



South Eastern Section
Institute of Food Technologists

Poster Competition

Student Poster Competition is resumed at SEIFT Spring Meeting and Student Recognition. The competition encourages students to present their original research, which could be later published in peer-reviewed journals. All accepted abstracts will be presented at the poster sessions during the Spring Meeting on **April 11th, 2019 at Clemson University**, South Carolina. A poster is a method of presenting your research to an audience in a visual format.

The purpose of the poster competition is to:

- Set a platform for the up-and-coming food scientists to present their research work
- Provide the opportunity for the presenter and the audience to talk with one another
- Encourage and stimulate interest in independent undergraduate and graduate research in the area of food science and technology
- Provide an opportunity for undergraduate and graduate students to organize and present their original research through poster presentations
- Provide an opportunity for networking within the section for students as well as members of industry and academia

Instructions & Guidelines for Poster Presentation

Eligibility

- This competition is open to all IFT student members (undergraduate, graduates) enrolled in universities within the section. Work must have been done individually by the student.
- The abstract submission deadline for the poster competition will be closed on **March 18th, 2019**; hence all are requested to submit their abstracts well in advance.
- Abstracts must not exceed three hundred (300) words in length, and should include the: study objective, methodology, results, significance and implications of the results
- The data presented must not be published before the Spring meeting

- A maximum of five pertinent references less than 5 years old must be included. References are not included in the word count, and must follow the Journal of Food Science citation style
- Two versions of the abstract must be submitted. One must include the paper title, as well as the name and address of the author. The second must only include the paper title. No professors' names may appear as a co-authors

Judging Criteria

- The judgment will be done by Board of Jury of at least three IFT members representing academia, industry, and/or government
- Abstract Judging Criteria Points (100 total)
 - Adherence to rules of competition 5
 - Presentation of research importance and relevance 20
 - Explanation of objectives and background 15
 - Presentation and explanation of experimental methodology 15
 - Presentation and explanation of results 15
 - Explanation and soundness of conclusions 15
 - Professionalism, organization and style 15

Abstract & Poster Presentation

- Poster size: 48" x 48" (4 ft. x 4 ft.)
- Abstract and poster presentations will be judged based on the following criteria:
- The abstracts and posters **MUST** address the following sections:
 - Justification
 - Objective
 - Methods
 - Results
 - Significance and implications of your research to the food science field
 - References (maximum 5)
 - Do not include credits or grant support

- Organize your poster into subdivisions, space your information proportionally: divide your poster either horizontally or vertically into sections (see above), and place your materials within those spaces
- Choose colors carefully and pay attention to contrast
- Cropping, Margins and Spacing: All edges and margins should be straight and even. Do not overcrowd space and be attentive to balance from top to bottom and from the side margins. Organize your elements into columns
- White space: (the area not covered with text or graphics): Not too much (or the viewer's eye will wander). Not too little (or you will confuse and overwhelm your viewer)
- Try not to stand directly in front of your poster, allow other scientists to view the entire poster. Stand to the side.

Poster Presentation Judging Criteria Points (50 total)

- Organization and presentation of content 25
- Professional and scholarship of presentation 15
- Ability to answer judges' questions 10
- When the competition is being conducted, each participant should be ready in front of his/her poster to answer all questions from the judges
- The judges will come to your poster during poster presentations
- You will be given about 5 minutes to present your poster including questions and answers. Judges may pose questions during the evaluation of the poster
- The judge's decision will be final and no clarification will be given

Visuals and Text

- Present numerical data in the form of graphs, rather than tables (graphs make trends in the data much more evident). If data must be presented in table-form, Keep it Simple.
- Visuals should be simple and bold.
- Avoid acronyms and extensive mathematical notations as much as possible
- Avoid submitting compactly packed, high word-count posters.
- Text should be readable from five feet distance.

- The title, contents and the author's information should be clearly visible from a distance of 1-2 feet.

The selection of the winner will be based on:

- The clarity of poster and oral presentations
- Your overall responses to the questions of the judges and the completeness of work

Poster Categories

1. Fruit and Vegetable Products
2. Nutrition
3. Sensory and Consumer Sciences
4. Education, Extension and Outreach

Abstract and Poster Judging Criteria Checklist

1. Poster Quality

1. Is the message clear?
2. Is the poster attractive and professionally prepared?
3. Does the poster generate interest in the concept without verbal explanation?
4. Did the poster adhere to submission guidelines?

2. Presentation Quality

1. Is the poster informing or persuading? Were the presenters convincing, knowledgeable, in command of the situation and on top of the information?
2. Did the presenter provide enough information and explanation to effectively convey their ideas?

3. Professional Presence

1. Did the presenter conduct him/herself in a professional manner?

4. Judges' Impressions

1. Why should a judge care about this proposal?

5. Intangible or WOW factor

2. Did the presenter and poster leave a lasting impression?

6. Overall

1. Are the grammar and punctuation in your abstract and poster correct?
2. Did you proofread your abstract and poster very carefully for formatting, spelling, and grammar to avoid errors before submission?