

# ST. AUGUSTINE UNIVERSITY OF TANZANIA



## DIRECTORATE OF POSTGRADUATE STUDIES RESEARCH AND CONSULTANCY

### DISSERTATION COMPETITION ANNOUNCEMENT FOR 2017 GRADUANTS

The office of Postgraduate Studies, Research and Consultancy is pleased to announce a University-wide dissertation competition for the second year Masters students at the St. Augustine University of Tanzania in the current academic year 2016/2017.

#### Who is Eligible?

- All registered second year masters students (SAUT - Mwanza Campus) whose dissertations have successfully passed both internal and external examination.

#### Why Participate

- The competition provides opportunity for masters students to showcase their research work to a wider SAUT community.
- The competition is a means of building confidence and interest in individual students to further engage in research as a means for scholarly growth.
- The competition may also provide graduate students with an opportunity to refine research skills that can be transferred after graduation to diverse career paths.
- The best dissertation will have opportunity for possible publication on one of our University journals or may be assisted to be published on the national or international journals.
- The winner's certificates will potentially add value to their academic CV.

#### Judging Criteria

The following criteria will be used to assess the quality of dissertations:

- It shows a proof of originality, well written and organized.
- It should have passed both in the external examination and oral defence (preferably with an A or B+ grade).
- It addresses an important question or problem in the student's field of study.
- It clearly states the problem studied and why it is important.
- The content demonstrates maturity and author's ability to think critically and independently.
- Arguments made are focused, logical and rigorous.
- It demonstrates authors' deep understanding of theory and ability to relate findings to previous studies and theory that guided the study.

- The research approach, design, methods for data collection and analysis are clearly and brilliantly discussed.
- It presents rich data from multiple sources.
- Results are significant.
- Discussion and conclusion made is comprehensive in that it ties the whole thing together.
- Implications from the research are brilliant and achievable.
- It has the likelihood of being published in recognized peer reviewed journals
- It is of interest to a large community and has the potential to change the way people think in relation to the issue studied.
- It adds knowledge to the discipline and suggestions for new possibilities for future researchers.
- It does not infringe on intellectual property laws.
- It is double spaced and not less than 70 pages excluding references and appendices.
- Consistently follows the agreed upon formatting style both in the in text citations and reference lists e.g. APA, MLA, Chicago, Harvard, or Vancouver.

### Competition Procedures

- The competition will begin with nomination of dissertations in the month of September 2017.
- The candidates wishing to participate in the competition may nominate themselves by submitting a soft copy of their dissertation and a cover letter to the office of the Dean of faculty or school (The letter should clearly express the applicant's intent to enter the competition and the reasons for which they believe their dissertations deserves an official a recognition by the university). Deadline for submitting is October 16<sup>th</sup>, 2017
- The dean together with a team of Judges (three to four faculty members who he/she will appoint will evaluate the dissertations based on the criteria provided above for the purpose of shortlisting.
- Shortlisting will be as follows:
  - Faculty of education 4
  - Faculty of Business 2
  - Faculty of Social Sciences 1
  - School of Law 1
- Dissertations of the shortlisted students will be submitted to the office of Postgraduate studies with a cover letter from the office of the dean not later than October 30<sup>th</sup>, 2017.
- The office of Postgraduate Studies will forward shortlisted dissertations to the Higher Degree Committee for final selection of three top winners.
- The winners will be officially recognized and awarded during the community day event in the month of November 2017.

Thanks for your cooperation.

Sincerely,





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Sr. Dr. Chrispina Lekule PhD.  
Director Postgraduate Studies, Research and Consultancy