Science Undergraduate Research Symposium (SURS) 2024
Faculty of Science, University of Peradeniya

General Guidelines

(a) All final-year honors students are expected to present their final-year research projects at SURS as an oral presentation. Any other students who wish to showcase their research are also welcome to submit their abstracts to the conference. The symposium will be held at the Faculty of Science premises on **September 27th, 2024**.

(b) Students should email the abstracts prepared using the guidelines given **on or before 6th, September 2024**, to the link provided at the SURS, 2024 website
https://sci.pdn.ac.lk/SURS/src/guidlines.html

(c) The one-page abstract will be included in the Proceedings of the Science Undergraduate Research Symposium 2024. An e-copy of the proceedings will be uploaded to the Faculty webpage. Please note that the proceedings **will not be formally published**. However, all participants will receive a certificate of participation, and awards will be given to the best presenters

(d) The first author should complete the Author Declaration Form including all author names and requested other details, and upload in the link provided in the website.

Specific Guidelines for Abstracts

(a) The abstract **should not exceed one page**.
(b) When preparing Abstracts, the following page set-up should be used.
   • Paper size: B5
   • Margins: Left margin 2.7 cm, right margin 1.5 cm & all other (top and bottom) margins 2.0 cm
   • Font: Times New Roman
   • Font size: 11 (except for names and affiliations of authors – See below for author name and affiliation format)
   • Line spacing: Single

(c) All abstracts must be prepared using MS Word 2007 or later.
(d) The abstract should contain the following (Please refer to the template provided for the Abstract):

TITLE - Should be short, specific and should reflect the study carried out. It should be in bold, uppercase letters and center-aligned. If scientific names of organisms are included, they should be written in uppercase italics. If common or vernacular names follow the scientific name, they should be included in parentheses. There should be two-line spaces between the Abstract number and the title. There should be a single line space between the title and name/s of the authors. Font size should be 12.

NAME/S OF AUTHOR/S – All the initials of the author must be given before the surname. Author names should be center aligned. Each initial should be followed by a full-stop without a space. Between the last initial and the surname, there should be a single space. Presenter's name should be underlined and the Corresponding author's name (Primary contact) should be indicated by an asterisk at the end of the name. There should be a single line space between the name/s of authors and affiliation/s. Font size should be 11.

AFFILIATION/S OF AUTHOR/S - Should be in italics, font size 10, lowercase letters (with uppercase letters where necessary) and center-aligned. Use superscripted numbering of authors if authors have different affiliations. Each affiliation should be on a separate line. Affiliations should be numbered with the same superscript number used for the respective authors. Superscripted numbers should be placed at the beginning of each affiliation /address and at the end of each author's name.
There should be a single line space between affiliations and the text of the abstract.
The corresponding author's email address should follow the affiliations without a line space after an asterisk.

BODY OF THE ABSTRACT - Should have an introduction to the study with the objectives, methodology, results, followed by a short discussion and a conclusion(s). It should be written as a single paragraph and justified. It should not have any sub-headings, figures or tables. References should not be included in the abstract nor listed at the end. There should be a single line space between the text of the abstract and the keywords. Font size should be 11.

KEYWORDS - Up to a maximum of 5 keywords, separated by commas and followed by a single space, should be placed at the end of the abstract, before the acknowledgement. Each keyword should begin with an uppercase letter. Words that are in the title should not be included in the keywords. There should be a single line space between the acknowledgement and keywords.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT - Only funding organization/s should be acknowledged with the grant number/s indicated in parenthesis. Acknowledgement should be written as a single sentence in italics.

Spelling - British spelling must be used throughout the text.

Abbreviations & Acronyms - Should be stated in full, the first time they are used in the text, other than for standard abbreviations. Do not use abbreviations & acronyms in the title unless they are unavoidable.

Non-English and Technical Terms - Should be in italics.
Units: International System of Units (SI) should be used. There should be a single space between the figure/digits and the unit (e.g., 25 cm).