



SIPCE Second Annual Conference for Interdisciplinary Research

Call for Presentations

Interdisciplinary Research for Sustainable Solutions

March 30-April 1, 2023

The School of Interdisciplinary Programs and Community Engagement (SIPCE) invites presentation proposals from faculty and students for its Second Annual Conference for Interdisciplinary Research. SIPCE seeks proposals for individual paper, panel, round table, and poster presentations (see below for descriptions) on work involving interdisciplinary projects, research, as well as theoretical and methodological approaches. Taking place on UTRGV's Edinburg and Brownsville campuses, the conference's goal is to provide a space for interdisciplinary collaboration and increase interdisciplinary research at UTRGV.

Students are invited to present interdisciplinary research from individual research projects, class-based, and/or lab-based projects. There will be limited opportunities for student scholarships based on the strengths of the proposal.

In addition, SIPCE invites **proposals from faculty for pre-conference workshops** that will be held **Friday, March 3, 2022**. These workshops, held prior to the conference, should train undergraduate and graduate students in the following topics but not limited to a) how to successfully present a paper to a diverse audience, b) develop and present a successful poster, c) use conferences as a professional development opportunity, or d) how to overcome "stage fright." Selected pre-conference workshops presenters will receive stipends.

Conference Theme

The theme of the Second Annual Conference is **Interdisciplinary Research for Sustainable Solutions**. The organizers and conference committee will accept interdisciplinary presentations that respond to the following issues and questions:

1. Tackling Food Scarcity while Ensuring Food Quality and Sustainability

Questions that could drive presentations under this headline include, but are not limited to:

- What are past and current challenges experienced by communities, businesses, and/or government entities with respect to food scarcity, food quality, and sustainability?
- How can communities, businesses, societies, and governments increase the production and/or availability of high-quality foods, especially among underserved populations, without depleting our natural resources?
- What local histories, experiences, knowledge, and practices exist in the Rio Grande Valley that can inform communities, businesses, societies, and/or government entities around the world?
- In which ways can interdisciplinary or multidisciplinary education, training, and knowledge address food security and quality in the Rio Grande Valley, South Texas, and beyond?

2. Economic Growth and Environmental Protection

Questions that could drive presentations under this headline include, but are not limited to:

- How can communities, societies, governments, businesses, and industries sustain economic growth without depleting and endangering (e.g., through pollution) our natural resources and the environment?
- What are and will be the most significant challenges and threats that local communities, governments, businesses, and industries in the Rio Grande Valley face and need to address?
- What local histories, experiences, knowledge, and practices exist in the Rio Grande Valley that can inform communities, businesses, societies, and/or government entities around the world?
- In which ways can interdisciplinary or multidisciplinary education, training, and knowledge support economic growth and simultaneously address environmental protection in the Rio Grande Valley, South Texas, and beyond?

3. Good Health, Well-Being, and Sustainability

Questions that could drive presentations under this headline include, but are not limited to:

- What are some of the most significant challenges that complicate or endanger the health and well-being of individuals and communities in the Rio Grande Valley and South Texas, and how can these challenges be addressed and overcome?
- What medical and health-related experiences, knowledge, and practices exist in the Rio Grande Valley that can inform medical professionals, healthcare providers, communities, societies, and governments around world?
- In which ways can interdisciplinary or multidisciplinary education, training, and knowledge increase and sustain good health and well-being in the Rio Grande Valley, South Texas, and beyond?

Description of presentation types:

- Individual Paper – oral presentation by 1 individual
- Panel – oral presentation of 3-4 individual papers on a common theme/topic
- Roundtable – an organized conversation with one moderator, several chosen presenters that bring a variety of perspectives to a subject
- Poster – formal visual representation of research through text, charts, graphs, and other visual aids.

Submission

To submit a proposal for presentation, use this link:

[SIPCE 2023 Submission](#)

Deadlines

Submissions for Pre-Conference Workshops and the Conference will be accepted until **Monday, January 15, 2023 (11:59pm)**.

Evaluation Criteria

Submissions will be evaluated by the conference committee based on the following criteria:

1. Does the proposal connect to one of the three main subthemes of the conference?
2. Does the submission provide a clear abstract of the presentation proposal (including its focus, interdisciplinary nature, and main thesis/argument)?
3. Does the work incorporate previous knowledge/literatures?
4. Does the work provide a novel/interesting/relevant contribution for academia and/or practitioners?

Applicants will be notified of the committee's decision by Wednesday, February 8, 2023.

For questions about the conference, contact the conference main organizers

Cinthya Saavedra at cinthya.saavedra@utrgv.edu

Friederike Bruehoefener at friederike.bruehoefener@utrgv.edu

Main Sponsors

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