

“Excellence in Scholarship”

Call for Abstracts

Eighth Annual Clarion University Graduate Student Research and Professional Activities Conference

Sunday, April 19, 2009

2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Level A, Carlson Library, Clarion University

The Division of Graduate Studies announces the “Call for Abstracts” for the Eighth Annual Graduate Student Research and Professional Activities Conference. This event will take place in Level A of Carlson Library on Sunday, April 19, 2009, from 2:00-5:00 p.m.

This conference provides an opportunity for Clarion University graduate students from all disciplines to present their work to the University and greater Clarion area community. Through presentations of their work, students generate broader recognition of the variety of graduate programs of Clarion University, as well as foster an appreciation for the high level of expertise and variety of research methodologies and professional activities they undertake in their respective fields.

Who is eligible?: Submissions are invited from any current or continuing graduate student as well as December 2008 graduates of any Clarion University graduate program.

What kinds of projects are eligible for consideration?: Any independent research or project from a graduate course or thesis may be presented at the conference. Examples include curriculum development, business case studies, clinical case studies, scientific or experimental research, survey research, website design and development, and literary readings. Students may submit well-thought-out proposal designs for “a work in progress” as well as completed research or projects.

What must be submitted?: In order to be considered for the conference, students must submit a written abstract describing their research or professional activities in an electronic format as outlined in the submission requirements below. Please note: the deadline for submission of abstracts is **Friday, April 4, 2009**. Applicants should indicate their preference for a poster or a panel session where each presenter provides a 10-minute oral overview (with audiovisual aids, if desired) of the work. Although either format is acceptable, the conference organizers strongly urge participants to prepare poster presentations, as this allows for greater exposure to a much larger audience.

How will the poster sessions work?: Each department with a graduate program has agreed to provide presentation boards for mounting its own students’ presentation posters. Contact your department for information about these boards.

Submission Requirements

Students must follow these guidelines in order to submit their abstracts. Failure to do so may disqualify your submission.

All abstracts must be submitted electronically, via e-mail, to Dr. Ishmael Doku (idoku@clarion.edu) or research@clarion.edu. The preferred format is MS Word (subject line: ABSTRACT). Again, the deadline for submission of abstracts is Friday, April 4, 2009. **No submissions will be accepted after that date.**

Abstracts must include:

- Name(s) of presenter(s)
- Graduate program in which you are enrolled
- E-mail address (Clarion e-mail account ***must*** be used)
- Preference for poster presentation or oral presentation (***poster preferred and strongly recommended***)
- Exact title of research paper or professional activity
- 250-word abstract: (We suggest that the abstract follow, as much as possible, the following general format: a) General purpose; b) Specific goals/aims; c) Research design; d) Methods; e) Significance (Rationale and Contribution, if any). Exceptional editing is also required.

Again, all abstracts must be submitted electronically, via e-mail, to Dr. Ishmael Doku (idoku@clarion.edu). Remember, the deadline for submission of abstracts is Friday, April 4, 2009.

Collected abstracts will be published in the conference program that will be available to participants and attendees. Abstracts will also be published electronically on the conference website. Graduate program coordinators will be asked to review papers in their fields and recommend outstanding papers for publication. Papers accepted for publication will be available on the conference website in their entirety and may be cited by authors as a professional publication.

For more information, please contact conference organizing committee chair -- Dr. Ishmael Doku (idoku@clarion.edu). Further information can be obtained by calling the graduate studies office (814-393-2337). This conference is hosted by the Clarion University Graduate Council and Division of Graduate Studies in conjunction with the Clarion University Academic Excellence Series.

Conference Organizing Committee:

Dr. Ishmael Doku, Committee Chair, Department of Library Science
Dr Brenda Dédé, Assistant Vice President, Academic Affairs
Dr. Ryan Theroux, Director, Academic Services
Dr. Stephen Agyei-Mensah, CIS

Student Co-Curricular PR Team:

Philip Wass, MMAJCS
Ashley Connor, MMAJCS