



Southeastern Society of Parasitologists

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Dear SSP students,

The College of Charleston's Department of Biology and School of Natural and Environmental Sciences in Charleston, South Carolina will host the 2026 meeting of the Southeastern Society of Parasitologists (SSP) on March 19-21, 2026. The meeting is 100% in person, no remote/distance presentations are on the program. We look forward to seeing everyone in Charleston, SC!

SSP offers a supportive, student-friendly environment for presenting and discussing your research as an oral platform presentation. All oral presentations should be a maximum of 12 minutes (with 3 minutes for questions). To be considered for a presentation, please submit your abstract no later than **March 1, 2026**.

We encourage all students giving **oral presentations** to compete for the following awards:

The Byrd-Dunn Graduate Student Award

The Ciordia-Stewart-Porter Undergraduate Student Research Award

Cash awards are included with the oral presentation awards. The winners of the oral presentation awards will also automatically receive a travel award to attend the 2026 American Society of Parasitologists (ASP) meeting (July 26-29 in Orlando, FL). Feedback on your presentation from the judges will be emailed upon request after the meeting. The evaluation form that the judges will use is appended to this document. There is no competition or prizes for the poster session.

The award requirements are as follows:

1. Please complete the [abstract submission form](#) than no later than Sunday, **March 1, 2026 (11:59 pm)**.
2. Email abstracts with the subject line "SSP ABSTRACT" directly to ssp.abstracts.2026@gmail.com no later than Sunday, **March 1, 2026 (11:59 pm)**.
3. Only dues-paying undergraduate, graduate, or professional student members of the SSP and are register for the conference are eligible for an award. Registration information: <https://southeasternsocietyparasitology.org/2026-registration>
4. Each award is given only once to an individual.

First-time SSP undergraduate presenters may present in the noncompetitive poster competition; posters should be a maximum of 36" tall x 48" wide. **The poster session will take place on Thursday evening from 7-9 pm during the opening social.** Posters can be printed and posted by the Local organizing committee prior to the start of the social if emailed directly to ssp.loc26@gmail.com by March 15, 2026 – no late submissions will be accepted. Passed this date, poster presenters will be expected to bring their posters to the meeting site by 5 pm Thursday, March 19th. The poster session is limited to 10 posters, if more than 10 posters are received, authors will be given the option to give an oral presentation. Poster presenter must submit an abstract with the [abstract submission form](#) no later than Sunday, **March 1, 2026 (11:59 pm)**.

Be sure to follow SSP on [Instagram](#) and [Facebook](#) for meeting updates. See you in South Carolina!

Sincerely,

Elliott Zieman, Ph.D.

SSP Vice President and Chair of the Student Awards Committee

Oral Presentation Evaluation
Adapted from ASP Oral Evaluation Form

Speaker: _____

5=Excellent; 4=Good; 3=Satisfactory; 2=Fair; 1=Unsatisfactory

| | 5 | 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
|--|---|---|---|---|---|
| The hypothesis, problem, or goal was clearly presented. | | | | | |
| The introduction /background appropriately framed the hypothesis/question. | | | | | |
| The methods were clearly described. | | | | | |
| The data/results were presented using clear and appropriate figures, graphs, of maps. | | | | | |
| The conclusions were justified based on the information presented. | | | | | |
| The implications were outlined (i.e., the work was placed in the appropriate context). | | | | | |
| The presentation was clearly rehearsed and speaker was comfortable with the material. | | | | | |