

MEMORANDUM

TO: All Students

FROM: Thomas J. Roberts, Ed.D.
Associate Vice President for Research

DATE: January 19, 2011

SUBJECT: 10th Annual Research Day at Florida Gulf Coast University
Student Poster Guidelines and Related Information

On behalf of the Faculty Senate Grants and Research Team and the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs (ORSP), I am pleased to invite all students at FGCU to participate in the 10th Annual Research Day. This event is scheduled for **Thursday, April 21, 2011** on the FGCU campus. The event is an opportunity to enhance your educational experience at FGCU, showcase your scholarly activities, and to formally present your scholarship.

Students graduating during the summer or fall of 2010 are eligible to enter their poster in the 2011 Research Day if the work associated with the poster was finished when they were a student. Students who were subsequently appointed as FGCU faculty members or staff should enter their poster under the faculty/staff category if this work was continued and advanced further upon appointment.

The first nine years of this tradition at FGCU were resounding successes with excellent participation, extensive positive press coverage, and opportunities for everybody to highlight and celebrate the efforts of many dedicated people and programs at FGCU. It is our sincere intent to provide opportunities for students, faculty, and staff to highlight, celebrate, and reward your hard work while at the same time educating the general public about the substantial contributions to research and education that are made by predominately undergraduate institutions. The event is part of a daylong celebration culminating with the annual FGCU Celebration of Excellence.

One aspect of this celebration will be a student poster competition. All students are invited to participate in this event. A prize of \$300 will be provided to the overall student poster winner from each academic area. There will be a separate award for graduate and undergraduate students. Judges from each academic area will review and evaluate each student competitive poster submission and make a decision in regard to the best poster submission. Awards for the student poster competition will be made available through ORSP. In addition, all Research Day participants will receive a certificate of participation.

In an effort to be inclusive, encourage participation, and to showcase the overall student scholarly activities happening at FGCU, any student may submit a poster (or other form of presentation) to exhibit during Research Day under the category of "general viewing." Examples of such posters/exhibits are ones that highlight any student scholarly activity, research experience, or any other posters/exhibits students desire to submit for viewing, but not for competition.

To be eligible to participate in this event please complete the on-line registration form that can be accessed at: <http://itech.fgcu.edu/secured/orsp/default.asp>. **Registration forms should be submitted as soon as possible, but absolutely no later than Monday, March 14, 2011.**

Information provided via the on-line registration form will be included in the Research Day program as submitted by each participant. Each participant will be notified of the acceptance of their poster submission and provided with instructions for set-up and times of judge viewing (for competitive submissions), no later than Monday, April 8th, 2011.

A standard 2½' x 6' table will be provided to all participants in order to standardize poster viewing space and general set-up. Standard, preferred poster size is 36" x 48". Should other requirements or alternative set-up arrangements be necessary, please be sure to indicate so in your registration under special requirements. Due to space limitations and to insure fairness, under no circumstances will more than the standard viewing space be provided.

While the specific layout and design of the poster is up to the individual participant, the following general categories are anticipated to be used by the judges to evaluate each student competitive poster submission:

Abstract: presents summary of pertinent details in acceptable editorial style

Introduction: clearly states objectives of the study and relationship to earlier work

Methodology: methods are appropriate and properly applied

Results: logical, clearly presented, and appropriately summarized

Conclusion: based on given results, emphasizes significance and implications of study

Presentation: poster design (i.e. typography, graphics, photographs, and other visual aids), is well-prepared, clean and appropriate for presentation

Organization: well-organized, balanced in content, and logically sequenced

Importance of Research/Scholarship: extent of originality and contribution to general scientific/artistic understanding

Understanding of Subject: presenter has good grasp of study and related areas and responds effectively and clearly to questions

While a competitive opportunity is being provided to students as an option for participation, please keep in mind that this is not a requirement. Competitive entries are strongly encouraged, but general viewing submissions are just as important, encouraged, and valued. The choice is yours. It is our desire to encourage participation in any form so that students can enhance their educational experience, showcase scholarly activities, and formally present your hard work.

We look forward to this celebration of excellence and to clearly illustrating the substantial contributions to research and education that are made by predominately undergraduate institutions. Should you have any questions pertaining to any of the above, please do not hesitate to contact me directly or your faculty academic representative to the Grants and Research Team listed below.

cc: Academic Council

Grants & Research Team:

Dr. Megan McShane, College of Arts and Sciences

Dr. Stephen Drew, College of Business

Dr. Helena Miranda, College of Education

Dr. Steven Black, College of Health Professions

Dr. Howard Smith, College of Professional Studies

Ms. Danielle Rosenthal, Library Services