REGISTRATION FAQ’S

What if I am not finished with my research? Research is never truly complete, right? So, no one expects your research to be final and without lingering questions. That said, many students choose to present information about methodology, research questions and processes, as well as simply what they have THUS FAR. No matter what stage your research is on, you can present what you have and be successful doing so.

What is the difference between a co-presenter and a collaborator? A co-presenter will physically be there with you the day of the conference. That is why when you fill out the registration form, you will have to provide specifics about your co-presenter(s). Collaborators are people on the project that you want to be referenced in your public presentation information on the SRC website. (Note: There are limits to the amount of information that goes into the printed materials, please consider this when addressing who is a co-presenter and who is a collaborator. We can only publish the names of collaborators online, not in the print version.)

Who can present at the Student Research Conference? Students at any level and across any discipline are encouraged to present at the SRC. Students in 200-level courses are allowed to submit their research projects to the SRC with the instructor’s permission. Registration requires an abstract, information about the presenter, a UVM faculty sponsor, as well as timing and presentation format specifics.

What is the difference between the three presentation formats?

• Oral/Paper Presentations are 10 minute oral presentations given in a cohort of 3-4 presentations per hour. The SRC coordinator makes an effort to create commonality between presentations for the sessions that are not curated by faculty and staff. The 4 presentations are advertized under a heading such as “Interdisciplinary Approaches to Health Care” or “Neuroscience” or “Global Histories of Immigration”. After all 4 presentations, there are 20 minutes for moderated Q&A with all the presenters.

• Poster Presentations are done in 4 sessions throughout the day. A student is assigned to one session and is expected to have a 24”x32” poster on a provided board and easel in the section of their “research category”. Each session is 1.5 hours in which a student is expected to stand with their poster and answer questions as those in attendance wandering the space, viewing different posters.

• Creative Presentations are up to the presenter to envision. A presenter is allotted a space, a table, and any technology resources (within reason) the student requests. Examples of Creative Presentations: Virtual Reality Sandbox, Photography series, Set Design for a play, etc. If you are interested in this but unsure if it is the right format for you, please contact the coordinator directly. If you are unsure if a creative presentation is right for you, please schedule a consultation with the SRC Coordinator.
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What happens after I register? Once you have submitted your registration, you are committed to present. No one is rejected and there is no acceptance sent besides the confirmation email post-registration. If you do not receive a confirmation, please check your spam folder and then contact the coordinator should there be none. There are a series of workshops and opportunities for professional development around the conference. Those events can be found here or on the Compass App. On the calendar, you will also find information about deadlines for changes, schedule postings, etc.

What is an abstract and how do I write one?
An “abstract” — a brief summary (no more than 300 words) of your project — is required for registration. You are expected to submit your abstract to your research mentor for review. Based on your mentor's feedback, you are expected to revise your abstract, if necessary. Online Tools/Resources:
• How to write an abstract
• Writing an Abstract Worksheet
• Abstract Examples

FOUR has the term ‘undergraduate research’ in it but I’m a graduate student, can I still present? Yes, we consider the Student Research Conference part of the “O” in the FOUR title since it involves opportunities for both undergraduates and graduates as many of our programs and advising does.

Prepping your Presentation FAQ’s

What resources are available to me for my presentation? Tables, monitors, mannequins, projectors, laptops, headphones, white boards, poster boards, and easels. If you need other equipment, the coordinator will work with a presenter to help them make their presentation design happen.

Can I use a PowerPoint? Yes, any presentation service should be compatible with all UVM Media Centers.

Can I and where do I upload my presentation in advance? Presentations can be file transferred to uvmsrc@uvm.edu by noon on Tuesday (4/16) before the conference. Presentations will then be downloaded onto the computer in your presentation room prior to your presentation.

Is there a clicker or pointer in the room? Yes, all rooms are equipped with a laser pointer and clicker.

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Prepping your Presentation FAQ’s

Can I use audio in my presentation? Yes. We suggest that you email the coordinator to arrange to test the sound in the morning prior to the start of the event.

Who will attend my presentation? A presenter is encouraged to bring and invite their own audience. Some audience members may be there but typically rooms are populated by the presenters’ friends and families.

I am on the waitlist for a presentation, what now? Typically drop outs happen within two weeks of the event. However, we do not make any changes within one week of the conference. If you are not contacted by then, please prepare to give your original presentation format.

Why aren’t the other presentations in my room related to my topic? Presentations are grouped based on research category and time slot. Sometimes presentations cannot be grouped thematically due to schedule complications.

How many people will stop by my poster? There is no predicting the number of people that will stop by your poster. The more engaging and legible your poster is from afar, the more people will stop and chat. Get tips and tricks on creating posters.

How do I make a poster?
- Preferred size: 24” x 36” (however, alternate sizes are acceptable)
- Include the UVM tower logo (see “logo assets”)
- If your research is the result of program or external funding sources, include the appropriate logo and adhere to their specifications for size and format.
- Save your final version in PDF or PowerPoint File (PPT) format (this is generally necessary for printing).
- We have more tips and tricks for creating posters.
NOTE: Colors and designs after printing may not be the same as on a computer monitor, so use care when choosing unusual colors and designs.

How can I prep for questions? Everyone should have an elevator pitch/stump speech/brief synopsis of their research ready to go. That is the first step to success. Practicing that 1-3 minute introduction of your research for a friend and your mentor is the perfect way to hear what kinds of questions a viewer might have. Your audience will range from high school students to PhD’s in your field. You need to be prepared to answer questions from both.

How can I get funding for my poster printing fee? For undergraduates, Fellowships, Opportunities, and Undergraduate Research (FOUR) will cover the cost of printing your poster as long as you submit it by the due date (2019 Deadline: TBA – check calendar). Graduate students are encouraged to reach out to their department or college to ask for assistance.

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