## ASP 2018 STUDENT COMPETITION
### ROUND 1 RUBRIC - WRITTEN APPLICATIONS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criterion</th>
<th>Excellent</th>
<th>Good 4-3</th>
<th>Average 3-2</th>
<th>Deficient</th>
<th>Score</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **Background & Significance**| • Clearly describes rationale for the study  
• Places research in larger context of primatology  
• Describes a new research question or new methods/procedures  
• Conclusions explain importance of research within broader context of primatology | Some elements deficient or missing | Many, but not most, elements deficient or missing | • Rationale for study is unclear  
• Poor case for importance of research  
• Novelty of research question or methods is unclear  
• Conclusions are lacking in significance to primatology | |
| **Research Design**         | • Clearly and briefly explains methods so they are understandable  
• Introduces and defines new terms, concepts, methods  
• Does not assume reader knows methods  
• Statistical analyses are appropriate | Some elements deficient or missing | Many, but not most, elements deficient or missing | • Methods are confusing, not easily understood  
• New terms, methods, concepts are not defined or explained  
• Causes confusion for reader  
• Statistical analyses are inappropriate | |
| **Organization**            | • Logical flow is present: Background, Research Question, Methods, Results, Conclusions  
• Fluid transitions from one topic to the next  
• Figures, if present, are easy to read and understand | Some elements deficient or missing | Many, but not most, elements deficient or missing | • Jumpy or sporadic flow; presentation is difficult to follow; not sequential  
• Transitions are awkward or sudden  
• Figures are difficult to interpret | |
| **Writing/Format**          | • Is professional and written like a mini-manuscript  
• Is largely error-free (grammar, spelling, punctuation)  
• Contains all components/follows directions (cover letter, writes in prose instead of bullets, adheres to word count, etc.) | Some elements deficient or missing | Many, but not most, elements deficient or missing | • Multiple deficiencies including many typos, grammar and punctuation errors  
• Is too colloquial  
• Writing is difficult to follow  
• Does not follow instructions and/or several parts are missing | |
| **Overall evaluation of application** | • All elements of the application were excellent | Some elements deficient or missing, Many, but not most, elements deficient or missing | • Most elements of application were deficient | |

**Total Score (out of 25 possible)**

**Strengths:**

**Suggestions for improvement:**