

Research Snapshots & Research Posters

Workshop
February 23, 2022

Office of Research and Graduate Studies



Research Week 2022

March 28 to April 1

Research Posters: All week in Centennial Lobby, official session (with judges) on March 31, 1:30 p.m.

Research Snapshots: March 31, 3:00 p.m. (with judges) in Cleghorn

Eligibility

Competition: BU undergraduate or graduate student in any field or discipline

Must present a research project they made an active and significant contribution in

Faculty members and postdoctoral fellows are welcome, but not eligible to win prizes

Research Snapshots

Concept

Inspired by Three Minute Thesis, an academic competition developed by the University of Queensland in 2008.

Geared to cultivate academic, presentation and research communication skills

Participants have three minutes to explain their research project to a non-specialist audience.

Prizes

One prize (\$250) in each of three categories (Jury):

- Undergraduate Students – Natural Sciences
- Undergraduate Students – Social Sciences, Education and Business
- Graduate Students

Rules

One entry per participant

Participants will present their submission in-person

Presentations are limited to 3 minutes maximum

Submission must only include the participant speaking + one optional static slide

No additional electronic media, no props, only spoken words

Presentation is to commence from the stage

Evaluation Criteria

Presentation Skills

Clear voice, rhythm, fluidity, presence, passion, attention from audience...

Scientific Communication Skills

Use of lay language, metaphors and analogies, avoid scientific jargon, explain terminology

Structure and Content

Clear and logical sequence, background and significance, impact and results, balance of time

Timeline

March 4, 4:00 p.m. : Deadline for registration
(Form available on MyBU – Research Office and on the BU website)

March 28, 4:00 p.m.: Deadline to submit your static slide (if applicable)
(Send to Research Officer at rmercier@ubishops.ca)

March 31, 3:00 p.m.: Presentation of Snapshots in Cleghorn (McGreer)

Tips for Success

Anyone should be able to understand your presentation

Avoid jargon and long sentences

Explain important concepts in lay language

Convey your passion for your subject

Choose key points from your research that have real-life application

Try to catch the attention of the audience from the start (fact, question)



Tips for Success

Make sure the audience understands what you are doing

Highlight the outcomes and importance of your research

Ask for feedback from people around you (outside your field)

Watch 3MT presentations online

Practice

Speak slowly

Common Mistakes

- 1) Failing to connect your research with the bigger picture. Why should the audience care about your research?
- 2) Failing to engage the audience's curiosity.

Research Posters

Prizes

One prize (\$250) in each of three categories (Jury):

- Undergraduate Students – Natural Sciences
- Undergraduate Students – Social Sciences, Education and Business
- Graduate Students

Rules

One entry per participant

Must contain the student's name, the title of the project, the department and the name of the supervisor

Must contain basic information on the project

36 x 48 inches

Clear and easy to follow to individuals of all disciplines

Evaluation Criteria

Significance of research question

Well-defined objectives

Description of methodology

Presentation of results

Conclusions

Layout of poster (visual, font, colors, etc.)

Quality of the writing

Timeline

March 4, 4:00 p.m. : Deadline for registration
(Form available on MyBU – Research Office and on the BU website)

March 21, 4:00 p.m.: Deadline to submit your poster to PrintShop

Research Week: Posters visible in Centennial Lobby

March 31, 1:30 p.m.: Public presentation of posters (judges)

Tips for Success

Make your poster easy to read (avoid jargon, bold keywords)

Do not pack in too much information

Structure your ideas in a logical visual flow

Attractive, choose the right color palette

Use an interesting title

Easy to read for someone standing 6 feet away

Make sure your contact information is available



Instructions

Use PowerPoint to prepare Poster (Use Tutorial on MyBU and BU website)

Change page size to 36 x 48 inches in *File - Page setup*

Can be either portrait or landscape

To add text, use *text boxes*

Can add figures by copy-pasting or importing other files such as .jpg and .tif

Include Bishop's University logo

Instructions

Poster figures and tables should be linked to text using (e.g.) *Figure 1, Table 2*

Include brief figure captions

Use color blind friendly colors for your figures

Suggested headings :

Background

Results

References

Research Questions

Conclusion

Methods

Acknowledgements

Instructions

Min. text size 24 pt. Headings between 30 and 60 pt, poster title over 72 pt

Suggested fonts: Helvetica, Arial, Calibri or another *sans-serif*

Avoid Comic sans

SERIF

Aa

SANS SERIF

Aa

Title of Research Project (simple, no jargon)

Your Name, Department/College, Email Address



Background

Provide background and context for your research. Briefly introduce your audience to the topic of study. You can discuss other published, scholarly work on the topic if:

- It makes a case for the necessity of your research
- It explains how your research contributes to existing knowledge

Research Questions

Provide a clear statement of the problem(s) you are trying to solve or the issue(s) you investigated.

Methods and Materials

Discuss the methods and materials you used to investigate your research question. Include (if applicable):

- Samples/measures used
- Research tools and/or equipment
- Manipulations, correlations, comparisons of interest
- Strengths and limitations of methodology



Description/explanation of graphics: Make sure to provide titles and descriptions of any visual aids you use.



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Results

Discuss and analyze the results of your research.

- Explain outcomes or findings in accessible terms.
- You may express your results quantitatively or qualitatively.
- If your research is in progress, report your preliminary results, findings, or initial trends.

Acknowledgments

Thank those who provided any guidance, support, or funding for your research.

Conclusion

Conclusion/Discussion:

- Explain the broader implications of your findings. Think about potential long-term significance or impact of your work. Make it relevant to your audience.
- Offer unanswered questions for future research.
- Note how the project may evolve from here.

References

Include citations for any sources you used on your poster, including visuals.

Tutorial on Designing Research Posters

PDF available on MyBU – Research Office, and on the BU Website

Getting Info about Competitions

On the [BU Website](#)

On MyBU – Research Office – Competitions – Research Communication
Competition

*This PPT will be available

Questions?

You can always contact me !

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