

Spring 2009 Spencer Prize

This prize will be awarded jointly to a graduate instructor of a First-Year Writing Seminar and his/her student for work done as a normal part of the course that led to the student's finished essay. The teacher may, for example, have designed a sequence of readings accompanied by journal entries, analyses of texts, drafts, and revisions, culminating in a student essay. The essay itself may well be one that is significant not because it is "perfect" but because it shows that the student improved significantly in understanding of the discipline and in ability to write within that discipline. The award is intended to recognize productive collaboration between an instructor and a student.

Publication of the essay in next year's *Discoveries* is possible.

To enter this contest, the instructor and student should organize and submit the following materials with the application form below:

- a) An outline or table of contents which will guide readers through the packet of materials.
- b) Rationales written by both the student and by the instructor explaining the methods, goals, and achievements represented in the sequence of work.
- c) The writing assignments and a description of the reading assignments that led to the final polished piece.
- d) The student's work that was submitted at each step of this process, including, of course, the final essay.

Only one entry can be submitted from each class.

These materials may be used by the Knight Institute Staff as part of their faculty development programs, including the training courses for Writing in the Majors TAs and Graduate Instructors of First Year Writing Seminars.

The amount of the prize will be \$350 to the graduate student instructor and \$350 to his/her student (honorable mentions, if any, will receive \$125 each).

Submissions are due in 101 McGraw Hall by Friday, May 8. No exceptions can be made.

Spring 2009 Spencer Prize Application

~Please Print Clearly~

Instructor's name _____

Department _____ Course # and title _____

Student's name _____ College _____

Local address _____ Class of _____

Local telephone _____ Email (Cornell and/or otherwise) _____

Home address _____

Home telephone _____ Hometown Newspaper _____

Should I win a prize, I give the John S. Knight Institute permission to publish, quote from, and/or distribute copies of the materials submitted, and to distribute publicity to newspapers and other publications, local and/or national, about my winning the prize. I am also prepared to send electronic versions of my text to the Knight Institute (knight_institute@cornell.edu). I understand that I will receive the award for my prize-winning essay upon submission of the electronic text.

Title of Essay

Student's signature _____ Date _____

Instructor's signature _____ Date _____