

Earthzine Announces its Second Annual College and University Student Essay and Blogging Contest Theme “Making Citizen Observations a Global Vision”

Earthzine will host its second essay and blogging competition in 2010 for college and university students worldwide on the theme “Making Citizen Observations a Global Vision.”

“As a web magazine dedicated to fostering Earth observation and global awareness, *Earthzine* hopes to encourage a new generation of Earth observers through these competitions,” said Editor-in-Chief Paul E. Racette, D Sc.

“The 2010 essay theme, “Making Citizen Observations a Global Vision,” seeks to explore the benefits and challenges of the collaborative role citizen observers play in the collection and validation of Earth observations,” he said.

The contest is open to undergraduate and graduate college and university students who are currently enrolled in any program of study at least half-time at an accredited institution worldwide. More information is posted on *Earthzine* .

Associate Editor for Education David F. Mullins, PhD, said, “I’m excited about this year’s essay contest! Everyone in the world makes observations of the Earth in one way or another every day, so this contest is really open to students from practically every discipline.”

Judges will choose the contest finalists based on the quality of their written essays. The finalists’ essays will be posted on *Earthzine* and the winners selected on the quality of their online blogging that explores and debates the concepts presented in the essays. Winners will receive certificates of award, share \$1200 cash prizes with \$500 for first place, as well as international recognition afforded by *Earthzine* publication. Finalists will receive a t-shirt.



Earthzine’s [first 2009 student essay contest](#), “Sustainability through Earth Observation and Engineering”, drew entries from Africa, India, Russia, and the United States. The three winners were: **David Tshimba**, Uganda Martyrs University, Kampala, **Uganda**; **Sulaiman Tejan Jalloh**, Institute of Advanced Management and Technology, Freetown, **Sierra Leone**, West Africa; and **Benjamin-Axel Mugema**, Uganda Martyrs University, Kampala, **Uganda**.

Earthzine is an on-line publication of the [Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers \(IEEE\)](#). *Earthzine* supports the [Group on Earth Observation \(GEO\)](#) in establishing the Global Earth Observation System of Systems, and provides informative articles for citizens, policy planners and others on the environmental status and impacts of climate change to the nine GEOSS societal benefit areas: agriculture, biodiversity, climate, disasters, ecosystems, energy, health, water and weather.

**Important Dates for 2010
Earthzine Essay and Blogging
Competition**

September 22 (Equinox):
Essays due to *Earthzine*

October 4: Judging complete
and finalist essays prepared for
posting

October 7 (New Moon):
Blogging begins

November 13: Essay blogging
ends and judging occurs

November 21 (Full Moon):
Announce winners

Submit essays to: David F Mullins
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