



Call for applications for the Best Student Poster Award at XXVII IMRC

The Sociedad Mexicana de Materiales (SMM-Mexican Materials Society) recognizes the excellence of student research projects through the **Best Student Poster Award**.

In this competition, student projects are evaluated through their poster presentation at XXVII IMRC by a judge panel based on their relevance, content, clarity, effectiveness of the presentation and knowledge demonstrated by the participants.

The presenting authors of the top three posters will be awarded a first place prize that consist of a trip to the 2019 MRS Spring Meeting funded by SMM and MRS. The three second places and the three third places will receive a recognition. Winners will be announced at a convenient setting to be announced during the Congress on Thursday 23, 2018.

Eligibility

- Participating students must submit recommendation from their advisor(s)
- Participants must be first authors of the competing abstracts at the IMRC XXVII Congress.
- All participants must be active undergraduate or graduate students* (MSc or PhD) at the time of their presentation at the XXVII IMRC (August 2018).
- The competing abstract of the poster to be presented by the participant must be directly related to the participant's undergraduate or graduate (last level of studies) project work and not that of an advisor.
- Participants must be present at the spot assigned to their poster at the date and time of the corresponding poster session.
- Poster layout and presentation must be prepared in English, which is the official language of the congress.
- Competing abstracts must be accepted for poster presentation at the XXVII IMRC.
- Deadline for submission of competing abstracts for poster presentation at IMRC XXVII is March 15th, 2018.

* Exceptions are made for participants who have completed their studies during the five months prior to the XXVII IMRC meeting, considering that they are presenting research that was developed as part of their last level of studies, undergraduate or graduate, respectively. Those participants who have finished their last level of studies more than five months prior to the celebration of the XXVII IMRC, according to the date of their diploma, are not eligible to apply.

Application Process

Students may apply for the Best Student Poster Award by uploading the following documents via their IMRC user session.

1. Copy of the submitted abstract
2. Complete and signed application form, including the recommendation of the supervisor(s)
3. Acceptance Letter from the Symposium Organizers
4. A reduced version of the poster, in PDF format.
5. Official ID that certifies the student is registered in an academic undergraduate or graduate program.



Competing posters must include each of the following sections (or their equivalents):

- a. Representative title of the work
- b. Background Information or Introduction
- b. Objectives, Hypotheses or Research Questions
- c. Methods or Procedures
- d. Results, Analyses or Discussion
- e. Conclusions

Competition stages and process

The first stage of the competition will consist of an initial pre-selection of projects based on the information submitted with the application forms. The pre-selection criteria include the quality of the abstract and the poster itself, its proper relationship to the aims of the symposia and the applicant's recommendation statement from the advisor(s). The top rated projects will be nominated to participate in the final stage of the competition for the Best Student Poster Award.

Posters nominated for the final stage will be exhibited on the assigned day, according to the congress program, at the IMRC Poster Session Hall and will be evaluated by an international judge panel.

In addition to the criteria mentioned above, scores in this final stage will be determined based on the performance of the authors during their poster presentation, including ability to answer questions, guide viewers through the poster and communicate the important elements of the research presented. All nominated applicants must be available to post their posters at 5:00 pm of the corresponding poster session.

The decision of the judges will be final and unappealable.

The general organization of the IMRC will make sure that all nominated posters are clearly identified by the general attendees during the poster sessions.

IMPORTANT DATES

Dates	Actions
March 5	Call for the Poster Nomination Award is open
March 15	Deadline for submission of competing abstracts for poster presentation at IMRC XXVII
July 2 – July20	Period to submit Best Student Poster Award applications
August 13	All applicants will be notified of the result of selection process
August 20-22	Poster will be judged at IMRC-2018
August 23	Best Student Poster Award Ceremony in the JW Terrace

Should you have any questions, please contact us at smm@mrs-mexico.org.mx or send an email to the *Student Best-Poster Award Coordinators*:

Sandra Rodil (srodil@unam.mx) & **José Luis Rodríguez López** (jlrz@ipicyt.edu.mx)