## IPRA  iLearn Competition Criteria

**iLearn Assignment**

Acting as the Oak Brook Park District, develop a sustainability committee project proposal (written and oral presentation).

Four person teams will work collaboratively to determine roles/responsibilities; and work with an IPRA moderator once a month to complete research project and prepare for presentation.

Teams will share their presentation as part of iLearn, a virtual undergraduate research competition.

**Benefits of iLearn Participation**

Mentorship from current Parks and Recreation professionals.

Exposure to potential internships, job opportunities, and the ability to network with current Parks and Recreation professionals.

The winning team will have the opportunity to attend and present at IPRA's 2024 Soaring To New Heights Conference in Chicago, IL January 25 - 27, 2024.

**iLearn Research Project Criteria Timeline**

Each team will conduct, analyze and present to IPRA leaders the results of an original project.  Two different research approaches – one qualitative, one quantitative – are to be conducted by each team and synthesized (along with primary research) for written research project and pitch presentation.

**Timeline**

- May 1, 2023 - verbal commitment from professors
- August 28 – September 8, 2023: Team registration due to IPRA
- September 18 – 22, 2023: First Moderator Meeting (View details below)
- October 16 – 20, 2023: Second Moderator Meeting (View details below) Q&A with Oak Brook - to be scheduled
- November 6 – 17, 2023: Final Moderator Meeting (View details below)
- November 17, 2023: Final projects submitted to IPRA's Dropbox
- December 1, 2023: Scheduled Q&A session with iLearn judges
- December 8, 2023: iLearn winner announced

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**Deadline**

Projects must be submitted to IPRA's Dropbox by **11:59 pm on November 17, 2023.**

**Prize**

The winning team will present their research findings at IPRA's Soaring to New Heights Conference January 25 - January 27, 2024.

**Prompt / iLearn Objectives**

As part of Oak Brook Park District's Sustainability Committee, your committee is looking to achieve the following objectives for the upcoming fiscal year:

- Develop sustainable initiatives to incorporate into three existing Oak Brook Park District events.
- Introduce 2 - 4 NEW community outreach programs, projects and/or initiatives to the Oak Brook community.
- Plant pollinator gardens at 3 Oak Brook Park District locations.
- Above objectives to align with provided Sustainability committee budget and/or Oak Brook Park District capital project support, industry grants or sponsorship from local businesses and/or partners of Oak Brook Park District (iLearn teams to select and present on budget and funding).

**Resources**
- Link to Oak Brook Park District's Strategic Plan - https://www.obparks.org/master-and-strategic-plans
- Link to Oak Brook Park District Events - https://www.obparks.org/special-events
- Q&A session (October 2023) with members of Oak Brook Park District's Sustainability Committee

**Target Market**
Target market includes residents, organizations, and local businesses within the city of Oak Brook, IL.

**Budget**
Oak Brook Park District's Sustainability Committee receives $250 annually from Oak Brook Park District's budget.

The committee also receives support by budgeting efforts as part of capital projects.

Sustainability Committee applies for grants and partners with local businesses to support sustainability initiatives.

**Sustainability Committee Accomplishments include:**

- LED Lighting upgrade/replacement at the Family Recreation Center as well as all outdoor and sports lighting at Central Park.
- Rain gardens at the Central Park North Athletic Fields campus
- Gabion Weir replacement at Ginger Creek
- Pollinator Garden at Family Recreation Center
- Establishment of a honey bee apiary at the Dean Nature Sanctuary

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**Scope of Work**

The Scope of Work is designed to establish what sustainability efforts are needed as well as encourage local residents and businesses to get involved and increase overall visibility of Oak Brook Park District's efforts.

Support documentations / efforts for Sustainability Committee are not limited to, but can include:

- Collaboration with marketing / communication to develop targeted public relations campaigns to generate feature articles, event listings, and support for media outreach efforts.
- Coordination with third parties / local partners to establish relationships and/or donate to the cause monetarily and/or with additional resources.
- Comprehensive results, overall value, and how sustainability efforts will be measured.

**Proposal Requirements**

- Approach to iLearn Objectives and Scope of Work - Provide a detailed overview of your proposed strategies and descriptions of your approach to each iLearn objective and scope of work.

- Project Timeline (execution dates to achieve objectives and iLearn scope of work).

- Approach to measuring success, including budget.

**Submission Requirements**

(1) Research document - electronic copy – submitted to IPRA Dropbox
    a. (10 pages written + additional appendix)
    b. APA format and citations
    c. Appendix will not be counted toward page requirements

(2) Presentation documents and/or presentation resources utilized during presentation

(3) Recording of final presentation

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**Final Project / Presentation Requirements**

iLearn participants must submit both their research document, presentation documents, and recording of final presentation virtually to IPRA's Dropbox by the November 17 deadline.

Presentations must contain original student research and include APA format citations.  The students presenting must conduct the research, absolutely no substitutions.

Presentations must include a visual component.  Teams can utilize any platform to create the presentation.

Presenters must submit all documents and/or presentation resources utilized during presentation.

Presentations must be between 30 and 45 minutes.

iLearn subcommittee will schedule virtual, 30 minute Q&A sessions on December 1 with iLearn Judges.

Presenters should wear business attire during the virtual recording (if shown on camera), and during the Q&A session.

**Judging Criteria**

I. Original Research – 20 points total
   a. Significance of research – research supports overall goals/objectives  (1-5) _____
   b. Creativity and Originality (1-5) _____
   c. Source reliability (1-5) _____
   d. Formatting and Citations (APA formatting) (1-5) _____

TOTAL _____ / 20

II. Organization (Logical Presentation of Ideas)
   a. Objectives/Goals are clearly stated (1-5) _____
   b. Results are clearly stated (1-5) _____
   c. Thoughts and ideas flow logically (1-5) _____
   d. Results accomplish the purpose of the project (1-5) _____

TOTAL _____ / 20

III. Presentation (Oral Presentation and Delivery)
   a. Posture, eye contact, overall audience engagement (1-5) _____
   b. Good dictation and articulation (1-5) _____
   c. Effectively supports research (1-5) _____
   d. Visual presentation (1-5) _____

TOTAL _____ / 20

IV. Knowledge of Materials (Familiarity with Subject Matter)
   a. Exhibits knowledge of subject matter (1-5) _____
   b. Answers questions with confidence (1-5) _____
   c. References research (1-5) _____
   d. Alignment with standards provided (1-5) _____

TOTAL _____ / 20

V. Overall Presentation
   a. Legibility / Readability  (1-5) _____
   b. Visual / Creative / Branding (1-5) _____
   c. Time limit (1-5) _____
   d. Presenters use of notes / references (1-5) _____

TOTAL _____ / 20

FINAL TOTAL _____ / 100

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**Moderators and Moderator Meetings**

One moderator is assigned per iLearn group to act as a coach, provide feedback to team professors and prepare teams for their final iLearn presentation.

All moderators will schedule team meetings on the following weeks with the following agendas. To ensure fair competition, moderators will keep teams on schedule and be available to provide feedback.

- o September 18– September 22
    - Introductions
    - Competition overview
    - Establish the expectations for October meeting
        - Summary of roles (who on your team is doing what)
        - Start of research component / direction
    - Schedule next meeting (week of October 17)

- o October 16 – October 20
    - Summary of roles (who on your team is doing what)
    - Team to provide brief summary of research / findings to moderator
    - Moderators to answer any questions about the written, research portion
    - Based on research, teams to share any specific direction for the presentation / presentation ideas
    - Begin presentation requirements / brainstorm / outline / etc.
    - Schedule next two meetings (presentation practice run) – (November 6 – November 16)

- o November 6 – November 16 (meeting 1 of 2)
    - Teams will have a practice presentation with moderator
    - Moderator to provide feedback
    - Moderator will provide any reminders about the competition and logistics (schedule, what they should wear, who the judges are, etc.)
    - Moderators will schedule final practice presentation (week prior to competition)

- o November 6 – November 16 (meeting 2 of 2)
    - Final presentation practice run with moderators
    - Competition reminders and logistics will be shared

- o November 17
    - Final presentations submitted to IPRA's Dropbox

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- Outside of four meetings, moderators will be available to answer additional questions via email or scheduled phone call.

- Note moderators are not to contribute or provide research and/or findings to the presentation or research.

- Moderators are required to attend and be present during Q&A session.

- Moderators are encouraged to attend winning team's presentation at IPRA's Soaring To New Heights Conference.

If you have any questions throughout the process, please do not hesitate to contact your iLearn moderator or iLearn Committee Member:

- Deanna Angelini Johann at djohann@gurneeparkdistrict.com or 847-599-3785
- Conor Cahill at ccahill@rmparks.org or 847-818-3200 x1238.
- Kayla Lindgren at kayla.lindgren@pdop.org or (708) 725-2315
- Juan Acevedo at jacevedo@wheelingparkdistrict.com or

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