

Code of Ethics for Judging Auburn University Research Symposium Presentations

The annual Auburn University research symposium provides students and postdoctoral fellows with experiences that foster professional development. Those serving as judges offer helpful feedback on presenters' research and support the ongoing mentoring of emerging scholars.

As judges, we recognize our responsibility in evaluating undergraduate and graduate student poster and oral presentations. In carrying out this duty, we strictly adhere to the following code of ethics:

1. **Professionalism:** We conduct ourselves with professionalism, respect, and integrity throughout the judging process, treating all presenters with dignity and courtesy.
2. **Fairness and Impartiality:** We judge each presentation solely on its merits, without bias or prejudice based on personal affiliations, backgrounds, or disciplines.
3. **Expertise and Competence:** We utilize our expertise and knowledge to evaluate presentations effectively, recognizing the interdisciplinary nature of the event and the diverse backgrounds of presenters.
4. **Constructive Feedback:** We offer constructive feedback to presenters aimed at fostering their academic and professional growth, highlighting strengths, and providing suggestions for improvement in a supportive manner.
5. **Conflict of Interest:** We disclose any potential conflicts of interest that may compromise our ability to judge presentations fairly and objectively. In cases of conflict, we recuse ourselves from evaluating the affected presentation(s).

By upholding these principles, we contribute to the advancement of scholarly inquiry and the professional development of undergraduate and graduate students participating in poster and oral presentations.