Instructions to Moderators

We greatly appreciate your important contribution to the Student Research Symposium!

Registration: Pick up your moderator’s packet at the SRS registration table, located in the Aztec Student Union Montezuma Lounge. Your moderator’s packet contains a program, a pen, and a copy of these instructions. Staff at the registration desk can help you locate your sessions.

There will also be a packet in the room that must not leave the room. This contains, countdown cards (5-, 3-, 1-minute), a pointer for the presenters, a timer, copies of the judging instructions, and a QR code for judges to scan that links them to the online scoring system.

Judges: Prior to the start of your session, you should confer with the judges to remind them to review the procedures and stress the importance of fair and consistent evaluations. In particular, judges should consider the student status (undergraduate vs. graduate students) and be open to the type of methodologies employed by the student, even if these methodologies are new and unfamiliar. The judges are also expected to be encouraging, supportive, and engaging through thoughtful discussion and questions. Judges have been assigned a 4 digit (1000-1999) identification code. This is located in the email they have received with their assigned sessions and it will be printed on their badge. This MUST be entered when they use the online scoring system.

Scoring: Judges received an email with the LINK to the online scoring system and should be reminded to have it open and ready prior to the beginning of the session. Judges can also use the QR code to scan and access the online scoring system.

Judging QR Code:

Abstract Number: Every student presentation is assigned a 3 digit (100-999) abstract number. This number can also be found in the SRS program and will be on the student’s badge. Judges MUST enter this number when they are scoring. Moderators can announce this number when introducing the student presenter.

Introduction: Use the time provided at the beginning of each session to introduce yourself as moderator and give a brief introduction welcoming the student presenters, audience members, and judges. Please remind the presenters they will have 10 minutes to present with 5 minutes for questions.

Keeping Time: Each presenter (or group of presenters) will be allowed 10 minutes to give the presentation, followed by 5 minutes for questions (15 minutes total). You must enforce these time limits. Signal the speaker when they have 5-, 3-, and 1-minute remaining by holding up the appropriate card. If the speaker has not completed their presentation within the 10-minute limit, you must interject and begin the question/answer period.

As moderator, you will call on the questioner. Judges should be given preference for questions; please make sure that all judges have a chance to ask questions. Furthermore, as moderator, you should be prepared to ask the first question in case the other judges or audience members do not have any immediate questions.

VERY IMPORTANT: If a presenter fails to show, you must wait to begin the next presentation until the assigned time. This is in case others intend to arrive at a specified time for specific presentations.

Technical Problems: If any computer problems or concerns arise, call for a Student Ambassador who will be walking around outside the sessions. Students are not allowed to use their own computers. They must use the computers in the rooms.