2017 GRADUATE STUDENT AND POST-DOCTORAL FELLOWS RESEARCH AWARDS COMPETITION  
February 14, 2017  
6-9 PM  
Stewart 218 A-D  
Call for Abstracts / Posters

The Purdue University Chapter of Sigma Xi, the scientific research society, is conducting a Graduate Student and Post-Doctoral Fellow Research Awards Competition in the format of a scientific poster session. You and your advisor do not need to be Sigma Xi members to participate in this competition. Also, you do not need a brand new finding. You can use a recent poster presented at a scientific conference or meeting.

Bring your significant other, and have a very intellectual Valentine’s Day celebration.

There will be a first prize of $200, provided by Sigma Xi and The Graduate School, and recognition for other outstanding posters in each of the four research areas:

- Graduate Student, Physical Sciences  
- Graduate Student, Life Sciences  
- Graduate Student, Engineering  
- Graduate Student, Behavioral and Social Sciences  
- Post-doctoral, Behavioral Sciences  
- Post-doctoral, Physical, Life and Engineering Sciences

There will be one prize for each approximately 15 posters in a research area. In recent years, this has resulted in 2-3 top awards in both Life Sciences and in Engineering. Post-doctoral Fellows also are eligible to participate. There will be one award for post-doctoral fellows across the two post-doc categories.

To participate:

1. Submit an abstract of your research by 11:59 AM, MONDAY February 6, 2017. These will be published in a booklet. Applications, in electronic format, should be submitted to hnzelaz@purdue.edu. At the end of this document you will find the abstract application and abstract template. Abstracts should be in MS-Word format, no more than 150 words (title and authors not counted in word count).

2. Present a poster at the 2017 SIGMA XI GRADUATE STUDENT RESEARCH AWARDS COMPETITION POSTER SESSION in Stewart Center, Rooms 218A, B, C, D on Tuesday, February 14, 2017. Posters will be setup between 2:30 - 4:30 pm. Presentation and judging is from 6:00 - 9:00 pm. Presenters are requested to hang their posters by 4:30 pm and to be at their posters from 6:00-8:30 pm to answer questions from the judges. You will provide a three (3) minute presentation about your work to each judge. Please practice your presentation, so that it is no longer than 3 minutes. At the end of this document a sample reviewer-judging sheet is shown to help you prepare a poster and three minute presentation.
3. Posters selected for an award will be displayed at the Annual Sigma Xi Initiation Banquet to be held in the John Purdue Room in Marriott Hall in April (Date tbd). In addition, all award winners and those recognized for Honorable Mention will be invited to attend the banquet in recognition of their outstanding research endeavors. You will also present your poster prior to dinner (more instructions later)

This is an excellent opportunity to learn about the excellence and diversity of scientific research at Purdue as well as to make others aware of your contributions. All graduate students and post-doctoral researchers with appropriate research experiences are urged to participate in this competition.

For additional information, please contact:
Howard N. Zelaznik, Chairperson
Sigma Xi Graduate Student and Post-Doctoral Research Awards Competition
Associate Vice President for Research
Department of Health and Kinesiology
(765-494-5601 or hnzelaz@purdue.edu)
Acknowledgement of Permission:

- Submit an abstract in **MS Word format** by 11:59 AM, Monday, **February 6, 2017**. These will be published in a booklet. Forms should be submitted electronically to **hnzelaz@purdue.edu**. Information about poster preparation is provided on a subsequent page. You will receive confirmation of abstract receipt.

- Present a poster at the **2017 SIGMA XI GRADUATE STUDENT RESEARCH AWARDS COMPETITION POSTER SESSION** in Stewart Center, Rooms 218 A-D on Tuesday February 14, 2017. Rooms will be open from 2:30-4:30 pm (for poster set up and viewing) and 6:00-9:00 pm (for presentation and judging). Presenters are requested to hang their posters by 4:30 pm and to be at their posters from 6:00-8:30 pm to answer questions from judges. We will provide the hardware to place your poster (including push pins).

- A panel of faculty will judge posters. It is likely that your judges (at least two per poster) will not be experts in your research area.

Posters selected for an award will be displayed at the Annual Sigma Xi Initiation Banquet to be held in the John Purdue Room in Marriott Hall in April 2017 (exact date to be announced later). In addition, all award winners and those highlighted for Honorable Mention will be invited to attend the banquet in recognition of their outstanding research endeavors.

By submitting this form electronically, I hereby give my unrestricted permission for the Purdue University Chapter of Sigma Xi to reproduce this professional abstract in the 2017 Graduate Student and Post-Doctoral Research Poster Award Competition abstract booklet. I also hereby certify and attest that I have approval from my Major Professor to submit this abstract, and I am the person specified in the abstract.

Please note that this abstract is not to be considered a published abstract that should be listed in your academic vita. You can list the poster presentation as an intramural presentation on your vita.

Please submit this form and your **abstract** in **MS Word (.doc or .docx) format** via email to **hnzelaz@purdue.edu** on or before 11:59 AM, Monday February 6, 2017.

Please use the following template for your abstract (see Page 6. **DO NOT CHANGE FONT, MARGINS, ETC. ABSTRACTS WILL BE RETURNED IF YOU DO NOT MAINTAIN FORMAT ... THANKS SO MUCH FOR YOUR UNDERSTANDING**)

List all contributing authors and their affiliations; the title of your abstract, and the abstract (Note: the abstract itself **can be no more than 150 words**, this does not include title and authors)
Posters should be 56” wide by 36” high. Posters will be judged on the following criteria:

**Completeness:** All relevant information is contained in the poster (Background, purpose, methods, results, interpretations, and conclusions. No misspellings or grammatical errors.

**Clarity:** Poster is accessible to a person not expert on its content. There should be a minimum of jargon.

**Design:** Color and layout attract attention and guide the reader. Poster is legible (axes are readable) from at least 3 ft.

**Presentation:** Presenter(s) professional (both in speech and appearance) and demonstrate knowledge of the subject matter and can clearly and concisely answer all questions.

**On Time:** Presenter kept to the expected three-minute time limit for the presentation.

**Promise:** The poster clearly explains the need for the research and makes apparent what the results of this research will contribute to the academic field.

Below is a sample review sheet used by the judges.
2017 Sigma Xi Graduate Poster Competition

Judge: ______________________

LS = Grad, Life Science  P = Grad, Physical  B = Grad, Beh & Soc Sci
E = Grad, Eng  PDB = Post_doc behavioral  PDPLE = Post_doc phys, life and eng
Each component is scored on a 20 point scale.

**Excellent (16-20); Good (11-15); Fair (6-10); Poor (1-5)**

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**Completeness:** All relevant information is contained in the poster (Background, purpose, methods, results, interpretations, and conclusions. No misspellings or grammatical errors.

**Clarity:** Clarity of background, purpose, methods, results, interpretations, and conclusions. Poster is accessible to a person not expert on its content.

**Design:** Color and layout attract attention and guide the reader. Poster is legible from at least 3 ft.

**Presentation:** Presenter(s) professional (both in speech and appearance) and demonstrate knowledge of the subject matter and can clearly and concisely answer all questions.

**Promise:** The poster clearly explains the need for the research and makes apparent what the results of this research will contribute to the field.
Graduate Student and Post-Doctoral Research Poster Award Competition
2017
Abstract Submission Form

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Area for poster to be judged
- Grad, Physical Sciences
- Grad, Engineering
- Grad, Life Sciences
- Grad, Beh and Social Sci
- Post-Doctoral Fellow, Beh & Social Sci
- Post-Doctoral Fellow, Phys, Life & Eng Sci

Title of Poster
Author Last Name, First Initial, etc
Department or Academic Unit
e-mail: yourcareeraccount@purdue.edu
Name of faculty sponsor

Abstract text