




Submission Guidelines

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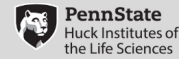
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6TH ANNUAL LIFE SCIENCES SYMPOSIUM

MAY 12
8 A.M. - 6 P.M.

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ORGANIZED BY:



About the Symposium

The Life Sciences Symposium is an annual meeting organized by the Huck Institutes of the Life Sciences and the Huck Graduate Student Advisory Committee (HGSAC) at Penn State. Since 2015, this event has brought together hundreds of researchers from diverse scientific fields, promoting unique research collaborations, funding, and networking opportunities. The symposium encourages the understanding of the role of scientists in society at local, national, and global scales. In addition, this event increases the visibility of Penn State's laboratories, centers, and core facilities to maximize engagement and use of on-campus facilities.

The 6th Annual Huck Life Sciences Symposium will be held in person at the Smeal College of Business Building on May 12th. HGSAC is working hard to ensure everyone's safety while delivering the same quality and opportunities as previous years. As such, this year's conference will follow the guidelines set up by Penn State University.

Event highlights

- Keynote speakers
- Oral & poster presentations
- "My research" video contest
- Elevator Pitch contest
- Cash prizes & gift giveaways

Important Dates

- March 27th - Abstract submission deadline
- April 10th - Abstracts selected for oral presentation
- April 30th - "My Research" video deadline
- May 1st - Registration deadline

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Integrative & Biomedical Physiology

Pankajam Thyagarajan

Molecular, Cellular & Integrative Biosciences

Faculty advisor

Troy Ott

Department of Animal Sciences



COVID-19 Health Guidelines

To ensure everyone's safety and comfort, we will be observing the current Penn State University's guidelines. As such, all students, faculty, staff, and visitors—including those who are vaccinated and unvaccinated—must wear masks indoors. Individuals are [urged to wear well-fitting, multi-layered masks](#) in accordance with latest University and federal guidelines. All individuals on campus are permitted to eat in designated food service areas which will be clearly outlined at the conference. We will be posting updates if any are to occur on our website.

- For any further information or questions, please visit Penn State's Health Guidelines website: <https://virusinfo.psu.edu/health-guidelines/>

Event registration

Registration for students, post-doctoral fellows, faculty, and facilities/organizations is open until **May 1st, 2022** using the link: <https://forms.gle/KMAGygKW5R3J6ESd7>

Registered participants will receive instructions and reminders for the event via email. If you have questions, please contact us at psu.hgsac@gmail.com. Updates on the Symposium can be found at the following website: <https://sites.psu.edu/hgsac/2022-lss/>

Abstract submission

To participate in the virtual poster session and be considered for an oral presentation please prepare an abstract no longer than **500 words**. Abstracts must highlight the major points of your research including, but not limited to, the significance and purpose of the study, methodology, results, and conclusion. List first and last names of all authors and their affiliations. All abstracts will be approved for poster presentation. High quality abstracts will be selected for oral presentations. The deadline to submit abstracts is **March 27th, 2022** using the link: <https://forms.gle/Q5jCgErRSvEwNB1MA>

Oral presentations

Abstracts selected for oral presentations will be announced on **April 10th**. Powerpoints should be uploaded to your preferred cloud-based storage (Google Drive, Box, OneDrive, etc) and paste the view-only link into the upload form: <https://forms.gle/DpTAdxVinmUsEBrL6>

On the day of the event, presenters will be able to access their presentation from the desktop of the computer they are presenting at. Presenters should prepare a **14 minute talk with 3 minutes of Q&A** using PowerPoint slides. For the Q&A, presenters will answer up to 3 questions from the audience. Participants that extrapolate the time limit will be kindly stopped by the moderator and have their presentation stopped with Q&A sessions reduced or canceled. During oral presentation, a moderator will be monitoring time and providing visual warnings once your presentation reaches 10, 12, and 14 minutes.



Poster Presentations

Presenters chosen for a poster presentation will be notified by HGSAC by **April 17th, 2022**. Posters will be assigned a number, which will be useful for your registration *and* finding poster location that day.

On the days of the event, presenters are expected to have their poster hung at the Atrium by 8:30 a.m., Thursday May 12th and removed between 6:00-6:30 p.m. It is possible judges and attendees may stop at your poster any time during the day. However, you are expected to be at your poster and available to answer questions during the assigned poster sessions.

“My research” video contest

Considering how much the world uses technology and social media, we want to challenge you in finding new and creative ways to communicate science to broader audiences. So, we are bringing back last year’s “My research” video contest. To participate, make sure your video:

- Is based on your own research
- Clearly articulates the topic, purpose, and importance of your research
- Communicates to a non-specialist audience
- Is inspirational
- Lasts no more than **2 minutes!**
- Comes with a .mp4 format

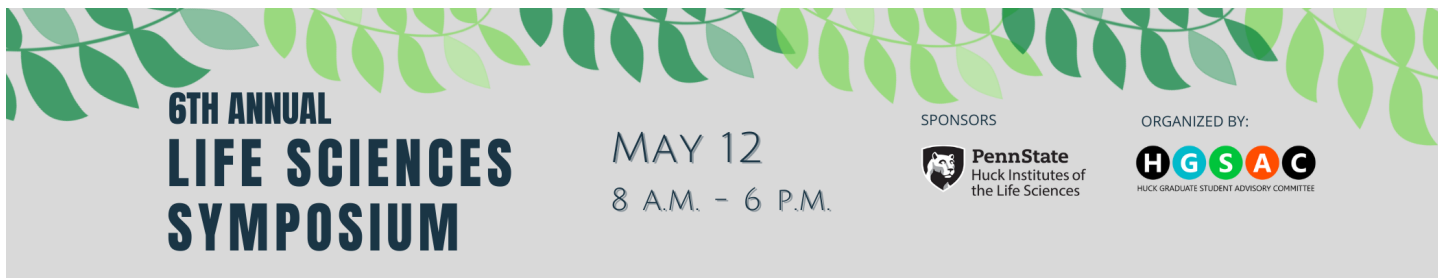
*** Videos created by research groups that have been posted elsewhere, and/or with obvious financial input into production will not be accepted.

Videos are encouraged to use visual aids but there is no required format—get creative! The deadline for video submission is **April 30th**.

IMPORTANT: Once you have created your video, upload it to your preferred cloud-based storage (Google Drive, Box, OneDrive, etc) and paste the view-only link into the upload form:

<https://forms.gle/DpTAdxVinmUsEBrL6>

Videos will be uploaded to the Huck Institutes YouTube channel under the playlist “My research video contest 2022” on **May 5th**. The videos will be evaluated in two categories: People’s choice and Expert’s choice (See Symposium awards & judging criteria). The contest ends on May 12th at 3:00 PM and winners are announced on May 12th at the closing ceremony.



Elevator Pitch Contest

Can you briefly describe your research and its importance to the society? Especially when you're stuck in an elevator? We are challenging you to stand up in front of a small audience and give us your best explanation behind your research. To participate, submit a 300 word abstract by **March 27th** of your own research. If you're chosen to participate, you will have to prepare a 3-minute speech about your research and you can use one optional PowerPoint slide. Upload the slide to your preferred cloud-based storage PowerPoint slide and send the view-only link by **April 30th** and paste the view-only link into the upload form:

<https://forms.gle/DpTAdxVinmUsEBrL6>

Symposium awards & judging criteria

Posters & Oral presentations

Awards will be given to exceptional posters and oral presentations. Cash prizes will go to the top three oral presenters, and the top two posters presenters for each of the five research categories. All presenting first authors will be considered. Judges will evaluate the work of presenters based on the following criteria:

- Background provides appropriate context
- Research questions and aims are clearly stated
- Experimental design, methods, and data analysis are appropriate and transparent
- Research aims are addressed
- Information is presented in an unbiased manner
- Clarity, appearance, and timing of presentation

"My Research" Video Contest


The best video will be awarded in two categories: people's choice and expert's choice. The people's choice winner will be selected by popular vote via YouTube "like" entries. The expert's choice winner will be selected by our judges based on the following criteria:

- Clear articulation of the topic, purpose, and importance of the research
- Message communicates to a non-specialist audience
- Information presented is appropriate
- Video is inspirational
- Video quality and appearance is adequate
- Lasts no more than **2 minutes!**

Elevator Pitch Contest

The best pitch will be selected by our judges based on the following criteria:

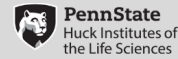
- Clear articulation of the topic, purpose, and importance of the research
- Message communicates to a non-specialist audience
- Information presented is appropriate
- Lasts no more than **3 minutes!**



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Awards

Cash prizes for oral presentations: 1st place = \$200 | 2nd place = \$150 | 3rd place = \$100

Cash prizes for poster presentations (by research category): 1st = \$150 | 2nd = \$100

Cash prizes for best "My Research" video: People's Choice = \$100 | Expert Choice = \$100

Cash prizes for best "Elevator Pitch" contest: Judges Choice = \$100

Facilities & organizations booth display

Our conference will provide space for facilities and organizations to showcase their services. If you are interested in advertising your services, please register your facility and organization using the link:

<https://forms.gle/KMAGygKW5R3J6ESd7>

*** We will contact registrants for further instructions and material uploads.