

AREMA Student Poster Competition
Undergraduate Students
September 16, 2018

2018 Guidelines for Submission of Posters

Call for Posters – Notice Required by 8/31/2018

The AREMA Student Poster Competition for Undergraduate Students at the AREMA Annual Conference provides an opportunity for undergraduate students to present posters on a topic related to the railroad industry. Undergraduate students don't always have the opportunity to conduct research, so these posters are not limited to research conducted at their university. These posters can be based on any railroad industry related topic from classroom projects or assignments, article summarization, activities going on within your AREMA Student Chapter, and independent research into a topic of interest. The posters are intended to provide authors and conference attendees with the ability to connect with each other and to engage in discussions about the work, while providing the student the opportunity to practice their presentation skills.

We invite submissions relevant to the areas of railroading that AREMA technical committees represent. This includes:

- Operations
- Passenger & Transit
- Engineering Services
- Maintenance-of-Way
- Communication & Signals
- Track
- Structures

Participants

Undergraduate level work will be showcased and students will be given an opportunity to present their poster to a panel of judges. Each poster is only allowed to have one presenter during judging. The presenter is required to be an author of the poster.

Criteria

In order for a poster to be considered eligible for judging, it must adhere to the following:

- Entries must be submitted in full prior to the competition. This includes complete Entry Form and Poster Visual for Pre-Judging.
- The lead author of the poster must be an undergraduate student. This includes submissions of multi-author posters in which all authors must be undergraduate students.
- Posters should not exceed a maximum size of 36"x48" or 48"x36".
- Posters should include the essential sections required for the project.
- It is the responsibility of the poster competition entrant to print and bring their poster with them to the competition.
- Posters are hung no later than 15 minutes prior to the competition start time and remain posted until the end of the competition on the provided easels.

- The presenter must be present during an assigned time slot of 30 minutes to give a presentation to the judges. Times will be assigned within the week prior to the competition.

Judging

Each poster is only allowed to have one presenter during judging. The author of the poster must be the presenter and be prepared to answer questions. Each presenter will have five (5) minutes during which to present their posters to the panel of judges and answer any questions. The panel of judges will include a minimum of three (3) railroad industry professionals. The judges will independently score each poster per the attached rubric.

Awards

Scoring will be completed immediately following the competition. The top three (3) posters will be announced at the end of the competition. At that time, those recognized presenters should stand next to their posters for a photo with their poster.

The top 3 posters will be given the opportunity to showcase their poster during the Monday morning coffee break at the conference. The posters to be showcased will be picked up Sunday at the end of the competition by AREMA staff and setup for the coffee break. It is recommended that the poster presenter be present with their poster during the coffee break, but this is not required. At the end of the coffee break, these posters must be picked up or they will be disposed of.

All posters not being showcased Monday must be picked up Sunday at the end of the competition or they will be disposed of.

Entries

Submissions will be limited to one poster per University for the graduate competition, for a maximum of 25 submissions. Additional submittals from each University can be placed on a waiting list to fill available openings on a case by case basis.

Entries must be submitted to the Student Chapter Coordinator at scc@arema.org by August 31, 2018 with the attached entry form. Any entries that have not submitted both the Entry Form and Poster Visual for Pre-Judging by the deadline will be removed from the competition.

Immediate notification will be sent to the first entry per university. Notice of wait list participants in the competition will be sent shortly after the deadline.

Any questions regarding the competition should be submitted to the Student Chapter Coordinator at scc@arema.org.

Poster Size	0 or 5
Poster is equal to or less than 36" x 48" regardless of orientation	
Visual Presentation	1-10
The Title is specific and informative	
The Poster is organized and easy to follow	
The text is written in clear English with proper grammar	
The poster is visually appealing, with quality graphics and photos	
Appropriate information is incorporated in each section of the poster	
The text font is appropriately sized and easy to read	
Poster Integrity	1-10
The abstract includes all relevant aspects of the topic	
All sources are cited correctly in the text where appropriate and the Literature Cited is complete and uses correct format	
Information is consistently presented in every part of the poster	
Original and critical thought is evident	
Material represents new and/or emerging topic/technology within the industry	
Applicability to Industry	1-5
Topic is relevant to the railroad industry	
Oral Presentation	1-10
The presenter is confident and professional	
The presenter is knowledgeable about the information in the poster	
Presenter was able to address judges questions	
Oral presentation delivered in allotted time and allowed time for questions	
Total Score (max 40)	0

1 = Marginal

10 = Exceptional