



**School of Science  
Student Research Conference**

**Friday April 20, 2018**

**Call for Poster Abstracts**

Dear School of Science Students and Faculty Mentors:

I am pleased to announce plans for convening the **Annual School of Science Student Research Conference** scheduled for **Friday April 20, 2018** as part of Monmouth University's Student Scholarship Week!

Each year the School of Science Student Research Conference highlights the results of research projects being conducted by undergraduate students in the departments of Biology, Chemistry & Physics, Computer Science & Software Engineering, and Mathematics.

The event allows students to present their work via **poster presentations** to their peers as well as interested faculty members and invited guests.

Students are invited to submit an abstract via their faculty mentor describing a project that they wish to have considered for presentation as a poster at this year's Student Research Conference.

Abstracts should be prepared in consultation with faculty mentors. Once reviewed and approved by your mentor, your mentor will be responsible for submitting it to our office.

All abstracts must be prepared in Microsoft Word according to the following guidelines (see sample attached):

- Abstracts must be limited to 300 words (excluding header and title)
- Abstracts must be prepared in Microsoft Word
- Abstracts should be prepared using the Times New Roman 12 point font
- Abstracts carry one inch margins, sentence spacing of 1.15, with left justified alignment

Completed abstracts must be submitted by your faculty mentor to the Kate Sosnowski, at the following email address: [ksosnows@monmouth.edu](mailto:ksosnows@monmouth.edu)

**Please note that the deadline for submissions of abstracts is Monday, April 2, 2018.**



## **School of Science Student Research Conference**

**Friday April 20, 2018**

### **Conference Format**

The format of the School of Science Research Conference calls for **poster presentations**. Presentations can be done in a group format or individually depending on the nature of your project. Along with your poster, you should be prepared to provide an oral discussion of your work with conference attendees.

In addition, your presentation need not consist of a poster only. Your presentation can involve informal presentation of raw data from your lab notebook or other sources, presentation on a laptop, electronic display, or some other form of display.

**Please note: When your faculty mentor submits your abstract, ask them to indicate if you will need access to electricity for a laptop as part of your presentation.**

### **Poster Preparation Guidelines**

**Posters must be prepared in a printed 3 x 4 format (e.g., sized 3 feet high by 4 feet wide).**

**All posters must be mounted on foam core board or another sturdy backing so that they can be displayed on easels.**

**Easels will be provided for each student/research team to display their poster. However, it is your responsibility to mount your poster on foam core board or provide another mounting board option.**

Note: If you intend to have your poster printed at the Monmouth University Print Center, the final file should be delivered to them as a PDF.

**Please note: Posters should be prepared and reviewed in consultation with your faculty mentors.**

**DESCRIPTIVE TITLE OF YOUR PROJECT**

**Student Name(s)**

**Department**

**Name of Faculty Mentor**

**ABSTRACT**

The descriptive abstract provides a brief summary describing the project you have undertaken, including a summary of your goals and objectives and key results. Descriptive abstracts are limited to a maximum of 300 words. They should be prepared in Microsoft Word using a 12 point Times New Roman font, carry one inch margins, with sentence spacing of 1.15 and left justified alignment (as per sample abstract below).

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**MACROZOOPLANKTON OF UPPER BARNEGAT BAY**

**Nicole Wisniewski and Keith Leonard**

**Department of Biology**

**Faculty Mentor: Assistant Dean John Tiedemann**

**ABSTRACT**

As the main herbivorous component of marine ecosystems, zooplankton play an important role in estuarine food webs. Macrozooplankton are particularly important because they are intermediaries in estuarine food chains, forming a link between smaller zooplankton and higher trophic levels, including many commercially and recreationally valuable fishes. However, despite their importance in filling this niche, little is known about the distribution, abundance, and ecology of macrozooplankton in many coastal regions. This is the case in the Barnegat Bay ecosystem where there has not been a detailed survey of zooplankton since the 1970's. In 2010, we initiated a comprehensive survey to gather information on the current status of macrozooplankton populations in upper Barnegat Bay and to determine if the species composition of important macrozooplankters has changed over the past several decades. The results of this project will include production of the first inventory of common macrozooplankton compiled for the Barnegat Bay ecosystem in over 30 years. In addition to providing updated information on the status of this important component of the bay's living resources, the results of this study will yield updated information on the seasonal occurrence and peak abundance periods for nuisance zooplankton species in the bay, including ctenophores and sea nettles.