Innovating Texas Poster Challenge

OPPORTUNITY
TAMEST (The Academy of Medicine, Engineering and Science of Texas) invites academic institutions to conduct a poster session challenge at your campus or otherwise select up to two posters to advance to our statewide poster session challenge at our annual conference in Dallas, Texas, January 7-9, 2020.

THE CHALLENGE
The Innovating Texas Poster Challenge is for faculty, post-docs and students who are involved in an innovative project working to create a product or technology that is being pursued commercially and has potential for positive impact. The innovation must be university generated IP and have been licensed within the last 5 years.

GUIDELINES
Each academic institution will determine and manage their individual specific selection criteria; however, suggested content for the poster submissions include: product and technology descriptions, significance of the proposed innovation and its future impact; market and sales potential, or if newly-commercialized, funding and affiliation.

SELECTION PROCESS
Interested participants should submit their poster session entries to the Office of Commercialization or designated institutional office at each participating academic institution. Each institution collects and reviews poster contest entries and selects up to two semi-finalists to move forward in the competition. All semi-finalists will be invited to TAMEST’s 2020 Annual Conference at the Fairmont hotel in Dallas, Texas and will receive complimentary conference registration ($750 value) which includes access to:

- all sessions and meals during the conference
- the opening reception on January 7, 2020 at the Perot Museum of Nature and Science,
- the Edith and Peter O’Donnell Awards Dinner on January 8, 2020 (the marquis event during the TAMEST conference which recognizes rising stars in medicine, engineering, science and technology innovation)
- showcase their research and innovation to more than 200 research and industry leaders during the poster session challenge on January 8, 2020.

Three finalists will be selected to present their innovation to conference attendees in a three to five-minute presentation on January 9, 2020. Awards will be given after the presentations.

PRIZES
In addition to complimentary conference registration, conference meals and special event invitations, 1st, 2nd and 3rd place contestants will receive:

- Cash prizes*
- Exclusive lunch with Nobel Laureates
- Dedicated time for networking with successful entrepreneurs, venture capitalists, business development experts and distinguished leaders of the Texas research and business community
  Time allocated for pitch to TAMEST conference audience
Post-event publicity and a recognition certificate. (*Each prize recipient will be required to complete a W9 Form at the time payment is awarded during the conference.)

JUDGING
Each poster displayed will be evaluated by several judges during the TAMEST conference. Posters will be judged on the following criteria (these four primary elements should be included in each participant’s poster):

• Product and/or Technology Description and Value Proposition
• Innovativeness
• Potential impact on U.S. Economy
• Commercial Impact
• Innovator/Team Information including timeline/history of product or technology development

TIMELINE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>September 4, 2019</td>
<td>Academic institutions distribute poster session challenge information</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 6, 2019</td>
<td>Deadline for prospective participants to submit poster entries to their academic institution</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November 29, 2019</td>
<td>Participating academic institutions notify TAMEST of their semi-finalists selected for the competition and provide contestant information</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 9, 2019</td>
<td>TAMEST contacts semi-finalists to confirm conference attendance and participation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 8, 2020</td>
<td>Poster contest at the TAMEST conference for all semi-finalists. Three finalists to “pitch” their innovations during the final day of the conference.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 9, 2020</td>
<td>Finalist presentations; First, second and third place recipients chosen.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

POSTER SIZE, SET-UP & SCHEDULE
Posters should be no more than 8’ wide x 4’ tall. Displays can be prepared as a single poster or multiple posters, but must fit within the size of the board including space for the assigned board number to be visible. Additional support elements (tables, additional easels, etc.) are not allowed. A final schedule and additional instructions will be provided to all confirmed semi-finalists, but the general schedule for participants it outlined below:

Set-up (All semi-finalists): Wednesday, January 8, 2020: 8:00 am – 10:00 am
Poster Contest (All semi-finalists): Wednesday, January 8, 2020: 9:45 am – 10:45 am; 12:45 pm – 1:15 pm; 2:45 pm – 3:15 pm
Finalists’ Presentations (Three finalists): Thursday, January 9, 2020: 9:15 am – 10:00 am

INSTRUCTIONS FOR SUBMITTING SEMI-FINALISTS’ INFORMATION
Participating academic institutions will notify TAMEST by November 29, 2019 and provide the information outlined below for each semi-finalist (up to two) invited to participate in the Innovating Texas Poster Challenge:

• Name, title, email address, phone number, institutional affiliation for the contact submitting semi-finalist(s) information
• Name, title, email address, phone number, institutional affiliation for each semi-finalist
• Title of the innovation (12-word limit) and a brief abstract with a description of the innovation (250-word limit) for each semi-finalist

Submit information to: tamest@austin.utexas.edu

ABOUT TAMEST
TAMEST is the state’s premier scientific organization, bringing together Texas’ best and brightest scientists and researchers. We work with Texas-based members of the three National Academies (National Academy of Medicine, National Academy of Engineering and National Academy of Sciences), the Royal Society and the state’s 10 Nobel Laureates. tamest.org