

Annual State Conference

STUDENT HYBRID ORAL/POSTER PRESENTATION COMPETITION RULES & INFORMATION

About the Competition

Undergraduate and graduate students who are performing research that is funded under the current OK EPSCoR RII award are invited to participate in a hybrid poster/oral presentation competition that will be held during the OK EPSCoR Annual State Conference on April 10, 2012, at the Wes Watkins Center in Stillwater.

Students participating in the competition are required to set up their posters from 4:00-5:00 p.m. on the evening of Monday, April 9, 2012. Following the set up of posters, a dinner social will be held for students at a local restaurant. Hotel accommodations for students living outside the Stillwater area will be provided by OK EPSCoR.

The competition is divided into three categories, based on the OK EPSCoR RII Award's bioenergy research focus areas: (1) feedstock development, (2) microbial conversion and (3) chemical conversion. A maximum of 15 students will be accepted for each category. (*Special note: Conference organizers reserve the right to combine the three categories into a singular competition if there are an inadequate number of participants to warrant judging the three categories separately.*)

The competition will begin at 10:30 a.m. on April 10th with oral presentations. Each participant will be given a maximum of three minutes to provide a clear and engaging overview of their poster to the conference audience. The 3-minute presentation should be supported by a maximum of five PowerPoint slides. A PowerPoint template, which must be followed explicitly, will be provided to participants via email after they have submitted their abstracts and abstract forms to Gina Miller at gmillerokepscor.org. All participants must use the provided template and are not to exceed the 5-slide limit; photos and still graphics are allowed, but animation is not. Any variance from these guidelines will disqualify the participant.

The final aspect of the competition is a judged, scientific poster session. Maximum poster dimensions: 40" wide x 36" tall. Larger posters will not be accepted.

First and second place winners will be awarded distinguished plaques. First place winners will receive travel funding to attend a national conference of their choosing. (Final approval for conference selection will be made by EPSCoR.) Students must participate in both the oral presentation and poster session to qualify for an award.

Rules and Guidelines

- Online registration and abstract submission deadline for the competition is March 25, 2012 (or when full).
- Participants must be undergraduate or graduate students only.

OK EPSCoR Student Hybrid Oral/Poster Competition Rules and Guidelines, Continued

- Students must be presenting posters based on research they have performed under the current OK EPSCoR RII Award's funding, specifically in the areas of (1) feedstock development, (2) microbial conversion or (3) chemical conversion.
- The student's research theme area (feedstock development, microbial conversion or chemical conversion) must be indicated on the submitted abstract submission form, along with an indication that they wish to participate in the competition.
- Maximum of 15 students per theme area. Theme areas may be judged separately or together, based on the number of registered participants.
- Students who indicate on their submitted abstract forms that they wish to participate in the hybrid poster/oral presentation competition will be sent a mandatory-use PowerPoint template via email after their registration and abstracts are received.
- Students will be given a maximum of three minutes each for their oral presentations, which should be designed to provide an overview of the research poster that they will present during the subsequent judged poster session.
- PowerPoint presentation submission deadline is March 25, 2012. If slides are not provided by that date, the student may not participate in the competition.
- No changes or updates may be made to slides after they are submitted.
- Flash drives may not be used on the day of the competition. EPSCoR will have students' slides uploaded to the site computer for the presentations.
- Students must use the provided 5-slide PowerPoint template and not vary from that format. Any variance from the provided slide template or the use of more than five slides will disqualify the participant. Photos and still graphics may be used, but animation may not.
- Information provided in the students' slides must include: title, objectives, methods, results and conclusions, per the provided slide template.
- Presentation slides must be PC compatible.
- Students must participate in both the oral and poster presentation sessions.

Abstract Preparation Guidelines

- Microsoft Word files only (.doc or .docx)
- Abstracts will not be edited for content. Authors should double-check for typographical or grammatical errors prior to submitting.
- 300 words maximum
- 1" margins (top/right/left/bottom)
- Arial 12 pt font
- Set line spacing at 1.5 for all text
- Align left and justify all text
- Title in bold/all caps
- List all authors' names and affiliations under title (double space between title and authors); underline name of primary poster presenter
- Save the file name as LastName_FirstName.doc (i.e. If your name is John Smith, the file name will be "Smith_John.doc")

Poster Information

- 40" wide X 36" tall (larger posters not accepted)
- Presenters should bring their own attachment materials (tacks, etc.)

Student Hybrid Competition Lodging, Poster Set-Up and Pre-Event Social

- Hotel accommodations for students living outside the Stillwater area will be provided by OK EPSCoR. Students must contact gmiller@okepscor.org no later than March 10, 2012 to assure room reservations. Room requests made after that time will be confirmed if hotel space is still available. (*Note: Students will be responsible for any incidental room charges, i.e. room service, paid movies, etc.*)
- Students participating in the competition are required to set up their posters from 4:00-5:00 p.m. on the evening of Monday, April 9, 2012, in the Wes Watkins Center's exhibit hall.
- Following the set up of posters on April 9th, a dinner social will be held for students at a local restaurant. All students are highly encouraged to attend.

Student Hybrid Competition Registration Instructions

1. Registration and submission deadline is March 25, 2012.
2. Carefully review the competition rules, which are outlined above.
3. Access the ABSTRACT SUBMISSION FORM online at www.okepscor.org. Fill the form out completely. Be sure to indicate your research category and your commitment to participate in the competition on your form.
4. Submit your completed abstract submission form, along with your abstract that has been prepared per the established guidelines, to gmiller@okepscor.org in MS Word format prior to the March 25th deadline.
5. After submitting both your abstract and abstract submission form, you will receive (via email from Gina Miller) the required oral presentation slide template. The template will be emailed to you within 42 hours if your files are submitted Monday-Thursday. Friday and weekend submissions will receive the file on the following Monday. Students should be aware of these template delivery guidelines when budgeting their time to meet the March 25 submission deadline. Contact gmiller@okepscor.org if you have not received the file within the time noted above.
6. Register for the conference online at www.okepscor.org by March 25. **YOU MUST REGISTER FOR THE CONFERENCE ONLINE IN ADDITION TO SUBMITTING YOUR ABSTRACT AND POSTER SESSION FORM VIA EMAIL.**
7. Submit your presentation slides, per the rules and provided template, to Gina Miller at gmiller@okepscor.org no later than March 25. (Late submissions or presentations outside of the approved template and slide count will not be accepted.)

For more information, contact Gina Miller, outreach coordinator, at gmiller@okepscor.org or 405.744.7645.