

PAS Guidelines for Undergraduate or Graduate Student Poster and Paper Competition

PAS encourages all undergraduate and graduate students to present a poster or paper at the society's annual conference regardless of whether they choose to enter the competitions described here. Even if student-faculty, or student-professional collaborations do not meet the guidelines outlined below, the opportunity to present a conference paper or poster remains an excellent opportunity for students to more fully participate in a professional gathering, and to learn and receive feedback from peers and professionals.

Competition Guidelines:

1. Author(s) of a poster or paper must be enrolled as full or part-time graduate or undergraduate student(s). If poster or paper co-authors involve graduates and undergraduates, the authors shall decide whether to enter the graduate or undergraduate competition, but not both. In such cases, the lead author and presenter must align with the competition chosen (e.g., undergraduate poster/paper competition = undergraduate lead author and presenter; graduate poster/paper competition = graduate lead author and presenter). Please be prepared to discuss each author's role during the poster presentation.
2. Students are highly encouraged to participate either individually or with student collaborators for both the student poster and paper competitions. Where professional contributions by non-student research partners (i.e., advisors, project directors, professional collaborators) necessitate co-authorship, they shall be listed as secondary co-authors (junior co-authors). Non-student secondary co-authors are prohibited from presenting or assisting in the oral presentation of papers or posters in the student competition.
3. It is up to the judges' discretion whether a violation regarding the rules of collaboration has occurred. In such instances, judges may disqualify a paper or poster presentation. The judges' decisions regarding violations are final.
4. To ensure that the student competitor is the primary contributor to the poster or paper, PAS requires that a form be submitted describing the role of each contributor in the finished paper or poster **[Insert Link to Form Here](#)**. The statement shall accompany the final submission of the paper or poster as part of entering the competition. If the statement is not submitted or the competition judges determine, based on the statement, that a student has not contributed significantly to the final product, the associated paper or poster will not be considered for the student competition. In such cases, the co-authors of the paper or poster will be encouraged to participate in a PAS conference session rather than the student competition.
5. Judges shall have the final say in disqualifying any paper or poster entered in the competition that does not conform to the policies listed above. The judges' decisions regarding disqualifications and winners of the paper and poster competitions are final.

Additional PAS Guidelines for Preparing a Poster:

1. Poster Submissions: PAS member(s) should lead an online *pre-conference* workshop to discuss best practices for poster creation and presentation for students wishing to participate in the PAS poster competition. Judges for recent conferences have noted a decline in the quality of posters and their presentation. Oftentimes, competition participants intend to present the same posters again at the national SAA meetings the following Spring. It would be beneficial for students, and reflect well on the PAS, to assist students in learning best practices for poster creation and presentations. A workshop should take place the last week of September or the first week of October to provide the greatest benefit to students preparing their poster submissions for the PAS Annual Meetings.

2. A pre-conference legal-sized PDF (8 ½ x 11”) of each participant’s poster shall be emailed to the poster competition organizer(s) the week prior to the conference. This will provide judges with a better understanding of the content of each presentation prior to

Plains Antropological Conference; Judging Rubric

Evaluate Oral Presentation and Poster on the following scale:

1 = Developing 2 = Good 3 = Proficient 4 = Outstanding

Clarity of Research Presentation	1	2	3	4
Introduction and Expression of Research Significance				
Research Question/Problem/Objective				
Methodology Used				
Observations/Discussion of Results				
Summary/Conclusions				
Originality of Project				

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Poster Components Considered	1	2	3	4
Poster Contents enhance Oral Presentation				
Poster Attributes: Appropriate Amount of Text, Table(s), Photo(s)				
Necessary citations				
Overall Organization/Clarity of Poster				
Poster & Presentation Appropriate to the Student's Undergraduate, Master's, or Ph.D. status?				

Additional Comments: