44th Annual Rochester Academy of Sciences Fall Scientific Paper Session

Nov 11, 2017   St. John Fisher College

Final Call for Abstracts

Oct 16, 2017

TO: Members of the Academy and Science Community

The forty-fourth Annual Fall Scientific Paper Session of the Rochester Academy of Science will be hosted by St. John Fisher College on **Saturday, November 11, 2017**, from 8:0 AM to 3 PM.

The deadline for submitting abstracts is 5:00 Friday, October 20, 2017. We cannot guarantee that late submissions will be included.

This session provides a forum for Academy members, the collegiate community and others engaged in scientific research to present the results of their investigations in an atmosphere that promotes discussion and interaction. Undergraduate students, graduate students, and faculty members are encouraged to attend and to present posters or oral reports. You do not have to be a member of the Rochester Academy of Sciences to participate.

The Academy covers the full scope of basic and applied sciences, including but not limited to **anthropology, biology, botany, chemistry, computer science, ecology, environmental science, geography, geology, physics, physiology, science education, and zoology.**

Presentations may be oral presentations or posters. Posters provide an excellent opportunity for author-audience interaction and students should consider this mode of presentation, particularly if this will be their first scientific meeting.

- **Registration and check-in for pre-registered individuals begins at 8:00 AM** in the Integrated Science and Health Sciences Building Atrium.
- **Oral presentations 9:00 AM**. Refreshments will be provided throughout the morning.
- Poster session will begin at 12:00
- **Lunch is at 1:00 PM in the Ward-Haffey Dining hall** Lunch may be purchased online when registering.
- The **Larry King Memorial Lecture will begin at 2:00 in the Cleary Auditorium in Kearney Hall**.

Printed programs with the meeting schedule and author/title information will be provided. Abstract books will be sent digitally, via email, to all meeting registrants. Please print abstract books prior to attending the meeting if so desired. Print versions will only be available by special request when registering. Please see included map of the St. John Fisher College campus and luncheon information.

44th Annual Rochester Academy of Sciences Fall Scientific Paper Session Registration and Abstract Submission Guidelines

**To register, submit abstracts, and purchase lunch,
visit** https://goo.gl/forms/VrvKSMGwlBjiFPW13

- After registering, you will be sent a link to an online payment form where you can pay for lunch or posters/presentations with credit or debit card.
- You may pay for multiple attendees, but each presenter must register and upload their own abstract

- **The deadline for submitting abstracts is 5:00 Friday, October 20, 2017.** We cannot guarantee that late submissions will be included.
- Note if you plan to present a poster or oral presentation, please make sure you have your abstract information ready – title, authors, affiliations and email addresses, and abstract text.

- **The deadline for pre-purchasing lunch ($8.50) is 5:00pm Nov 6.** If you do not pre-purchase lunch, it may be purchased the day of the event for $12.50

Abstract Format
- Please limit abstracts to 250 words or less.
- Abstracts may be pasted as text, or uploaded as a word document (.docx file) into the online registration form.
- THE TITLE SHOULD BE IN UPPERCASE AND FOLLOWED BY A PERIOD.
- 1.5 inch margin, 12 pt Times New Roman font, single spaced.
- List the authors—First Name Last Name—and separate authors with commas.
- Include the complete mailing address of each author.

Poster Format
We will have poster rails and easels with poster board to display posters that are on a single sheet of paper or on poster paper. Please avoid using plastic laminated posters, as they will **not** hang from the poster rails. Posters can be no larger than 48 inches wide and 36 inches tall.

Presentation format
Oral presentations are limited to 12 minutes in length. There will be 3 minutes for questions from the audience at the end of your presentation. Please bring your presentation as a powerpoint file (.pptx) on a flash drive.

If you have questions, you may email: raspapersession2017@sjfc.edu

Suggestions for Effective Poster Presentations

Poster presentations provide more opportunity for discussion than do oral presentations. In addition, poster presentations are less formal and less stressful for students who are just entering the arena of scientific meetings. A poster requires careful planning and design, and a good poster leads the viewer logically from point to point. The following suggestions on poster design and production are drawn from an article by J. D. Woolsey, a professional graphic designer (Trends in Neuroscience, 12(9): 325-332, 1989).

1. Posters are a visual medium, and you should tell your story with illustrations and simple tables rather than expecting a viewer to read substantial chunks of text. Figure legends and table headings should be concise, providing just enough information to allow the viewer to understand the figure or table. Put the labels for lines and bars directly on graphs so a viewer does not need to look for a figure legend.

2. Use different type sizes and styles to distinguish the sections of the poster. Use 72 point bold type for the title and 48 or 36 point for the names and affiliations of the authors. Use 26 or 28 point type for section headings and 22 or 20 point for the text. Do not use type smaller than 20 point.

3. Omit needless words. Use the active voice wherever possible and eliminate redundancy and unnecessary words. Display information graphically and minimize text descriptions. Omit most of the details of methods, and avoid massive tables of data and complicated statistical analyses; a poster is not simply a published paper dismantled and pasted onto a board.

4. Arrange the visual structure of the poster to flow smoothly from one section to the next. Vertical columns are usually better than horizontal rows. Align at least the left margins of the items in a column, and align both margins if you can.

5. Edit ruthlessly to eliminate unnecessary text and visual elements. Well-aligned vertical columns with generous blank spaces between the columns allow a viewer to concentrate on the content of the poster. A poster with half of its area used to separate columns of text, figures, and tables is easier to read than a poster that fills every square centimeter of space.

6. Use a single background color for your poster and choose a color that is restful to the eye. Hot neon pink may be an attention getter, but it's a choice you will come to regret! Muted and unsaturated colors work better.

7. Use typefaces that are easy to read. Serif styles (fonts that have cross strokes at the ends of most letters, like the Times New Roman you are reading).