



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 designed to provide research and field experiences to undergraduate students in Earth and Environmental sciences majors.

2. MORE Science Student Colloquium, January 30, 2009

The event will consist of a series of talks, showcasing undergraduate and graduate research being conducted within our department and other relevant departments, including all MORE students and other students who are interested in. 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 to 6 outstanding presenters (depending on the numbers of participants) will be given awards. Colloquium will be held in SB 2.01.02, UTSA, from 1:30 to 4:30pm on Friday, January 30, 2009.

For more information about Colloquium, e-mail to Mr. Newfel Mazari at newfel@yahoo.com or Dr. Hongjie Xie at Hongjie.Xie@utsa.edu

3. Important Dates for MORE Science Colloquium

Date	Event
11/14/2008	Abstract submission deadline
11/28/2008	Notice of acceptance
1/16/2009	Final paper due
1/30/2009	MORE Science Colloquium 2009

4. Call for Abstracts

MORE science colloquium 2009 is the third Colloquium organized by graduate students and advised and supported by Drs. Hongjie Xie, Lance Lambert, and Hatim Sharif. The first and second MORE science colloquium had been held on November 17, 2006 and February 8, 2008, respectively. The third Colloquium will be held on January 30, 2009. All registrations are fee.

The aim of the colloquium is to bring together undergraduate and graduate researchers supported by the MORE science project as well as other undergraduate and graduate researchers in the Geology Science and Environmental Science.

Abstracts (200-300 words) and final papers (10 pages maximum, single space) should be submitted via email to Newfel Mazari at newfel@yahoo.com. All submissions will be reviewed by the program judge committee in the respective areas. All accepted papers will be presented in the colloquium 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 (5 PhD students):
To be announced

Advisor committee for the colloquium:

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

Faculty mentors for supporting MORE students in spring 2008:
Dr. Lance Lambert

Faculty mentors for supporting MORE students in summer 2008:

Prof. Steve Ackley
Dr. Donald Hooper
Dr. Lance Lambert
Dr. Kyle Murray
Dr. Marius Necsoiu
Dr. Brent Nowak
Dr. Debajyoti Paul
Dr. Hatim Sharif
Dr. Hongjie Xie
Dr. Keying Ye

Faculty mentors for supporting MORE students in fall 2008:

Dr. Donald Hooper
Dr. Lance Lambert
Dr. Marius Necsoiu
Dr. Debajyoti Paul
Dr. Keying Ye

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 paper 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, with cash awards.

8. Award

Awards will be presented to the best 3 to 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.