

**GRADNEWS** is a newsletter for graduate students created by the UA Career Development Center twice per semester. Check out previous issues: <http://career.uark.edu/students/newsletters.asp> Spring 2008, Volume V, Issue II

## Special Edition: From Abstract to Contract:

### Graduate Research Symposium and Career Networking 2008

This year a new event was created as a collaboration between the Graduate School, Career Development Center, and was hosted by Tyson Foods and the University of Arkansas Graduate Deans Student Advisory Board.

The event was comprised of three components: a research presentation, a professional networking training and awards, and participation for winners in a career networking opportunity.

The events were created to help prepare graduate students of all disciplines for conference presentations and transitioning into careers.



Student Packets



Students received packets with their research evaluations, certificates of participation, and information from the Career Center on creating a professional image and making a good impression during Career Fairs.

#### 1. NETWORKING SKILLS



Becky Vianden, Career Center Associate Director for Program Development, presented on Networking. She spoke about the importance of networking skills as a way to increase professional connections and segue into the job market.

#### 2. CREATING YOUR 30 SECOND COMMERCIAL

Marshall Carter, Career Counselor, shared how to create a 30 Second Commercial, sometimes called a Personal Branding Statement or elevator Speech, about yourself with student participants. Students could also create a 30 second Commercial about their research projects.



*What do you say when someone says: "Tell me about yourself"?*

Students created their 30 Second Commercial at the event. This activity helped them focus on how they want to present themselves.



Many thanks to the sponsors and hosts of From Abstract to Contract:



### 3. AWARDS PRESENTATION

Vicky Hartwell, from the Graduate School, and Barbara Batson, the Director of the Career Development Center, announced research winners on March 12, 2008



Vijay Durairaj won for the Bumpers College of Agriculture, Food, and Life Sciences.



Abigail Engelberth won for the College of Engineering.



Adam Morris won for the College of Education and Health Professions.



Komal Rasaputra won for the Bumpers College of Agriculture, Food, and Life Sciences.

2  
0  
0  
8  
W  
I  
N  
N  
E  
R  
S



2008 From Abstract to Contract Winners  
Not pictured Kathryn Bryson and William Shaffer, both of whom were out of town for their graduate studies.



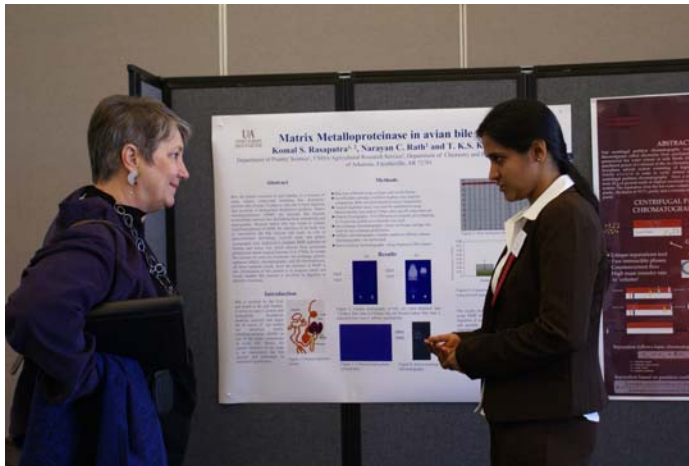
2008 Winners received a plaque, a letter from the Graduate School Deans, business cards, and \$100.

## *From Abstract to Contract Research Winners Met with the Deans of the Graduate School, Director of the Career Development Center, Faculty, Staff, and Employer Recruiters during Networking Event April*

Vijay Durairaj meets with Dr. Collis Geren, the Dean of the Graduate School and Vice Provost for Research at the University of Arkansas.

Mr. Durairaj's presentation was entitled: Femoral Head Cartilage Disarticulation Disorder in Broilers.

He is a Master's of Science student who also holds a veterinary degree from India.



Komal Rasaputra shares her research with Mary Alice Serafini, the Assistant Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs and Director of the Pat Walker Health Center.

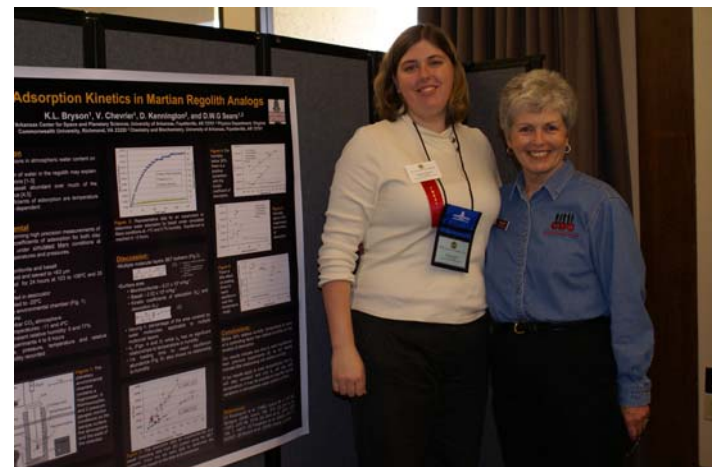
Ms. Rasaputra's research is titled: Matrix metalloproteinase (MMP) in avian bile fluid

She is working on a Ph.D. in Cell and Molecular Biology.

Kathryn Bryson poses for a picture with Barbara Batson, the Director of the University of Arkansas Career Development Center.

Ms. Bryson is working on her doctorate at the Arkansas Center for Space and Planetary Sciences and won the Abstract to Contract Research Symposium for Interdisciplinary graduate programs.

She presented on: Adsorption Kinetics in Martian Regolith Analogs.



Practicing presenting research and networking was the goal of this event.

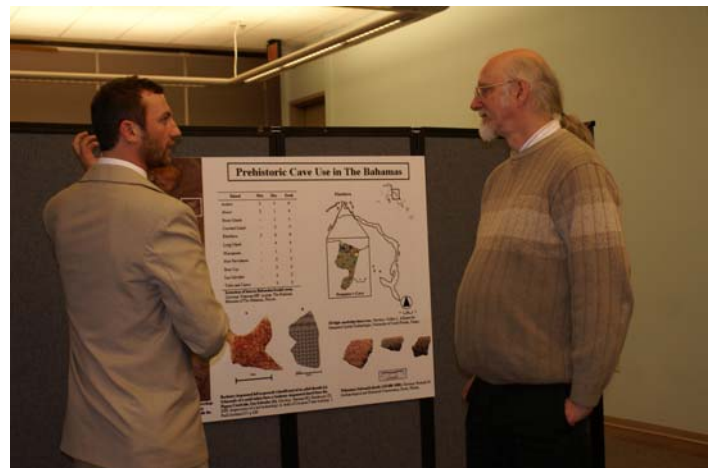


Abigail Engelberth, the winner for Engineering, meets with the Dr. Patricia Koski and Dr. Collis Geren, the Graduate School Deans, and Dr. Kathy Van Laningham, the Vice Provost for Planning and Director of the Office of Institutional Research.

Ms. Engelberth's research is titled: Separation of Milk Thistle Silymarins using Centrifugal Partition Chromatography. She is a Ph.D. Candidate in Chemical Engineering

William Schaffer, a master's student in Anthropology, speaks with a recruiter during the Career Networking Component of the Abstract to Contract events. He won for the Fulbright College of Arts and Sciences.

Mr. Schaffer studied Prehistoric Cave Use in the Bahamas and recently returned from a study site in Egypt.



Adam Morris poses with the Drs. Koski and Geren, the Associate Dean and Dean of the Graduate School, during the Career Networking portion of From Abstract to Contract.

Mr. Morris won for the College of Education. His dissertation topic is: Leadership Role of the Department Chair in Private Colleges.

Mr. Morris is a Higher Education Doctoral Stu-