Science Influencers Annual Fall Research Symposium
CALL FOR PROPOSALS
Guidelines

Purpose

The *Science Influencers* program integrates research, education, and extension experiences for undergraduates to become effective, influential communicators of science. *Science Influencers* complete a spring semester course, and then participate in a summer research or extension internship to enhance research and technical communication skills. Internships culminate in the Annual Fall Research Symposia. Hence, this Call for Proposals is open to all REEU students for their consideration and submission of scientific posters and/or oral presentations.

Focus

Proposals should be focused on REEU internship experiences, such as:
- Research – report of systematic investigations into and study of materials and sources to establish facts and reach conclusions.
- Application – documentation of practical and/or field experiences in applied research, education, and/or extension experiences.
- Innovation – presentation of concepts or ideas that illustrate innovative approaches for acquiring REEU relevant learning opportunities.

Rules

1. Proposals must represent REEU students' original works.
2. Students may submit more than one Proposal.
3. Draft Proposal Due: **October 18, 2024, 5:00 p.m.** (CST) (Submit Online)
4. Final Proposal Due: **October 31, 2024, 5:00 p.m.** (CST) (Submit Online)
5. Oral Presentation/Poster materials Due: **November 7, 2024, 5:00 p.m.** (CST)
6. The Annual Fall Research Symposium is **November 15, 2024, 3:00-5:00 p.m.** (CST)

Proposal Types (see **previous examples**)
- Oral: Oral presentation proposals provide an overview of the summer internship experience. Typically, these proposals describe what took place, where it occurred, how it happened, and the outcomes of the internship. See specific headings in Required Formats.
- Poster: Poster presentation proposals are like oral presentations but may be more focused on outcomes and applications of lessons learned from the internship experience. Use the same specific headings to develop poster presentation proposals.

Required Formats
- Submissions include title page, proposal (see section headings), and references in one Word file.
  - Title page: Proposal title, student's name, institution, contact information (email address).
  - Include up to five keywords on the title page.
- **Limit the Proposal to ~750 words** (excluding title page and references) to communicate accurately an overview of your REEU summer internship experience (research or extension).

- Required section headings:
  - **Title** (not included in the word limit)
  - **Introduction** or **Background** (include relevant citations)
  - **Purpose and Objectives**
  - **Methods** or **Procedures** (include relevant citations)
  - **Results** or **Findings**
  - **Conclusions** and **Recommendations**, or **Implications** and **Application** (citations)
  - **References** (not included in the word limit)
- Cite references using a known citation style guide (e.g., MLA, APA, Chicago).
- Photos, figures, and/or tables are allowed as attachments (not included in the word count).

Presentation Concerns (during the Annual Fall Research Symposium)

Connectivity and Atmosphere
- The Annual Fall Research Symposium is a live and virtual event.
  - Presenters must have a secure and dependable internet connection (if virtual).
  - Presenters must test their internet connection before the symposium.
  - Students stay connected throughout the symposium, even when not presenting.
- Presentations must be in distraction-free settings, such as university meeting or classroom spaces or undisturbed apartment/home spaces.
- Presenters must maintain a live camera throughout the symposium.

Professionalism
- Presenters should appear as professionals.
- Appropriate dress, language, and interactions with the audience are expected.
  - Oral: Oral presentations (live or pre-recorded) may be ~10 minutes with an additional ~5 minutes for Q/A discussions after each oral presentation.
  - Poster: Poster presentations (live or pre-recorded) may be ~10 minutes for the poster content; plan for ~5 minutes for Q/A after each poster presentation.
- All presentations should:
  - Begin with an appropriate self-introduction.
  - Briefly introduce the internship organization, location, and field supervisor.
  - Describe professional changes (e.g., knowledge, skills, abilities) from the internship.
  - Describe personal changes (e.g., characteristics, attitudes) from the internship.
  - Explain elements of the summer internship that are applicable to a future career.
- Presentations may include video, animation, etc. within the allowed time limit.
- All participants, regardless of presentation type, should prepare appropriate questions for other's materials to spark short Q/A discussions if no questions arise from the public or no one posts questions online.

Questions about the *Science Influencers* Annual Fall Research Symposium can be sent to:
- Dr. Holli Leggette (hollileggette@tamu.edu)
- Dr. Gary Wingenbach (wingenbach@tamu.edu)
- Dr. Barbara Gastel (bgastel@cvm.tamu.edu)