students use standard dissection instruments as per the kits available from the Co-Op Bookshop, except when specific tools such as bone saws are to be used. Other specific tools may be supplied by the Gross Anatomy Facility and will be used by the student who has completed training course in use of the specific instrument.  All training will be taught by staff of the Gross Anatomy Facility.

At the end of January, all dissections must be completed.  You will also be asked to provide a one-sided A4 write up of your dissection that will also need to be completed by this date.

***Display of Specimen:***

This year the rules have changed from previous years and creativity and artistic display are encouraged (as per the judging criteria). In this competition you may use display materials such as coloured/numbered/alphabetised pins (provided by the GAF), thin black/coloured plastic to be used as visual aids, ribbon, rope, string, paint, rubber tubing, etc. to enhance the display and/or focus of your specimens.

As with the use of this material, the final orientation of the specimen must be thought-out well and if the participant wishes to use this material you must discuss with Andrew and Matt on how these materials are going to be utilised as some use of this material can breach ethics. Each participant will be handled on a case by case basis. These materials can only be used if they are “permanent fixtures” and not “temporary” for judging day only. More detailed will be supplied in inductions.

***Judging:***

On the day of judging, usually a Friday afternoon during February, students may attend to their specimen prior to the judging to organise the optimal display of their own entry. During this time, no dissection is permitted. More information will be provided throughout the year.

***Exclusions from this Competition and Future Competitions:***

If the participant submits the proposals, the staff then allocates this participant a specimen and the participant chooses to “pull out” of the competition at this stage or any stage after this point, this will exclude you in participating in this year’s competition and future competitions. Please consider very carefully and make the commitment over the November to January periods.

***Conclusion:***

You will be notified by email if you have been successful at gaining a place in the RACS Dissection Competition 2011/2012.  All correspondence regarding Dissection Prize will be through email from Andrew Veprek and Matt Wissemann.  Looking forward to the entries.