STEMposium 2024

Rules and Regulation

STEMposium is a two-round event looking to find people who are passionate about communicating science and technology, as part of Pravega, IISc's annual science and cultural fest.

Eligibility

There will be two divisions:

- Division 1: Any science and technology enthuse(including PhDs and Postdocs) who is willing to participate

- Division 2: Students from school, college and UG.

You **CANNOT** apply through both divisions. You have to apply through ONLY one division.

Registration

- You can register individually or in teams of two.

- Registration is through a Google Form on the Pravega website.

Event Format

- The theme of the event is **Interdisciplinarity**. See the next section for more details.

- The first round is online. Teams have to select a topic to explain, from the fields of Physics, Chemistry, Mathematics, Biology and Computer Science, that fits the theme.

  - The explanations can be in any format, be it a written document, a blogpost, animations or a video. Since the fundamental aim is to make engaging, insightful content, we give you the liberty to choose any format

that you feel does justice to your chosen topic. See submission format for more details.

– The topic can be as simple or as complex as you want. All that matters is the quality of your explanation, the rest is up to your imagination and creativity. *The judging will ensure that all participants stand on an equal footing regardless of their academic background.* See judging criteria for more details.

• The second round will be an in-person event during Pravega at IISc Bangalore i.e. 1st and 2nd February, 2025. Three selected teams from Division 1 and five selected teams from Division 2 will be asked to prepare any topic of their choice for presenting in front of a live audience. We will notify you about further rules and details of the second round after round 1 results are declared.

Theme: Interdisciplinarity

The event will revolve around the theme *Interdisciplinarity*. What does 'interdisciplinarity' mean to us?

• Any concept that incorporates two or more disciplines mentioned above,

• any concept that can be used in two or many disciplines,

• or any concept that you can effectively relate to interdisciplinarity.

Prizes and Recognition

• All of your submissions will be put up in a dedicated section on our website for the public.

• Top three submissions from Division 1 and top five submissions from Division 2 will get **cash prizes** and a **chance to come to IISc Bangalore** in February during the **Pravega** fest to participate in an exciting Round 2 in front of a live audience. Travel and accommodation will be taken care of by us.

• There will be consolation prizes for outstanding submissions which could not make it to the round 2.

Judging Criteria

Each submission will be judged based on the quality of the explanation. The judgement criteria for both rounds are listed below.

• **Novelty:** How unique or interesting is your content? Novelty can be in the choice of your topic and also in the way you choose to present it.

- **Clarity:** This point is self-explanatory (just like your content should be!)

- **Engagement:** Keeping in mind the attention span of your audience, you should try your best to sustain the audience's interest.

- **Motivation:** Does your content encourage people to explore further about the topic?

- **Relevance to the theme:** How well does your content convey the theme? Have you showcased *how* your chosen topic is interdisciplinary?

Submission Format

- Videos can be up to 15 minutes long. We strongly prefer the video being uploaded to YouTube first and the link being submitted. If you don't want to make the video available to the public, you can also set it to be a private video (i.e. people can only access it through the video link). Alternatively, You can share a drive link to the video which we can access in the submission Google form.

- For blogposts, send a link to the Google form.

- For any other written documents, PowerPoint, etc., share with us a drive link.

- All submissions should clearly state the team name and the names of the team members.

- In case we can't access any of the links, we will get in touch with you. Don't worry.

Tips

- Avoid selecting advanced topics just because they sound cool. Keep in mind the rubric; your content will be judged solely on the quality of the explanation.

- Avoid explanations which require a lot of pre-requisites or focus too much on rigour and details. Try to maintain a balance between your explanation being insightful and helping people learn new topics, and also being more accessible and easy to follow.

- Try to look at your favourite educational creators on YouTube, Instagram or elsewhere, and look at what they do to make their explanations interesting.

- Entries don't have to be overly formal or serious. There is no penalty for including jokes or interesting animations in your submissions (content moderation implied). Adding a bit of your personality to the explanation only makes it easier to watch.

- Pretty formatting helps, but should never come at the cost of clarity and readability.

Disclaimer

We possess the rights to alter the rules at any point during the competition. Participants will be informed about any such changes. By participating in this contest, you agree to us posting/displaying your content over the internet, with due credits to the team.