Bumpers Honors Research Symposium Guidelines

Revised Spring 2023

GENERAL GUIDELINES

1. Both oral and poster presentation submissions must be based on students' own completed research or creative project. Note: The Bumpers Honors Student Board will only accept submissions from undergraduate students for the 2023 oral presentations and poster presentations. Please note any undergraduate researcher pursuing an undergraduate degree in Bumpers College is invited. This is not limited to honors students.

2. Oral presentation slides and posters must acknowledge affiliation with Bumpers College and/or the Division of Agriculture (if applicable) and any funding sources through logo placement or an acknowledgements section. Students who have received grant funding from the Honors College or from Bumpers College must credit the grant appropriately according to the grant guidelines.

3. Send abstract submissions through Microsoft Forms linked on the [Bumpers Honors Student Board webpage](). Abstracts should adhere to the following guidelines:

   a. Include the lead student researcher's full name.

   b. Include the name of any student co-authors.

   c. Include project mentor's full name.

   d. Include the full project title.

   e. Abstracts for both oral and poster presentation submissions are limited to 250 words.

   f. The abstract should consist of five linked parts – background, problem statement, methods, results, and summary/conclusions/implications.

      i. The background provides context to the study, rationale and significance. Follow with the problem being studied, the purpose of the study, and any specific research objectives or hypotheses.

ii. Provide a brief overview of the approach and methods undertaken in the research or creative project.

iii. Present important and specific data, with results visually quantified and/or described.

iv. State the major interpretations and findings as related to the original research problem, and any limitations of the results.

v. Finish by stating the relevance, contribution of the work, and its implications to science.

4. **Oral Presentations:** Students are allowed (1) PowerPoint presentation composed of 12-15 slides. The file must be saved as a PDF, .PPT, or .PPTX file type. The student's presentation must be turned in prior to the oral presentation date. Further instructions will be communicated to all students who are notified of acceptance shortly after the abstract submission deadline.

5. **Poster Presentations:** Students are allowed one paper or fabric printed (1) poster. The standard poster size is 36" by 48". Students are encouraged to print their poster through the AECT Department's Experiential Learning Lab, or other local printers.

6. Questions may be directed to Dr. Lisa Wood at iwhitehe@uark.edu or Ms. Isabel Whitehead at iwhitehe@uark.edu.

ATTENDANCE EXPECTATIONS

The date of the spring 2023 Bumpers Honors Research Symposium is set for Thursday, April 20th, from 3:30 to 5:30 PM in the AFLS building.

1. **Oral Presentations:** Students accepted into the oral presentations are expected to present in-person in the AFLS Building.
   a. In-person attendance is expected from one or more co-authors. If an unavoidable conflict arises and none of the project co-authors are available to present, the submission will **not** be judged.

2. **Poster Presentations:** Students accepted into the poster presentations are expected to present next to their poster in the AFLS Atrium and be available for the majority of the event to engage with judges and audience members.
   a. In-person attendance is expected from one or more co-authors. If the student researcher or co-author is unable to present, the student will lose points for the speaking category.

3. Students should also encourage their coauthors and advisors to be present during the competition, but this is not mandatory.

JUDGING CRITERIA

The rubric below demonstrates the general areas participants will be judged on. There may be slight differences between the oral presentation rubric and poster presentation rubric, which will be communicated to students accepted into the research symposium after all submissions have been reviewed.

Participants will be judged on the following criteria (100 points total):

1. Title and submitted abstract (i.e., descriptive title, clear, concise, and correctly formatted abstract). Abstract should clearly represent the student's research or creative project.   15

2. Content and organization. All expected components are present, clearly laid out, and easy to follow. This includes introduction, materials and methods, data, and discussion/conclusion. The text is concise and consistently free of spelling or typographical errors. A logical hypothesis/statement of problem was presented. Thorough explanations of why particular methods were selected is provided. Clear discussion of appropriate statistical analyses and implications of project results/outcomes.   25

3. Importance and quality of research (i.e., clear significance to related discipline, relation of results and conclusion to purpose, innovation, and quality). Background information was relevant and summarized well. Connections to previous literature and broader issues were clear. Reasonable conclusions were given and strongly supported with evidence. Relation of results and conclusion to the purpose, innovation, and quality of the research to impact within the discipline.   25

4. Quality of visuals (i.e., ease of interpretation of visuals used, absence of grammatical and spelling errors, and visual appeal). The figures and tables are appropriate and consistently labeled correctly. Photographs/tables/graphs improve understanding and enhance the visual appeal. Visuals are easily interpretable and lack grammatical/spelling errors.   25

5. Student author's clear knowledge of subject, including ability to answer questions. Presentation and explanation including delivery and visuals (i.e., voice, grammar, terminology, enthusiasm, motivation of audience, neatness, pleasantness, mannerisms; clarity, effectiveness, use, and variety of visuals). The project must be presented in person by either the lead student author or student co-author(s) and not a mentor. *If poster speakers are absent without prior arrangement they will automatically be given a zero for this category. If oral presentation speakers are absent, submissions will not be judged.*   10