



U.S. Department of Education  
Promoting educational excellence for all Americans.



## MORE Sciences Colloquium

# Call for abstracts

### 1. What is MORE Science?

Minority Opportunities for Research Experience in Earth Science at the University of Texas at San Antonio (MORE Science at UTSA), funded by the U.S. Department of Education (Grant Award No. P120A050061), is a three-year project (10/1/2005-9/30/2008) designed to provide research and field experiences to undergraduate Earth science majors.

### 2. MORE Science Student Colloquium, October 20, 2006

The event will consist of a series of talks and/or posters, showcasing undergraduate research being conducted within our department, including all MORE students and other students. The topics will cover a diverse spectrum of contemporary topics within the fields of Earth Sciences, MDS, and Environmental Sciences. Graduate students are going to serve as judges, and top 3 or 6 outstanding presenters (3 for talks and 3 for posters, depending on the numbers of participants) will be given awards. Colloquium will be held on Friday, November 17<sup>th</sup>.

For more information about Colloquium e-mail Burcu Cicek at [burcu@drcicek.com](mailto:burcu@drcicek.com)

### 3. Important Dates for MORE Sciences Colloquium

Date	Event
10/10/2006	Abstract submission deadline
10/17/2006	Reviewers Only: Reviews Due
10/18/2006	Notice of acceptance
11/10/2006	Final paper versions due
11/17/2006	MORE Sciences Colloquium 2006

### 4. Call for Papers

MORE science colloquium 2006 is the first Colloquium organized by graduate students and advised and supported by the Drs. Hongjie Xie, Stuart Birnbaum, and Lance Lambert. It will take place at University of Texas at San Antonio on November 17, 2006. There will be no registration fee.

The aim of the colloquium is to bring together undergraduate researchers in the MORE science project as well as other undergraduate researchers in the EES Department.

PAPERS (6 pages maximum): All accepted papers will be presented. Appendices may exceed the 6 page limit, but the reviewers are under no obligation to read any material beyond the 6 page limit. All submissions will be reviewed by graduate students in the respective areas. All submissions are to be made electronically (to Burcu Cicek at [burcu@drcicek.com](mailto:burcu@drcicek.com)) and will be published through the MORE Science website at <http://www.utsa.edu/LRSG/MOREScience/index.htm>.

## 5. Program Committee

The program judge committee:

- Mike Lewis (Ph.D student)
- Rachana Nagar (PhD student)
- Sheeba Thomas (PhD student)
- Xianwei Wang (Ph.D student)
- Gwen Young (PhD student)

Advisor committee for the colloquium:

- Dr. Hongjie Xie
- Dr. Stuart Birnbaum
- Dr. Lance Lambert
- Dr. Kyle Murray

Faculty mentors of supported MORE students in summer 2006:

- Dr. Judy Haschenburger
- Dr. Hongjie Xie
- Dr. Dibyendu Sarkar
- Dr. Huade Guan
- Dr. Kyle Murray
- Dr. Alan Dutton
- Dr. Paul Jurena
- Dr. Minqiang Zhu (visiting professor)

## 6. Guidelines for Abstract

An abstract is a brief summary of your work. "A well prepared abstract enables readers to identify the basic content of a document [or project] quickly and accurately, to determine its relevance to their interests, and thus to decide whether they need to read the document [or project] in its entirety" (American National Standards Institute, 1979). Abstracts should state the

objectives of the project, describe the methods used, summarize the significant findings and state the implications of the findings.

**Length:** Abstracts must be no fewer than 100 words and no more than 300 words. Limit your abstract to text only.

**Tips for Writing Abstracts:** Write in the past tense. Spell out acronyms the first time they are used. For example, write "Minority Opportunities for Research Experience " rather than "MORE." Write clearly and simply. Avoid verbosity and jargon. Emphasize the important details of your project. Abstracts are a "road map" to help interested persons navigate your presentation. Avoid extraneous and unnecessary words. Everything mentioned in the abstract should be a summary of what is mentioned in the presentation. Topics not mentioned in the presentation should not appear in the abstract. Consider your audience. Colloquium attendees may or may not share your area of expertise and knowledge.

## 7. Why come?

Here are some great reasons to come:

- You get to meet other undergraduate and graduate students in your area.
- You can promote your work to other students, who you might even start collaborating with on new work.
- You can get feedback on your work in progress.
- You can practice presenting your stuff.
- It is free (including food)!

## 8. Award

Award will be presented to the best 3 oral papers and the best 3 poster papers presented at the Colloquium (if not enough presenters, we may only have oral session). Awards evaluations will be based on both the paper submitted and the presentation.

Awards for:

First place: 300 USD

Second place: 150 USD

Third place: 50 USD

## 9. Presentation Guidelines

Talks will be 15 minutes long. Every talk will be followed by 5 minutes for questions. Rooms will be equipped with digital projector and computer. Please come to the session early to save you presentation to the computer and make sure it works with the projector. This will make the session run more smoothly.