

COMPETITION RULES

Materials & Biological Presentations

MRL Fall Conference, November 8-9, 2017

Prizes

- **First Place Prize: \$99. Second Place Prize: \$50.** Grad students and post docs are eligible.
- Name and photo announcement will be on MRL publications and the MRL Web Site.
- Winners will be announced on the International Microscopy List serve.

Entry Requirements

- Competitors must present both a **POSTER** and a **PRESENTATION**. We also ask for a digital copy of the poster so that we may print and display at MRL after the competition.
- Subject matter should be a biological or materials project you have worked on, and part of the work must have been done at MRL.
- **Upload a 1/2 page abstract (2-3 images may also be included with no space restriction) with your online registration by 15 October, 2017.**

Note: A good abstract includes title, acknowledgements, images, and good clarity.

- Be available as a participant of the conference on Nov 8-9, 2017.
- The presentation should include tutorial-like explanations of the principles of the instruments and techniques used. **Assume your audience is not familiar with the techniques.**
- The presentation should use Keynote, PowerPoint or other presentation software compatible with a standard presentation system: a flash drive is sufficient for PowerPoint files, and a Mac laptop will be provided for Keynote files. You may use your own laptop, and will be able to test it out on November 7th. Posters are expected to be hung by 4 pm November 7th in assigned locations.
* **Note:** We typically receive more entries than presentation space permits, so BE COMPETITIVE with your abstract—we will be choosing from a pool of applicants.

Limitations

- Entries will be accepted from meeting registrants only.
- Participants must either be a graduate student or a post doc from an institution of higher learning and part of the work **MUST HAVE BEEN DONE AT MRL.**
- The number of presentations is limited. Abstracts will be judged to determine contestants.
- Each presentation shall be 15 minutes long, followed by a 5-minute Q&A session. You will also have an assigned time to stand by your poster for a visit from the Judges.
- One speaker per entry.

Judging criteria (including but not limited to):

- Methods and instrumentation explained in tutorial fashion
- Knowledge of the instrument(s) and technique(s) shown
- Subject delivered to the audience in an understandable and ordered manor
- Delivery that demonstrates understanding rather than memorization
- Audio clarity of the presentation
- Effective visual aids
- Sufficient number of images
- Performance during Q&A
- Presentation within the allotted time
- Quality of the poster
- Timeliness of poster materials arriving

Winners will be announced and awarded at the end of the 2nd day of the conference.