

# Student Poster Competition

RISE 2019 Conference: Transforming University Engagement in  
Pre- & Post-Disaster Environments: Lessons from Puerto Rico  
November 18-20, 2019

**Poster Submission Due Date:** Monday, November 4, 2019

**Must Register to Submit a Poster:** [Click Here](#) (or <http://bit.ly/2kl4Gz0>)



**Background/Summary:** Hurricane María was one of the worst and most deadly disasters in Puerto Rico's history resulting in nearly 3,000 deaths and \$90 billion in economic loss. In the aftermath of María, students from mainland US took part in a wide range of activities which included humanitarian relief, service-learning projects, and rapid response research. At the same time, Puerto Rican students (and their families) participated in a range of disaster recovery efforts spanning housing and power restoration, family relocation assistance, legal aid, and tuition relief at mainland universities, among others. At the RISE 2019 National Conference (<https://rise2019.org>), we seek to display the breadth of student experiences and engagement post María (and other disasters) during a 3-day poster session. Student experiences from other natural disasters (e.g., Sonoma, Harvey, Sandy, etc.) will also be accepted. Cash prizes will be awarded to the top posters for "best design" voted on by conference attendees.

**Poster Call:** We are seeking students who participated in or were affected by one of the post disaster categories (listed above), and who would be interested in sharing their experience by designing a poster. We are inviting students to create a poster about their experience to display at the RISE 2019 National Conference on November 18-20, 2019.

Components of your poster should include: (1) the name and/or description of your experience/activity/program, (2) challenges and obstacles you may have encountered, (3) the benefits and takeaways, and (4) recommended steps and/or suggestions to improve the experience/activity/program in the future. Below is a comprehensive description of the four (4) components to consider when designing your poster:

- 1. Name and/or description of the Post María Experience:** In your poster, please include what college or university you are attending; the name of the experience you were involved in and/or a brief description of your experience (for example, a US mainland student participating in a university-affiliated service learning trip which helped with debris removal; a Puerto Rican student participating in a tuition relief program offered by a mainland university). Also, please include information related to how long your post María experience/activity/program was and the dates it took place. Student experiences from other natural disasters (e.g., Sonoma, Harvey, Sandy, etc.) will also be accepted.
- 2. Challenges and obstacles encountered:** To the extent you feel comfortable, describe in your poster your personal, structural, environmental, and/or other obstacles/challenges you faced during your Post María experience/activity/program.
- 3. Benefits and takeaways from the Post María experience:** Be sure your poster includes: What were some of the benefits you derived from participating in the Post María experience/activity/program? How did it help you personally, educationally, and/or professionally?
- 4. Recommended Steps/Suggestions:** In your poster, please include some recommendations and next steps that would have improved your Post María experience/activity/program. Also, please incorporate in your poster responses to the below questions.
  - What can other students who are interested in participating in these similar recovery efforts do to make themselves aware and/or better prepared?
  - What can universities and colleges do to support similar efforts in the future?
  - What can universities or disaster relief agencies do to help students overcome the challenges you faced?
  - What can be done to improve Post María activities, programs and experiences overall?
  - Are there new kinds of activities/programs that should be created, or modifications made to existing ones that you would recommend to facilitate participation, to enhance the student experience, and/or to lessen hardship?

## Student Eligibility:

- ✓ Must be a student (undergraduate or graduate) currently enrolled in a public or private institution of higher education. Note: Alumni who graduated on or after May 2018 will also be eligible.
- ✓ US mainland students must have participated in a humanitarian relief effort, a research project, and/or a service-learning project. Puerto Rican students' post disaster experiences may include housing and power restoration, family relocation assistance, legal aid, or participation in a post María tuition relief program at a mainland university/college, among other experiences. Student experiences from other natural disasters (e.g., Sonoma, Harvey, Sandy, etc.) will also be accepted.
- ✓ Only one poster submission allowed per student. Only 75 poster submissions will be accepted.
- ✓ Must register to submit a poster: [Click Here](#) (or <http://bit.ly/2kl4Gz0> )

## Poster Guidance:

- ✓ Design your poster to be sized at 36 inches x 48 inches (or 3 feet x 4 feet)
- ✓ Your poster should include:
  - 1) Contact information
    - First and last name
    - University/college name
    - Academic major/program (name of program)
    - Student status (undergraduate or graduate)
    - Year in major/program (e.g. sophomore or 2<sup>nd</sup> year PhD)
  - 2) Your university/college logo
  - 3) Description of the 4 components of your experience/activity/program (detailed on p1, above)
    - i. Name and/or description
    - ii. Challenges and obstacles encountered
    - iii. Benefits and takeaways from the experience
    - iv. Recommended Steps/Suggestions to improve the experience
  - 4) Text to graphic ratio of 50:50. Specifically, the text and graphics you decide to use in your poster should be balanced with a proportion of approximately 50% text and 50% graphics
  - 5) Use references as appropriate
  - 6) Proofread text for grammar and spelling
  - 7) Readable text at a distance of 2 meters
- ✓ Email your poster (in a PDF format) to [RISE2019@albany.edu](mailto:RISE2019@albany.edu). IMPORTANT: The subject line of your email must read: POSTER: Along with Your First and Last Name, Your University/College
- ✓ Students do NOT print posters. Rather, poster printing and matting on 36" x 48" poster boards will be provided at no cost. Posters will be delivered and displayed at the RISE conference by staff.

**Cash Prizes:** Prizes will be awarded to the students with the “Best Design.” Online voting will be open commencing with the start of the three-day conference. Five prizes will be awarded at the following levels:

- 1<sup>st</sup> place - \$500
- 2<sup>nd</sup> place - \$250
- 3<sup>rd</sup> place - \$150
- 4<sup>th</sup> place - \$100
- 5<sup>th</sup> place - \$50

Prizes will be awarded on Day 3 of the conference, Wednesday, November 20th.

**Deadline to Submit Poster (PDF):** No later than Monday, November 4, 2019.