

# WINNERS OF THE 2010 INNOVATION CONTEST

Innovation Quest is very excited to announce the four winners of this year's Innovation Contest.

## **The 2010 Innovation Contest was more competitive than ever before!**

The 16 Finalists represented the best set of presentations ever presented in the history of the Innovation Contest. The vast majority of Finalists clearly can pursue successful ventures and are encouraged to do so. The winners were simply the best of the best in the opinion of the judges on that day.

After viewing the presentations from the 16 Finalists on April 24th, the Judges decided on the top four winners.

## **Which of the four winners specifically won 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place and the QL+ Award will be announced at the IQ Innovation Awards Dinner**

**on Friday May 7th at Cal Poly (location TBD), 6-9 pm.**

**All Finalists and Judges are invited (an RSVP invitation email to follow)**

In **alphabetical** order the four winning finalists are:

### **Adapttech Mobility Powered Wheelchair**

**by Kimberly Todd**

### **Gamers Portal**

**by Miguel Gaeta**

### **Negative Conductance RF Power Amplifier**

**by Cody Neslen**

### **PolyGrasp Prosthetic Hand**

**by Max Maloney**

**All Finalists will be recognized at the Awards Dinner.**

**All Finalists are capable of becoming successful ventures.**

**Which winner specifically won 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place and the QL+ Award will be announced at the May 7th IQ Innovation Awards Dinner.**

## **May 7th Awards Dinner 6-9 PM**

Innovation Awards dinner schedule:

- **Drinks and conversation: 6:00**
- **Dinner starts: 6:30**
- **Awards Ceremonies: 7:00-9:00**
  - **Overview of Innovation Quest**
  - **Update on the previous years' winners**
  - **Winners' Finalist Presentations**
  - **"Innovation Finalist" Certificates with the \$100 Finalist award**
  - **"Honorable Mention" Certificates for the runners-up to the winners**
  - **1st, 2nd, and 3rd Place and QL+ Awards will be announced and presented**
    - QL+ Award - Sponsored by QL+ Quality of Life Plus Lab and Jon Monett
    - 1st Place, \$15,000 - Sponsored by **NetApp** (see [www.netapp.com](http://www.netapp.com))
    - 2nd Place, \$10,000
    - 3rd Place, \$5,000

**All Finalists, their teams, their faculty advisor/sponsor, and judges are invited to the Awards Dinner. The dinner will be held at a location TBD.**

# INNOVATION QUEST's

## 2010 INNOVATION CONTEST



**1<sup>st</sup> Place:** \$ 15,000 The NetApp Award  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Place:** \$ 10,000  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Place:** \$ 5,000  
**QL+:** \$ 2,500 The QL+ Award<sup>1</sup>

For information about sponsor **NetApp** see [www.netapp.com](http://www.netapp.com)

**Deadline Extended to March 25th 11:59 PM**

**Enter your Project by March 1, 2010 at [www.innovationq.org](http://www.innovationq.org) – It's EASY!\***

Senior Projects, Masters Projects, or any other projects involving Cal Poly students

Submitted projects are judged by Cal Poly alumni, faculty, and staff for these factors:

|                            |   |                             |                   |
|----------------------------|---|-----------------------------|-------------------|
| <b>Primary Criteria:</b>   | <b>Innovation</b>   | <b>Commercial Potential</b> | <b>Hot Market</b> |
| <b>Secondary Criteria:</b> | • Benefit to Mankind / Sustainability • Team & Multidisciplinary Participation<br>• Business/Marketing Plan (Go-To-Market plans, ROI, etc.) |                             |                   |

IQ knows that **Innovation with Commercial Potential** is the Must-Have ingredient for success.

We want to find and reward those great ideas – then you can focus on a business plan.

### How do entrepreneurs turn great ideas into great success?

This is an opportunity as budding passionate entrepreneurs to get your ideas, projects, software, etc. noticed, rewarded, and potentially introduced to the venture capital industry in Silicon Valley. We're talking about cool stuff here – the winners in 2006 to 2008 Innovation Contests came from:

**Business, Finance** – *Grinds Coffee – "Coffee In your pocket"*, 1<sup>st</sup> place in 2009, the **NetApp Award**

**Mechanical Engineering** – *Electric Motor for high performance cars*, 2<sup>nd</sup> place in 2009

**Mechanical Engineering** – *Renewable Electronics Packaging*, 3<sup>rd</sup> place in 2009

**Industrial Engineering** – *Dignity Tray*, QL+ Award in 2009

**Wine & Viticulture** – *SanTásti palate cleansing beverage*, 1<sup>st</sup> place in 2008, the **NetApp Award**

**Mechanical Engineering** – *Advanced Bicycle Braking*, 2<sup>nd</sup> place in 2008

**Computer Engineering** – *How to Fix Anything*, 3<sup>rd</sup> place in 2008

**Environmental Engineering** – *H2O-TO-GO*, 1<sup>st</sup> place in 2007, the **Robert Barron Family Award**

We've made it easy to sign up starting 1/10 on our web site [InnovationQ.org](http://InnovationQ.org).

\* **Any good idea should be entered! It's simple. Here's how:**

1. [Register at www.innovationq.org](http://www.innovationq.org) by 11:59 pm March 1, 2010
2. Up to 15 Finalists will be announced by April 10, 2010 – All Finalists receive a minimum \$100 award.
3. Finalists will present a concise slide presentation (~15 slides) to judges on April 24th.
4. Top three winners announced by April 27th and 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> place identified and Awards presented on May 7th.

All stand-out projects also have the potential to be introduced to the venture capital industry by Innovation Q.

**Innovation Q ("IQ")** is a 501c(3) nonprofit foundation co-founded by Cal Poly Alumni.

2010 is the fifth year of the Innovation Contest, with total awards for 2006 to 2009 over \$92,500.

**ENTER Jan-Feb 2010 at [http://www.iq.innovationq.org/app\\_form/form](http://www.iq.innovationq.org/app_form/form)** Questions? Email [IQ@innovationq.org](mailto:IQ@innovationq.org)

<sup>1</sup> **The QL+ Award:** sponsored by the QL+ Lab and alumnus Jon Monett to encourage the development and application of technology to improve the quality of life of wounded and disabled veterans of the military, law enforcement and intelligence organizations.

For more information about Cal Poly's QL+ Laboratory see: <http://ceng.calpoly.edu/articles/alumnus-founds-laboratory-improve-quality-life-vet/>