



National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE)

TECHNICAL RESEARCH EXHIBITION (TRE)

PARTICIPANT'S GUIDE

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Objective

The Technical Research Exhibition (TRE) is designed to showcase the NSBE members' technical accomplishments and technical communication skills. This program both recognizes accomplishment and provides a forum for growth. Two tracks allow for recognition of student accomplishment at various stages of a project.

The competition provides an opportunity for undergraduate students, graduate students, and technical professionals to present their research findings while encouraging undergraduate students to showcase their research, learn from their peers, and pursue graduate degrees. TRE is held during each Fall Regional Conference (FRC) and Annual Convention.

Why Participate?

The Fall Regional Conference and Annual Convention hosts students, technical professionals and educators in various stages of their careers. Participating in TRE will enable you to network with engineering professionals of color who develop and apply the nation's leading edge technology. Most of all, it will support your continued academic and professional development.



TRE at Fall Regional Conference (FRC)

Applicants should submit research abstracts [HERE](#). Members will be selected per region to present their research at their respective FRC based on space and availability for the Technical Research Exhibition.

Deadline - (10 Days before respective FRC)

October 25th - Region's II, III, VI

November 1st - Region V

November 8th - Region's I, IV

Selected applicants in the showcase track may be invited to give oral talks, however, the competition will be based on the poster session. Please indicate on the application if you are interested in participating in the oral presentation.

TRE at Annual Convention

Members will be selected to present their research at the 43rd Annual National Convention in Kansas City, Missouri. **March 29th – April 2nd, 2017** based on space and availability for the Poster and Oral competitions.

Applicants should submit research abstracts [HERE](#) by **February 3, 2017, 11:59PM EST**. A confirmation email of your submission will be sent to you shortly after you register, along with the guidelines and judging rubrics. International members who are unable to attend convention, but would like to participate are invited to email the National Academic Excellence Chair (nebaex@nsbe.org) to make virtual arrangements.

Select applicants in the showcase track will be invited to give oral talks, the competition will be based on the poster session. Please indicate on the application if you are interested in participating in the oral presentation.

Awards

All members participating in TRE at Fall Regional Conference and Annual Convention will receive participation recognition.

REGIONAL FALL CONFERENCE:

Regional awards for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place are as follows:

1st Place - 100% discount off of Annual Convention registration

2nd Place - 25% discount off of Annual Convention registration



3rd Place - 10% discount off of Annual Convention registration

***** Please note, in order to receive this discount, the winner MUST be going to National Convention. Other awards are at the discretion of the individual region. *****

ANNUAL CONVENTION:

Annual Convention awards for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place are as follows:

1st Place - \$1000 monetary award

2nd Place - \$500 monetary award

3rd Place - \$250 monetary award

Eligibility and Criteria

- Participants **must** be paid, NSBE collegiate/graduate/professional members.
- Participants are **required** to register for their respective Fall Regional Conferences and/or Annual Convention to be eligible to compete.

TRE Tracks

- Preliminary: This track provides an opportunity for members working on early stage projects to interact with a technical audience to present, discuss, and obtain feedback regarding their technical findings and future directions.
- Showcase: This track is for members with more polished work (published or submitted for publication) to present to a broader technical audience than that who may typically view at discipline specific venues.

Eligible Projects: Any technical project completed individually or as a team may be submitted. If multiple team members are in attendance, they may present together; however if a prize is won it will be distributed to the team member who registered. Any project may only be registered by one person.

Examples:

- Hands on technical projects
 - Senior Design
 - Master's Projects
 - Major course projects



- Theoretical or applied research
 - Senior thesis
 - MS or PhD research
 - Summer or academic year undergraduate research

Poster Presentation Guidelines

- Poster must be no larger than 3 x 4-ft. using a variety of graphical wall displays (maps, charts, photographs, computer outputs, etc.) and working models and/or material samples if applicable. Participants will receive supplies for mounting their displays on site.
- Participants will be judged on the technical content of their displays, oral presentation skills, and a question and answer session with judges.

Participants will receive a copy of the grading rubric upon confirmation of abstracts acceptance registration.

Oral Presentation Guidelines

- Oral Presentations must be kept to a maximum of 12 minutes with 5 minutes for questions immediately after the talk.
- Slides must be on a flashdrive, NOT in email.
- Participants will be judged on the technical content of their oral presentation skills, and a question and answer session with judges.

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

This section is to answer any general questions regarding the Technical Research Exhibition (TRE) competition applicants. For specific questions regarding TRE at Fall Regional Conference contact your Regional Academic Excellence Chair.

Why should I participate in TRE?

- TRE is a great way for students to get the practice they need to present their research in front of a crowd. For undergraduate students, this can help with presentation skills and give them insight on what it is like to attend conferences as a graduate student. For graduate students, this is a great way to get practice for qualifying exams, and dissertations. Also, NSBE provides the unique experience of an audience comprised of people from a wide variety of technical disciplines.



Who are the judges?

- Judges will be drawn from primarily research staff and faculty in both academia and industry. Corporate representatives and non-research local NSBE Professionals may also serve as judges.

What are they looking for?

- Judges are looking for someone who can easily convey their research to someone who is not in their field. Poise, diction, presentation skills, and project formatting are a few things that you will be critiqued on. Specific grading sheets will be provided to registrants prior to the competition.

I don't want to go to grad school, why should I do TRE?

- TRE is an opportunity for any student to practice their presentation skills, which is beneficial in all career paths. It is also something you can put on your resume, as it sets you apart by participating in a competition. There are also awards and discounts available to those who participate, and win TRE.

Do I have to participate in TRE at my Region's FRC in order to participate at Annual Convention?

- No! If you've only begun researching at the beginning of the fall semester, you may not have enough material ready in time to participate in your Region's FRC. That does not disqualify you from registering and participating at Annual Convention!

If I have only started working on research for a few weeks can I still participate in TRE?

- Yes. TRE has two tracks: Preliminary and Showcase. The Preliminary track provides an opportunity for participants to interact with a technical audience to present, discuss, and obtain feedback regarding preliminary findings. The Showcase track is for undergraduate students, graduate students, and technical professionals to present polished work to a broader technical audience.

What if I need an official letter about the event to provide to my funding source about presenting my research here?



- This is requestable item. Contact the National Academic Excellence Chair to request an official letter for attendance.



2016 – 2017 Technical Research Exhibition Judges Poster Session Scoring Rubric

Judge Name:	
Participant Name:	
Participant Track (circle one):	Preliminary Showcase
Participant Type (circle one):	Undergraduate Graduate Professional

Category (s)	Score	Note (s)
Display- Poster is neatly constructed, clear, appealing fonts, pictures and extras.	___/10	
Appearance- Display is eye-catching but retains technical substance and addresses multiple dimensions of the question or problem.	___/10	
Layout/Organization- Clear, appropriate section headings	___/10	
Creativity - Overall topic is interesting and shows creative thought in problem definition, solution and presentation	___/10	
Content Knowledge – Purpose of material is clearly conveyed visually and orally by participant	___/10	
Methodology and Results - Graphs, Tables,	___/10	



Equations, Schematics, etc.		
Conclusions - Definitive, Follow from Results	___/10	
Overall Speech - Presentation lead to the conclusion/easy to follow	___/10	
Q & A - Answers to questions clearly expressed with appropriate technical detail.	___/10	
Total Score	___/90	

Additional Notes/Commentary:



2016 – 2017 Technical Research Exhibition Judges Oral Session Scoring Rubric

Judge Name:	
Participant Name:	
Participant Track (circle one):	Preliminary Showcase
Participant Type (circle one):	Undergraduate Graduate Professional

Category (s)	Score	Judges' Note (s)
Is there any novel approach to the subject?	___/10	
To what extent is the subject of interest to a technical audience?	___/10	
How much knowledge of the subject was exhibited?	___/10	
Is there sufficient background information provided in order to introduce the audience to the subject?	___/10	
Are the facts developed in logical and continuous sequence?	___/10	
Are there any distracting mannerisms? Is the manner of delivery (conversation, memorized, read from	___/10	



manuscript) satisfactory?		
Are the answers indicating knowledge of the subject beyond that disclosed in the original presentation?	___/10	
Is proper English used, and is the vocabulary sufficient?	___/10	
Are the words distinctly pronounced and was proper volume used to be heard by all?	___/10	
How readily and with what self-assurance did the speaker answer the questions?	___/10	
Total Score	___/100	

Additional Notes/Commentary:



Important Contacts

For general inquiries and TRE at Convention please contact the National Academic Excellence Chair. For region-specific inquiries, please contact your respective Regional Academic Excellence Chair.

Region I Programs Chair

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