

# COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES/GAMMA SIGMA DELTA GRADUATE AND UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH EXPO

March 18-19, 2009

## INSTRUCTIONS TO EXHIBITORS

Displays must be mounted on their designated boards in the Forestry Building Lobby by 4 p.m. on Wednesday, March 18. Presenters must be present at their posters between 4-8 p.m. on this day for review by the judges as well as to interact with those who attend the Expo. Pizza and soda will be provided to exhibitors around 6 p.m.

Exhibitors are also requested to be present for the Awards Ceremony at 5 p.m. on Thursday, March 19 in 101 Agricultural Sciences and Industries Building (ASI). Advisors are encouraged to attend the Awards Ceremony with their advisees. Monetary awards will be given to undergraduate and graduate winners. All poster materials must be removed no later than one hour after the Awards Ceremony.

## EXHIBIT GUIDELINES/JUDGING CRITERIA

Exhibits will be judged on their quality in three areas:

**(1) Content (50% of total score):** The purpose of an exhibit is to convey to a wide audience a research project's significance to scholars in the field and its potential significance to the general public.

The exhibit should testify to the careful design and execution of the research and present clear results that are well interpreted. It must include: (1) short title of the exhibit; (2) student's name (or names, if more than one student is presenting the exhibit); (3) collaborators, advisor(s), and department(s); (4) funding sources; (5) proof of regulatory committee approval (if the project involves human or animal subjects or bio-hazardous materials); (6) objectives; (7) significance to the field; (8) significance to society in general; (9) methods; (10) results; (11) interpretation of results and conclusions; (12) directions for future research.

**(2) Display (30% of total score):** The core of each exhibit is a poster, with text and graphics intended for a more general audience. The poster must be mounted on the poster stand provided **using Velcro only** and may not exceed its dimensions, which are 4 feet wide by 4 feet high. Posters should be smaller than this to fit into the poster display area. The poster should attract attention and convey information. Language should be simple and descriptions brief. Jargon should be avoided; necessary technical terms should be defined. Spelling and grammar must be correct. All text should be large enough to be read from a distance of 4 to 6 feet.

Photographs, drawings, charts, tables, or graphs should be simple, well organized, and carefully chosen to quickly explain complicated technical concepts to a wide audience. A table-top model, computer display, video, original art work or other demonstration may be included in the exhibit. These demonstrations, however, must clarify the work presented, not simply attract attention. (However no table is provided at the poster displays; a 2.5-foot-wide table and electrical power can be requested; a fee will be charged if a telephone connection is required; the student is responsible for making arrangements and for paying the charges.)

**(3) Oral presentation (20% of total score):** Each student should have prepared an oral discussion of his or her exhibit. This discussion must not exceed 5 minutes. (Note that a videotape or demonstration cannot be submitted for the discussion.) The oral presentation should be clear and concise and should include the major points presented on the poster (numbers 6 through 12 above). If the student worked with collaborators on the project, including his or her advisor, this presentation should clearly describe the student's role in the overall project.