

**Graduate Student Competitive Research Papers**  
**M.S. and Ph.D. Divisions**  
**Midwestern ASAS/ADSA®, 2009**

**Oral Presentation:**

The criteria for evaluating the graduate oral competition papers will be: clearness and correctness of the abstract; knowledge of the subject area; research quality and innovation; organization of the presentation; presentation and personal attributes; and appropriate use, clarity, and number of visuals.

Students with papers that are in the oral competition may also choose to present their papers in their discipline's regular program of presentations.

Students may enter only one competition, either oral or poster. Additional papers may be submitted for non-competition presentation in appropriate disciplinary sections.

Each **institution** may submit the research papers of two (2) M.S. and two (2) Ph.D. graduate students for the oral competitions. If two (2) student papers are submitted in a division (M.S. or Ph. D.), the home institution must rank these as first and second at the time of submission as noted below. In the event there are a large number of submissions, only students' papers ranked first in their home institutions will be included in the competition.

Nominees for competition divisions from an institution located outside the Midwest Section region must have either the student or the advisor as a member of ASAS Midwestern Section or ADSA Midwest Branch®.

The abstracts must follow the guidelines for electronic submissions **plus:**

1. The abstract must be designated as either a M.S. or a Ph.D. oral competitive paper at the time of submission.
2. The author and home department must submit by October 31, 2008 to Dr. Catherine W. Ernst, Michigan State University, 3385 Anthony Hall, East Lansing, MI 48824-1225; fax 517-432-0753 the following:
  - a. a letter of nomination by the department chair/head indicating M.S. or Ph.D. division for this student's paper and its ranking by the institution if the institution has two submitted in that division. Note that for institutions with multiple departments, multiple letters will be accepted. However, these departments are encouraged to coordinate nominations so that institutional limits are not exceeded and appropriate rankings can be submitted.
  - b. a printed copy from the web submission of the abstract including the **tracking number**.

Abstracts submitted as a competitive paper that are evaluated and rejected by the program committee cannot be revised and re-submitted as a competitive paper.

Presentations must be uploaded to the FASS Abstract System by Monday, March 9, 2009.

Students are required to attend the Awards Breakfast on Wednesday March 18, 2009.