PROTO TYPE

Memorial University Faculty of Engineering and Applied Sciences
Journal of Undergraduate Research and Scholarship

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for
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and
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Proto-
From Ancient Greek πρωτο- (proto-),
combination form of πρώτος (protos, "'first'"),
superlative of πρό (pro, "'before'").

CONCEPT

PROTO is a "Peer Reviewed Online Technical Outlet" to be used by work term 5 or 6 students as an alternative to writing work term reports. It is to be a venue for dissemination of scholarly work undertaken by these senior undergraduate students under the supervision of a faculty member. The work is to be reviewed, corrected and validated by the faculty advisor prior to submission for publication. Topics may be student-initiated or faculty research-driven.

STRUCTURE

The proposed journal is to be hosted online, administered by an appointed faculty person, and would have the appearance and formality of peer-reviewed professional publications administered by professional societies and organizations. The published work (approx 8 pages as per IEEE protocols) would be accessible by all in perpetuity, and may be searched by author, title, date and key words. The schedule can be developed to harmonize with the academic calendar so that, abstract submissions, draft submissions and final submissions may fall on prescribed dates that are convenient for faculty and students. The work is to be carried out over the work term period and a forum may be developed for the presentation of papers/results at the start of the next academic semester.

BENEFITS

- Provides formal writing venue for students without the cost and schedule commitments/constraints of traditional conference proceedings and professional journals.
- Adds validity to student work while maintaining the necessary partition between undergraduate work and that of graduate and professional researchers.
- Provides lasting reference and builds publication record for the student participant and faculty co-author.
- Provides student research forum presently not available and gives professors opportunity to attract and test-drive potential graduate students.
- Student and professor receive writing credits/authorship and professors get course/teaching relief at rate of 1 course per 27 papers supervised/reviewed.
- Awards may be developed for outstanding research, and, involvement of professional societies such as the CSCE, SNAME may be sought.