

**TACLS Scientific Poster Competition: Information & Guidelines**

**The TACLS Scientific Poster Competition Committee is soliciting abstract submissions for poster presentations at the 2018 TACLS State Meeting to be held March 22-24, 2018 in El Paso, TX. Abstract and Submission Form Deadline is Friday, March 2, 2018, the poster competition will be held on Friday, March 23 from 11:00 am-1:00 pm.**

**General Information**

A. Presenter Categories

 1. Students

Undergraduate: current ASCLS Student Members enrolled in a NAACLS-accredited MLS or MLT program

Graduate: ASCLS Member either currently enrolled as a graduate student or was enrolled as a graduate student at the time research was conducted

 2. Professionals

 Please note that presenters are not required to register for the entire conference, but all presenters must register for Friday, March 23. If presenters attend additional conference days, they must register for those conference days as well.

B. Content Categories

Abstracts are evaluated based on their content and categorized into the following content areas. No literature reviews will be accepted.

1. **Clinical Case Study**

A clinical case study describes a clinical problem and the means used to resolve it. The case may involve a patient or patients with unusual clinical disease presentations, complications or outcomes in which the clinical diagnosis requires a battery of relevant laboratory tests to confirm.

Abstracts for a clinical case study should include:

• A short description of the patient history/presentation/problem

• Significant diagnostic laboratory test results

• Patient outcome

• Brief description of the disease/condition

2. **Education Case Study**

An education case study could involve academic issues such as student admission/dismissal policy, competency testing, recruitment and retention, or a description of an innovative education model. The case should present strategies used to resolve the dilemma or to place the education model in practice and describe the significance and implication of the issue to clinical laboratory practice.

Abstracts for an education case study should include:

• A short description of the issue

• Underlying principle for resolving the issue

• Brief description of the strategies used

• Outcome or resolution

3. **Research**

A research presentation characterizes an original structured investigation of a specific problem relevant to clinical laboratory science. The research abstract must include all of the following:

• Study’s objective

• Brief description of methods

• Results summary

• Statement of conclusion

When submitting abstracts in the Research Category, the research study should be complete; however, abstracts with significant preliminary results where preliminary conclusions/inferences can be drawn will be considered. Do not use headers, references, charts, figures or tables in the abstract.

**Abstract Preparation**

• **Title**: Use a concise title (5 or 6 words, if possible) that reflects abstract content. Title should be **flush left**. Capitalize the first letter of first word and all other words except prepositions, conjunctions, and articles. Underline or italicize scientific genus and species names of organisms. Do not use acronyms, abbreviations, and initials in a title.

• **Author/Institution**: List the presenting author first, in **boldface** type. List author institution affiliation (excluding department or division information) below each author’s name, followed by the city and state of the institution, except when authors share the same institution affiliation. **Single-space** author information. (See sample abstracts on page 5 for reference.)

• **Abstract**: All abstracts must be typed **double-spaced** with 1-inch margins; **Times New Roman** is the recommended font, **12-point type**. Abstract text format is **flush left**. **Text length** (not including title and author information) must not exceed 200 words. (See sample abstracts on page 5 for reference.)

**Abstract Submission**

• All abstract proposals must be submitted electronically (MS Word only, no pdf) with a fully completed and **signed** submission form. Abstracts and application forms should be submitted to jsmaiermoore@utep.edu. Acknowledgement of receipt will be sent by email.

**Review, Acceptance, and Notification**

Members of the TACLS Scientific Poster Presentation Committee will review all abstract submissions. Authors receive written notification of abstract acceptance or rejection by March 2, 2018. The letter of acceptance will include information on the presentation date and time of the presentation.  *In the event an abstract is accepted with revisions, edited revisions are re-submitted electronically for further review and final acceptance. Abstracts failing to meet the revision deadlines are rejected.*

**Poster Display Provisions**

Poster presentation authors are provided with an approximately 4-foot-high x 8-foot-wide bulletin board to display their poster. Poster specifications are included in the abstract acceptance letter.

**Questions**

Please direct any questions regarding these instructions to:

**Jacen Moore, PhD, MA, MT (ASCP), CHT**

**Phone: 915.747.7243**

 **FAX:** 915.747.8224

**Email:** **jsmaiermoore@utep.edu**

**Accommodations for Disabilities**

If a conference registrant or attendee of the 2018 TACLS Annual Meeting requires accommodations for a disability, inform the conference chair (Dr. Lorraine Torres) by email or in writing no later than March 16, 2018 at lorit@utep.edu.