

Student Paper and Poster Competition Guidelines

SWAAG/AGX Annual Meeting, 6-8 October 2024, San Marcos, TX

SWAAG/AGX is excited to invite you, the students participating in this year's SWAAG/AGX meeting in San Marcos, TX, to enter one of our student competitions!

Four Categories of Student Competitions

- Undergraduate Poster Competition
- Undergraduate Paper Competition
- Graduate Poster Competition
- Graduate Paper Competition

Eligibility Criteria

- You must be enrolled as an undergraduate, master's, or doctoral student at a U.S. institution.
- You will present research conducted recently, during your undergraduate studies if you are an undergraduate student, or during your graduate studies if you are a graduate student.
- The papers and posters must be solely produced by you, though your advisor or other collaborators may be listed as co-authors.

Participation Process

1. [Register](#) for the meeting.
2. **Submit a regular abstract** for the meeting, either at the time of registration or after logging back into the "[Indico](#)" portal this year's organizers are using for registration and abstract submission.
3. **Submit an extended abstract (up to 500 words).**
 - Your extended abstract is due by **Monday, 16 September 2024, 5:00 PM Central Time. Late submissions will not be eligible for the student competition.**
 - Your extended abstract must be submitted via this form to **Dr. Michaela Buenemann** (elabuen@nmsu.edu), SWAAG Treasurer, ensuring the following:
 - The subject line reads "**SWAAG/AGX Student Competition – [Your Name]**".
 - Your **advisor is copied** on the email.
 - You **acknowledge** in the email body that "My advisor has reviewed this extended abstract and approves its submission for the student competition."
 - Your extended abstract will be evaluated using the **rubric** below. While 500 words may limit the depth of your work, strive to address each evaluation criterion as thoroughly as possible

Evaluation Process

- Upon receipt of your extended abstract, we will send your advisor a form to assess your project. This "**Advisor's Form**" must be submitted by your advisor by **Wednesday, 18 September 2024, 5:00 PM Central Time. Late submissions will disqualify you from the student competition.**
- If more than 10 entries are received per student competition category, a panel of SWAAG/AGX faculty judges use the provided rubric to determine which entries to advance to the competition.
- You will be notified by **27 September** if you have been selected for the competition.
 - If selected, you will present your work in a special session organized by the Program Committee. Judges will be assigned to evaluate the sessions and determine the ranking of all presenters.
 - If not selected, you will be ineligible for the competition awards but will still present your paper or poster in a regular session.

Rubric

Evaluation Criterion	Outstanding (5)	Competent (4)	Adequate (3)	Insufficient (2)	Not Evident (1)
Introduction, including problem statement	Clearly articulates the problem with a compelling introduction.	States the problem clearly, but lacks depth.	Problem is identified, but the introduction is vague or lacks focus.	Problem statement is unclear or underdeveloped.	No clear introduction or problem statement.
Research objectives / questions / hypotheses	Specific, well-defined, and align with the problem.	Clear but may lack specificity.	Present but poorly articulated or too broad.	Vague or not aligned with the problem.	Unclear or not present.
Research methods	Well explained, appropriate, and executed.	Explained and appropriate, but may lack detail.	Present but lack clarity or completeness.	Inadequately described or inappropriate.	No clear description of methods.
Results	Clearly presented and well-analyzed.	Presented but may lack depth or clarity.	Present but poorly presented or under-analyzed.	Incomplete or poorly analyzed.	No results are presented.
Discussion and Conclusion	Discussion is insightful, and conclusions are well-supported by data.	Discussion and conclusions are logical but may lack depth.	Discussion and conclusions are present but underdeveloped.	Discussion and conclusions are weak or poorly supported.	No discussion or conclusion.
Engagement with supporting literature	Extensive and relevant literature is well-integrated.	Relevant literature is cited but may lack integration.	Literature is cited but either limited or poorly integrated.	Minimal engagement with literature.	No engagement with literature.
Originality	Introduces a novel research approach or significant new insight.	Thoughtful extension or new application of existing research.	Builds on existing research with minor new contributions.	Little innovation, largely reiterating existing research.	No new contribution, mirrors existing research closely.
Significance	Research is very significant and has strong implications.	The research is significant, but its impact may be limited.	The research is of moderate significance.	The research is of little significance or relevance.	The research has no clear significance.
Writing	Clear, concise, and free of errors.	Generally clear with few errors.	Understandable, but with errors or awkward phrasing.	Unclear or with significant errors.	Poor or unreadable.
Total	50	40	30	20	10

SWAAG/AGX Student Paper and Poster Competition

Application Form

Applicant Information

Name: _____ Email: _____

Affiliation: _____

Degree Program: Undergraduate Graduate (Master's) Graduate (PhD)

Student Competition:

Undergraduate poster competition Undergraduate paper competition

Graduate poster competition Graduate paper competition

Advisor Information

Name: _____ Email: _____

Affiliation: _____

Presentation Title: _____

Abstract (500 words max.):

Cited References:

A large, empty rectangular box with a thin black border, occupying most of the page below the 'Cited References:' header. It is intended for the user to list their references.