ANCC Graduate Student Competitions – Call for Applications

Students from across Canada are invited to participate in the graduate student competitions at the
Animal Nutrition Conference of Canada (ANCC) 2024
Animal nutrition and feed security: global changes and local approaches

The **ANCC Graduate Student Competitions** include three categories: the oral presentation competition, the poster competition, and the up-and-coming research mini presentations (**new for 2024!**). To participate, applications must be submitted by **March 1, 2024**.

Oral Presentation Competition

One abstract will be selected from each of the ruminant and monogastric sections for an oral presentation.

Oral presentation winners will:
- be invited to give a 20-minute oral presentation at ANCC 2024 (15-minute presentation + 5 minutes for questions)
- have their registration expenses, travel and accommodations for ANCC 2024 paid by the conference.
- have their written abstract published in the conference Book of Abstracts and online Proceedings.
- have their video abstract displayed online on the conference website and possibly shown during conference proceedings.

Application requirements:
- submit an online application by **March 1, 2024.** The online application includes the following components:
  - Name, contact information and program of study
  - Written abstract (guidelines and judging criteria outlined on page 4)
  - Video abstract (guidelines and judging criteria outlined on page 4)
  - Letter of recommendation from your academic department or supervisor
- be available to attend the ANCC 2024 from May 14-16 in Winnipeg, Manitoba

Selected students will be informed by **March 22, 2024**.

Apply now! Submit your application electronically using this online form
*Applicants must be signed in to a google account to submit this online form. If you are unable to do so, please email info@anacan.org

Poster Competition

Candidates in the poster competition will present their poster during the Graduate Student Poster Exhibition at ANCC 2024. Competitors' video abstracts will be displayed online on the conference website and possibly shown during conference proceedings. Competitors' written abstracts will be printed in the conference Book of Abstracts and online Proceedings.

Poster Competition prizes:
- First prize - $500
- Second prize - $300
- Third prize - $200

Posters (1 m wide by 1.2 m high) will be available for public viewing throughout the conference. Students are expected to be present on the evening of Wednesday, May 15, during which time judges will visit the posters. Posters will be judged by a panel of experts from industry and academia, and winners will be announced on May 16. Poster judging criteria will be shared with competition participants by March 22, 2024.

Application requirements:
- submit an online application by **March 1, 2024.** The online application includes the following components:
    - Name, contact information and program of study
    - Written abstract (guidelines and judging criteria outlined on page 4)
    - Video abstract (guidelines and judging criteria outlined on page 4)
- be available to attend the ANCC 2024 from May 14-16 in Winnipeg, Manitoba

Students selected to participate in the poster competition will be informed by **March 22, 2024.**

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Up-and-Coming Research Mini Presentations

This new presentation category is intended for early-stage graduate students (both master's and PhD level) who do not yet have research results to showcase their project motivation and the benefit their work will have for industry. This is a unique opportunity for graduate students to communicate the value of their work directly to the industry professionals who will apply it.

Up-and-coming research mini presentation candidates will:
- deliver a 10-minute oral presentation at ANCC 2024 (5-minute presentation + 5 minutes for questions).
- have their name and presentation title printed in the conference Book of Abstracts and online Proceedings.

Presentations will be delivered on May 15 or 16.

Application requirements:
- submit an online application by **March 1, 2024.** The online application includes the following components:
  - Name, contact information and program of study
  - Brief project summary (guidelines outlined below)
- be available to attend the ANCC 2024 from May 14-16 in Winnipeg, Manitoba

Brief project summary guidelines

In lieu of an abstract, students applying to the up-and-coming research mini presentation category will submit a brief project summary. The brief project summary should be a maximum of 250 words and describe the following key elements of your work:

a) Project rationale
b) Scientific question and research approach
c) Practical implications and industry benefit

Candidates who provide an informative and understandable brief project summary will be selected by a panel of academic and industry experts. Selected students will be informed by **March 22, 2024**.

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Abstract guidelines and judging criteria

Students applying to the oral presentation and/or poster competition will submit both a written abstract and a video abstract. While the written abstract should contain more detailed information about your research methodology and results, your video abstract should communicate the broader motivation behind your work, as well as its practical implications and industry benefits (e.g. similar approach to the '3-minute thesis'). Students are encouraged to be creative and incorporate innovative and engaging techniques (e.g. multi-media, animations, unique presentation concept, etc.) within their video abstracts. For an example of a successful video abstract, watch oral presentation competition (monogastric session) winner Jing Lu's video abstract from the 2023 ANCC (linked here).

Written and video abstracts will be evaluated by a panel of academic and industry experts.

Written abstract criteria* (scored by judges for 50% of abstract score)
1. Informative, understandable and concise (250 words maximum)
   a) Introduction/background, hypothesis and research objectives (10%)
   b) Methodology clearly outlined (10%)
   c) Clarity of data presentation/results (10%)
   d) Appropriate conclusions (5%)
2. Practical implication and industry benefit (15%)

Video abstract criteria* (scored by judges for 50% of abstract score)
1. Informative, understandable and concise (3 minutes maximum) (25%)
   a) Project rationale
   b) Scientific question and research approach
   c) Practical implications and industry benefit
2. Depth / Innovation of research (10%)
3. Creative presentation (15%)
   a) Unique/innovative presentation style
   b) Visual cues/use of multi-media
   c) Engaging presentation
   d) Appropriate for industry/academic audience

*Relevance to conference theme (*Animal nutrition and feed security: global changes and local approaches*) will be an additional consideration when selecting oral competition winners.

For further details, visit the ANCC Graduate Student webpage or email info@anacan.org.

The 2024 Animal Nutrition Conference of Canada planning committee is looking forward to your participation in this dynamic national event!