Rules and Eligibility

• Presentations are limited to ECU undergraduate students.
• Students who have graduated their respective programs at the time of the competition are not eligible to compete.
• All presenters must be listed as first author on their respective work and should not present work in which they did not contribute at least 60% of their time and effort.
• There is currently no desired level or stage of work that must be achieved in order to present. The minimum requirement is approval from your project mentor.
• The project mentor must be an ECU faculty member and the work should have occurred at ECU.
• A single static PowerPoint slide is permitted. The slide must be static and contain no transitions, animation, simulations or movements of any kind. The slide is to be presented from the beginning of the oration.
• An inanimate prop may be used in place of a PowerPoint slide, but must be static in nature (No movement, no sound, no video). Posters may not be used in lieu of a prop or slide.
• Each presentation must be in the form of spoken word. Presentations should not be in the form of a poem, rap and/or song.
• No electronic media (sound and video files) is permitted.
• Presentations must be a minimum of 2 minutes and a maximum of 3 minutes in length. Presentations that are less than 2 minutes or exceeding 3 minutes will be disqualified. Presentations are considered to have started when the presenter first produces a major sound or movement.
• Notes may be used during the competition, but may detract from the presentation.
• Each participant must present from the stage or designated presentation area. Presentations via Skype or other online conferencing platforms are not allowed.
• Questions are allowed during the championship round. Question time will not exceed 5 minutes in length.
• Titles are limited to 100 characters. Taglines are limited to 175 characters.
• Titles, taglines and/or presentations that are threatening, harassing, defamatory, vulgar, obscene, profane, indecent, offensive, hateful, libelous, invasive of another’s privacy or otherwise objectionable, including material that encourages criminal conduct may be removed or disqualified without notice.
• The required dress code is Business Casual.
• The planning committee reserves the right to close the submission early, if the number of entries exceed capacity.
• The decision of the judging panel is final.
Judging Criteria

Impact (10 Points)

- Did the presenter clearly state how their research will impact their scientific field, the region or society as a whole?
- Did the presenter define how they plan to accomplish their research goals?
- Did the presenter talk about what others in the field are doing?
- Is the research approach collaborative?

Audience Engagement (10 Points)

- Was the presentation given in a manner that a non-specialist person could understand?
- Did the presentation make the audience want to know more?
- Did the presenter provide enough background to help the audience understand the research question?
- Did the slide or prop enhance the presentation?

Communication (10 Points)

- Was the presenter confident in their speech?
- Did the speaker maintain eye contact with the audience and maintain an appropriate vocal range?
- Did the speaker explain scientific terminology and avoid jargon?
- Did the presenter provide satisfactory answers to the judge’s questions?