



U.S. Department of Education
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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 students in Earth science majors.

2. MORE Science Student Colloquium, February 8, 2008

The event will consist of a series of talks, showcasing undergraduate research being conducted within our department, including all MORE students and other students. The content will cover a diverse spectrum of contemporary topics within the fields of Earth Sciences and Environmental Sciences. Ph.D. Graduate students are going to serve as judges, and top 3 or 6 outstanding presenters (depending on the numbers of participants) will be given awards. Colloquium will be held in SB 2.01.02, UTSA, from 1:00 to 4:00pm on Friday, Feb 8th 2008.

For more information about Colloquium, e-mail to Xianwei Wang at Xianwei.wang@utsa.edu

3. Important Dates for MORE Sciences Colloquium

Date	Event
11/23/2007	Abstract submission deadline
11/30/2007	Notice of acceptance
1/26/2008	Final paper versions due
2/8/2008	MORE Sciences Colloquium 2008

4. Call for Papers

MORE science colloquium 2008 is the second Colloquium organized by graduate students and advised and supported by Drs. Hongjie Xie, Stuart Birnbaum, and Lance Lambert. The first MORE science colloquium had been held at the University of Texas at San Antonio on

November 17, 2006. The second Colloquium will be held in the Department of Geology Science at the University of Texas at San Antonio on February 9, 2008. All registrations are 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 major of Geology Science and Environmental Sciences.

PAPERS (6 pages maximum): All accepted papers will be presented. Appendices may exceed the 6 page limit. All submissions will be reviewed by graduate students in the respective areas. All submissions are to be made electronically (to Xianwei Wang at xianwei.wang@utsa.edu) 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:

Burcu Cicek – Laboratory of Remote Sensing and Geoinformatic (LRSG)
Karen Engates – HydroGIS
Marcus King – Biology
Keith Muhlestein – HydroGIS
Rachana Nagar – Environmental Geochemistry Lab (EGL)

Advisor committee for the colloquium:

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

Faculty mentors of supported MORE students in spring 2007:

Dr. Hongjie Xie
Prof. Steve Ackley
Dr. Debajyoti Paul

Faculty mentors of supported MORE students in summer 2007:

Dr. Hongjie Xie
Dr. Judy Haschenburger
Prof. Steve Ackley
Dr. Debajyoti Paul
Dr. Rupali Datta
Dr. Hatim Sharif
Dr. Alan Dutton
Dr. Adria Bodour
Dr. Paul Jurena

Faculty mentors of supported MORE students in fall 2007:

Dr. Hongjie Xie

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: 200~300 words. 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 and even start collaborating 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 or 6 oral papers presented at the Colloquium (depending on the total papers). Awards evaluations will be based on both the paper 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 set up your presentation on the computer and make sure it works with the projector. This will make the session run more smoothly.