Abstracts due: Wednesday, February 10, 2016
This deadline will not be extended.
Notification: by March 7, 2016 via email
Symposium: Thursday, March 31, 2016, 11:00 – 5:00pm

All Washington University postdocs are invited to submit an abstract for a talk or poster at the 12th Annual Postdoc Scientific Symposium. (One abstract per person please.) There will be a $100 award for each of the five selected postdoc speakers, one $100 award for the best poster, and two $25 awards for honorable mention poster. Non-judged posters may also be submitted.

Abstract Submission Criteria:
- You must have an official university title of either Postdoctoral Research Associate or Postdoctoral Research Scholar at both the time of submission and on March 31st.
- Abstracts may be submitted for “talk only,” “poster only,” or “talk or poster.” Abstracts will be accepted for either a talk or poster, not both.
- Postdocs who presented a talk in the past are not eligible to present another talk. Postdocs who have presented a talk or received the best poster award in the past may only submit a non-judged poster.

TALKS:
- To submit for a talk, you must have at least one year of WU postdoctoral training experience.
- Those chosen for talks must attend a practice session held 4-10 days prior to the Symposium.

POSTERS:
- Poster judging is optional and postdocs may present “works in progress” posters.
- To submit for a judged poster, you must have at least 6 months of postdoctoral experience in your current lab.
- Judged posters must be set up the day before the Symposium. If you cannot set up your poster during this time, you may drop off your poster at the Office of Postdoctoral Affairs by end of day Tuesday, March 29th.

Abstract Details:
- Please submit the cover page and an abstract page (total of two pages).
- Abstracts must be 250 words or less using Arial font, 11pt.
- Abstracts may be submitted on any topic or in any field.
- Please do not use figures, tables or graphs.
- Please do not include references, citations and funding sources.
- The abstract submitted should be for your current postdoctoral research project. The abstract should focus on your personal scientific contributions to the lab and your specific postdoctoral research project, though it may also include general information about the lab and its activities. Please do not submit a standard lab abstract.
- **Please use clear, simple language and a general vocabulary that can be understood by anyone.** The Abstract Review Committee and Symposium attendees represent a variety of departments, fields and backgrounds. Please write so that all can understand.
- **The Abstract Packet will be posted online for 2-3 weeks around the time of the Symposium.** Please make sure you do not include confidential information or data that cannot be posted online.
**Talk Selection Process:**
An Abstract Review Committee comprised of Washington University faculty will review and select the five postdoc talks. The talk abstracts will be chosen based on:

- Significance
- Originality
- Clarity of abstract
- Interest to a general scientific audience and
- Illustrating the breadth and diversity of our scientific community

The goal of the talks is to showcase great science and illustrate the range of research areas of our postdocs at Washington University.

**Poster Selection & Judging:**
All posters will be accepted unless we have space constraints. Poster judging is a two-part process and all judged posters must be set up by 8am on March 31st. Part 1 will occur prior to the Symposium. The poster judges will review and evaluate the posters without postdocs present, and narrow it down to the top posters, approximately 10. The judges will then visit the top posters during the poster session. A formal presentation is not required - you are expected to present and discuss your research with all those who visit your poster. (Poster judges may or may not identify themselves.) The suggested judging criteria for the posters are:

- Clarity – poster and oral explanation are understandable to a non-expert
- Significance of the research
- Originality of research design, technique, focus or idea
- Interest to a general scientific audience
- Poster is well designed and well organized with fonts in an appropriate size, an appropriate number of graphics, etc
- Information can be understood and followed (in a basic sense) without a person present
- Presenter can succinctly explain their research
- Presenter can address questions appropriately
- Presenter can relate their research to the “big picture” and provide relevance

The Best Poster Award will be announced via email after the Symposium.

**Instructions for Submission:**

- Electronic submissions only. Visit [http://postdoc.wustl.edu](http://postdoc.wustl.edu) and click on the Symposium link on the left to access the Abstract Submission form. Please submit the cover sheet and the abstract.
- Email the completed documents to postdoc@wusm.wustl.edu by February 10, 2016. One submission per person please. This deadline will not be extended.
- Abstracts may be submitted for a talk or poster, talk only, or poster only. Accepted abstracts will be for either a talk or poster, not both.

**Questions?** Contact Mary Bradley at bradleym@wustl.edu or 314-362-2591