Susan A. Siltanen Graduate Student Research Symposium Frequently Asked Questions

1. Can I submit more than one abstract? No

2. Is the PowerPoint due at the time of abstract submission? No. The deadline for submitting PowerPoint is March 27.

3. Will the department receive some directives related to rank ordering of our submissions? No. Departments are no longer involved in selecting abstracts of presentations for the symposium. Students should submit directly through the abstract form on the graduate school website. Competitions for best poster or best oral presentation will take place the day of the symposium based on quality of the presentation.

4. Can changes be made to the abstract following the submission deadline? Yes. We will provide you a proof of your abstract before going to print approximately four weeks prior to symposium. At that time, you can make changes. No changes will be allowed after that date.

5. Do I need to attach my reference page anywhere with my abstract submission? No.

6. Would it be acceptable to present a thesis project that I presented a portion of at the symposium last year? Yes, if the research has progressed. No, if it is the same.

7. If I am a Professional and Preparation student can I compete in the general poster sessions and PIP poster sessions? Yes

8. Do we need to include the abstract in our poster layout? Yes. Abstracts are typically on poster.

9. Do I need to plan to be there 9 a.m.-1 p.m.? Yes, we will not know the time of your presentation until we have received all abstracts. Therefore, you need to have that time set aside.

10. Do we have specific presentation times and requirements? Yes. You will be assigned a presentation time no later than March 21. View symposium guidelines for more details.

11. Where do I need to set up my poster and for how long? Your set-up location and poster judging time will be provided to you no later than March 21.

12. Is there a PowerPoint template (e.g., USM logo at the top of every slide) that we need to use in order be considered for an award? No, there is no specific template. However, view symposium guidelines for logo usage and sample PowerPoint presentations and posters.

13. I am doing a poster presentation. Do I need to email my PowerPoint? No, only the oral presenters need to email PowerPoint.

14. I have an 8 a.m. class that Tuesday morning which will run during the designated set up time. Will I need to have someone else set up for me, or will I be able to set up after my class is over? Judging is from 9:30-11:30 a.m. You need to be set up at this time if you would like for your poster to be judged.

15. Is the posters for the symposium an out-of-pocket expense for students? Yes.
16. Can graphs or charts be included in the abstract? No, the abstract should be text. However, if your abstract includes scientific formulas, it can be emailed in a word document to Vanessa.Molden@usm.edu. In the abstract section of registration form, state that you are emailing abstract separately.