

ROYAL SOCIETY OF BIOLOGY EAST MIDLANDS BRANCH POSTGRADUATE POSTER SYMPOSIUM

INFORMATION FOR APPLICANTS

1. What do I have to do?

Create a poster that explains your research to a mixed audience of non-subject specialists. Your poster will be judged at the competition run by the Royal Society of Biology on **2nd May 2019**.

2. What do you mean by “a mixed audience”?

There will be a panel of judges at the competition. The judges will **NOT** be people who are experts in the same field as you.

3. Why is it important I can communicate my research to people outside of my field?

Regardless of your area of research, you will need to be able to communicate your findings with other people through peer reviewed articles, at meetings or in grant proposals.

It is much easier to do this when the person you are explaining it to is familiar with your area in the first place. It is much more difficult if you are talking to someone from a different field entirely. Can you explain what functional MRI is to an accountant or ethnomusicology to an engineer?

4. What does my poster have to look like?

Posters should be entirely the students' own work. They should be **A2** in size and should be portrait in orientation.

Presentation is important, but a good poster does not have to be expensive. Please include your university and any sponsor logos on your posters.

5. Do I have to present research results?

No, but you do have to present your poster to the judges.

6. Will I be required to attend the competition in person?

All students who submit a poster to the competition **MUST** attend the event taking place on **2nd May 2019** between 10am and 5pm. Non-attendance will result in your poster being withdrawn from the competition.

Before committing to entering the competition you must ensure you are available to attend the event on the date identified.

7. How will the posters be displayed?

Posters will be displayed in the Vijay Patel Building 4th Floor Hub and Terrace. The exhibition will be designed and laid out by the Local Organising Committee. Staff will decide on the most appropriate layout for the room and ensure all exhibitors have equal display space.

8. What are the judges looking for?

- Does the poster explain your research in a clear, concise manner that a non- subject specialist can understand?
- Does it convey the reasons why you are spending three years researching in that particular field?
- Does it present your work without the use of complex graphs and diagrams?
- Is it easy to understand the order in which the text on the poster should be read?
- Is the text size appropriate (can it be read in 5 minutes from 5 feet away)?
- Is there too much/too little text and information?
- Can you answer questions about your poster and your work when asked by the judges/other students?

9. As it is a competition, what can I win?

Prizes, sponsored by the Linnean Society of London, will be awarded to the first and second place posters.

Each entrant will receive a book of abstracts, conference merchandise, free lunch and refreshments throughout the day.

10. What is the programme for the competition?

Posters should be submitted to bNMR@dmu.ac.uk at the latest on **1st April 2019**.

The proposed programme for the event taking place on **Thursday 2nd May 2019** is:

10:00 Registration for poster presenters

11:00 Keynote lecture by Dr Stuart Cantrill, editor in chief at *Nature Chemistry*.

12:15 Lunch

13:00 Entrants are to be present for the viewing of posters by staff, invited members of the public and fellow research students.

15:30 Judges to confer and agree finalists

16:00 Prize Giving

11. I am interested in participating in the competition – what do I do now?

Send an abstract for your poster to bNMR@dmu.ac.uk by **1st April 2019**.

12. If I have any queries who should I contact?

The Symposium Chair is **Dr Philippe Wilson**:

bNMR@dmu.ac.uk or philippe.wilson@dmu.ac.uk