

SUBMISSION DEADLINES

Graduate Students: March 22, 2024

Undergraduate Students: April 1, 2024

Tri-State Dairy Nutrition Conference – 2024

April 15 - 17, 2024

Grand Wayne Convention Center, Fort Wayne, IN

Undergraduate and Graduate Student Research Showcase Guidelines

Undergraduate and Graduate Student Research Showcase will be held **Monday, April 15** with the following schedule:

2:30 – 6:00 pm Presentations (Jefferson ABC)

6:00 – 7:00 pm Reception Hosted by Balchem

at the Grand Wayne Convention Center. Additional details for this program and the application form are available at: <https://www.tristatedairy.org/student-research-competition>.

General Contest Information:

The Research Showcase is open to all current and recent undergraduate, M.S., and Ph.D. students from all educational institutions in the world. Eligibility is based on less than 6 months post-graduation from the intended terminal degree on April 15, 2024. All presentations must specifically relate to some aspect of dairy cattle nutrition. There will be 3 divisions: Undergraduate Original Research students, M.S. students, and Ph.D. students. The number of awards made will be based on the number of students in each division:

- 1-3 students, 1st prize only
- 4-5 students in a division, 1st and 2nd prizes
- 6+ students in a division, 1st, 2nd, and 3rd prizes

Awards:*	Undergraduate Contest Original Research	Graduate Contest M.S. & Ph.D. Divisions
First Place	\$500	\$1,000
Second Place	\$400	\$750
Third Place	\$300	\$500

*The judges and organizing committee reserve the right to modify award amounts based on number of students participating and other criteria as deemed necessary.

All undergraduate and graduate students who do not place first, second, or third will receive a \$100 Amazon gift card for participating in their respective Contest.

Undergraduates participating in the Student Research Showcase are also encouraged to complete the application for participating in the undergraduate student program being held on Monday evening, April 15 through Wednesday, April 17.

Free lodging will be available Monday and Tuesday [during the entire Tri-State Conference] for all students, including those presenting in the Contests. All Contest participants also receive complimentary Conference registration, a copy of the Proceedings, and free meals, reception, and refreshment breaks associated with the Conference. Students **must** request lodging reservations via the website (<https://www.tristatedairy.org>) or by completing and returning the information on the registration flyer. Students will be expected to share rooms, possibly even with students from different states if necessary.

Graduate Student Oral Presentations:

Graduate students are expected to present a summary of one of their original research projects. Showcases for M.S. and Ph.D. students will be given in separate sessions on **Monday, April 15**. If there are insufficient entries in both categories, the Conference organizers can exercise the right to merge the two categories into one graduate competition. All students are expected to attend the entire session and not just their own presentation.

By March 22, 2024, graduate students must submit a written **ABSTRACT** summarizing their research to Dr. Jackie Boerman (jboerma@purdue.edu), confirming their participation in the Contest, and this abstract will be included in the Conference Proceedings. Please include the title, full names and institutions for each coauthor in the submission. **The abstract must be submitted as a MS WORD document.** See instructions for abstracts below. Please look for a confirmation email within 48 hours or contact Dr. Boerman (765-496-6290).

Undergraduate Student Oral Presentations:

The undergraduate original research showcase will be on **Monday, April 15**. If you intend to present, please notify Dr. Jackie Boerman (jboerma@purdue.edu) **by April 1, 2024**, specifying the full names and institutions of all contributing authors, and full title of the presentation. Please look for a confirmation email within 48 hours or contact Dr. Boerman (765-496-6290). **Abstracts are NOT required for undergraduate presentations.**

For All Students:

Research presentations should be based on original completed research. Research previously published or presented is also eligible for the research competitions if it meets the following criteria: 1) published research never previously presented; 2) if published in a peer-reviewed publication no more the 6 months prior to this contest; or, 3) presented as a poster or oral presentation at another meeting (e.g., annual ADSA/JAM meetings) no more than 18 months prior to the current Tri-State Dairy Nutrition Conference.

Instructions for Abstracts: (Graduate Students only)

The **abstract** must be limited to 2,300 keystrokes (including characters, spaces, and punctuation). Begin the count at the title and end the count with the last key word or end of a table, if one is included. The word count does not include authors and their affiliations.

Abstracts must meet the quality standards outlined in the ADSA Quality Standards for Abstracts for the 2024 ADSA Annual Meeting: (<https://www.adsa.org/Meetings/2024-Annual-Meeting/Abstracts/Abstract-Submission-Instructions>):

1. The objectives of the presentation are clearly and concisely stated at the beginning of the abstract.
2. Pertinent methodological conditions (such as the population and sample, design, instrumentation, methodology used, assessment of methodology, data collection, and data analysis) are included to define the scope of the work.
3. The information in the abstract includes those details that directly influence the interpretation or enhance the understanding of the results or methodologies presented.
4. The results are compiled, condensed, and presented with great care. Only information that is discussed is presented. Only data relating to the objectives are reported. Any statistical inferences shall be sufficiently detailed to authenticate interpretation of the data. One simple, illustrative table may be used if it is the most effective method to convey the results in a clear manner.
5. A clearly stated conclusion is essential.

Judging and Award Presentations for the Contests:

Panels composed of individuals from sponsors, nutritionists, universities without students competing in the given year, and conference speakers will judge the abstracts and presentations. Students should review the different contest scorecards (attached) for understanding about how each category of presentation will be judged.

Awards will be presented for all divisions in the main Conference session on Tuesday, April 16. All award recipients are expected to attend. Following the announcement of the awards, the first place Ph.D. student awardee will deliver the winning research presentation in the main Conference session.

Instructions for Presentations: (for ALL Students)

Participants are asked to make a **no longer than 12-minute** presentation using MS PowerPoint; 3 additional minutes will be for questions from the judges and audience. Each participant should bring their presentation to the Conference on a flash drive. All participants will use the Conference computer in each presentation room; no one will be allowed to use their own computer. All presentation sessions will be open to all participants and Conference attendees.

Suggested guidelines for presentations

- Color choices:
 - a) Use different colors, special coding (italics, bold, etc.) and caps/no caps to stress major points;
 - b) Avoid using contiguous colors, colors that appear next to each other on the color wheel; and
 - c) Choose background and foreground colors that complement each other, those opposite each other on the color wheel.
- Keep slides simple and avoid excessive use of colors and graphics that may be distracting.
- Be consistent in slide layout but vary presentation of content.
- Remember that the color tone on your monitor may not look exactly the same with the computer and projection system used at the Conference.
- Avoid the use of red and green because some people are red/green color-blind.
- DO NOT put too much information on a slide (generally 24 pt text should be the minimum size) and no more than 12 total horizontal lines or rows per slide.
- Use pictures where applicable.
- Remember: Bad slides can make good information and results look bad.

Tri-State Dairy Nutrition Conference

Undergraduate & Graduate Student Research Presentation Score Card

Name of Student: _____

University _____

Title of Presentation: _____

Name of Judge: _____

Criteria	Score	Comments
1. Understanding/Interpretation of the Research/Topic (60%)		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shows understanding of the biology and nutrition (20) 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Appropriate handling of data and accurate interpretation of results (20) 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understands methodology and statistics used (10) 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clearly separates conclusions from speculation and provides understanding of implications (10) 		
2. Effectiveness of Oral Presentation (15%)		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clear introduction, explanation of methods and results, and logical organizational flow to conclusions (10) 		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Professionalism; makes eye contact; presents in an engaging and enthusiastic manner (5) 		
3. Slides (10%)		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Correct grammar and spelling; adequate information provided; Slides: creative and appropriate use of graphics, figures, and tables; adequate font size and color schemes 		
4. Responses to Questions (15%)		
Total Score		

out of 100 percentage points

Other Comments: