The 2020 Competition "Sharjah Chamber Award for Innovators"

The University of Sharjah organizes in collaboration with Sharjah Chamber of Commerce and Industry the 2020 Competition of "Sharjah Chamber Award for Innovators" and is pleased to announce the opening of the registration in the Competition.

The targeted Students:

The award is open for all the University students and the high school students (Grades 10,11,12) from both the public, private, and technical schools in the UAE in addition to other countries. The award is open to all nationals and non-nationals students in the UAE.

The registration link and Deadline:

The registration deadline is Wednesday, 11th of November 2020. The shortlisted groups will be announced on the **Tuesday, 17th of November 2020.**

The registration link is: www.sharjah.ac.ae/ieforum6

The Competition has the following 2 Categories:
1- **Research Category**
2- **Project Category**

The total prizes worth 100,000 AED divided among 8 winning groups as follows:

3- **The Research Category**
   1st Winner: 20,000 AED
   2nd Winner: 15,000 AED
   3rd Winner: 10,000 AED
   4th Winner: 5,000 AED

4- **The Project Category**
   1st Winner: 20,000 AED
   2nd Winner: 15,000 AED
   3rd Winner: 10,000 AED
   4th Winner: 5,000 AED

Participation Type (Individual/Group):

Each school can participate with as many groups as they want. Participants can be individuals or groups each has as many students as needed.

The Mentors Role, Registration, and Mentoring Sessions:

Each school has to provide one or more mentor for its participating groups. The mentor of the group is kindly requested to register the students' ideas through the following registration link:

www.sharjah.ac.ae/ieforum6

In the registration form the mentor will enter his/her information (first name, last name, School or University, School/university name, nationality, email, mobile#, Project/Research, The Idea Brief, group project (yes/no), names of participating students, and students' Emails)

For school students, UOS contact will be with the mentors mainly. The University will organize two mentoring sessions for the mentors to meet and inform them about what information and training they have to do for their students in terms of Design Thinking Process, Creating Prototypes and so on.

The UOS we will be happy to answer and receive any comments from the mentors during the mentoring sessions regarding the development of their students' projects.

All the mentoring sessions will be through Microsoft Teams.

Presentation Skills Workshop

The UOS will organize **a presentation skills workshop for participating students**, where a coach will be giving the students some tips on what and what not to include in their presentations in front of the panel of judges, and this will be **in January one week before the judging session.**

The judging session

In the judging session, students will be requested to present their ideas in front of a panel of judges who are entrepreneurs and specialized experts and they are requested to show case their prototype that they have developed through the learning process (Videos to be shared by the UOS in addition to the mentors' involvement and support to students).

 With regard to the research category, students will have to submit their research a **few days before the presentation** in order for the panel of judges to be able to check plagiarism and to know more about the students' ideas and work.

The panel of judges for the research category are academics from several universities.

The students will be judged on the two categories based on the below criteria:

First- the Projects Category:
1. Innovative Idea
2. Design Thinking Tools
3. Prototype
4. Applicability

Second- the Research Category:
1. Originality
2. Theoretical Framework
3. Research Methods
4. Results
5. Recommendations

Areas of participation and Conditions:

The areas of participation are not limited to any field. Possible areas of participations are: automating traditional approaches, artificial intelligence projects, big data, connectors, electrical extensions, instruments that measures level of concentrations, energy storage, telescopes, space exploring research, etc.

Students are not allowed to participate with projects/research ideas that they participated with previously in any competition.

Once the student registers in the competition the judges will evaluate their brief in order to shortlist his/her idea or exclude it, so the student is not required to have a ready prototype, but through the learning process, the student has to build the prototype.

The Announcement of the Winners

The winners of the Sharjah Chamber Award for Innovators will be announced in the 6th International Forum on Innovation and Entrepreneurship in February 2021 during the Innovation Month in Sharjah.

All the shortlisted students will be given the chance to exhibit their ideas. Many entrepreneurs and VIPs from the community will be invited to attend the Forum and they will go through the students' projects. This is in case the forum took place on campus, but in case we were instructed to have it virtually, things will be changed and announced to all participants.

For inquiries, mentors/teachers can contact **Ms Salwa El Nasser** on **06-5050511 / selnassar@sharjah.ac.ae** during office hours 7:30 am – 2:30 pm