



October 2025

Greetings!

The Council of Graduate Students is pleased to announce that the **18th Annual Graduate Academic Conference** will take place on **February 21, 2026**, at the **MSU Union**. We are now accepting abstracts for poster and oral presentations and applications to present in the famous Three Minute Thesis (3MT) Competition! **Abstracts & registration are due by Friday, January 16, 2026 11:59pm ET.**

Again this year, the top three oral, poster, and 3MT presentations will each be awarded prizes of \$300, \$200, and \$100, respectively. Also, the 3MT competition winner will be sponsored to compete at the Midwestern Association of Graduate Schools (MAGS) 3MT in April 2026.

All presenters will have the opportunity to participate in GAC activities such as workshops, network sessions with peers and alums, plus free professional headshot photos, free CV/resume reviews, keynote luncheon, and more! Stay tuned for more information to come!

Please note that **all presenters are required to pay a \$5 registration fee**. You will submit your payment at the end of the abstract submission form. Failure to pay in **three (3) days** will result in no abstract submission confirmation email. **An endorsement letter is needed to complete the registration.** This form can also be found on our webpage here: [Advisor Consent Form](#)

#### **RECAP for participants (including 3MT Participants):**

- Save the Date for the GAC conference: Saturday, February 21, 2026
- Get your [Advisor Consent Form](#) ready.
- Submit your [Abstract Here](#)
- Pay the **\$5.00** fee at the end of the abstract submission. \*Pay one fee, even if multiple submissions.
- You must register for the conference (access to activities/workshops, keynote, lunch, and more!). [Registration link is here.](#)
- Stay tuned to your email and visit [cogs.msu.edu/gac/](https://cogs.msu.edu/gac/) for future announcements on our keynote speaker, workshops, and special features at this year's GAC!
- Questions ? Please email us at [office@cogs.msu.edu](mailto:office@cogs.msu.edu)

## FAQs:

1. *How do we register as co-presenters? Will we be required to submit separate Abstracts and pay the registration fees separately?*
  - a. Please have any co-presenters fill out the [Conference Registration Form](#) to be counted for the workshops, keynote, meal, and more. Co-presenters will NOT need to fill out a separate Abstract Submission Form or pay the Presenter Fee. Only the primary presenter must fill out the ALL FORMS and pay the Presenter's Fee.
2. *Can I have multiple submissions?*
  - a. Yes! However, you can enter ONLY one submission for Poster, Oral or 3MT. So, it's fine to have one presentation in each of those presentation formats, but not multiples in any one format. (Example: You may NOT have two posters, but you may have a poster and an oral presentation, etc.) Please submit a separate Abstract Form for each presentation. (Only pay the \$5 fee once.)
3. *Can I simply attend the conference without presenting? How should I proceed?*
  - a. Great – yes! Please just fill out the [Conference Registration Form](#) so that we can count you for other activities and food.
4. *Where can I find all the relevant forms?*
  - a. **Please visit our webpage (<https://cogs.msu.edu/gac/>) for more information.** Links for abstract submission, advisor consent form, and conference registration are also housed on the page. Please check the site often for updated information, announcements, and schedules.
5. *I'm having trouble with access to the Abstract & Advisor Consent forms. What can I do?*
  - a. Make sure to log in with your MSU credentials (netID login) as those forms are set for MSU community access only. If problems persist, just email us at [office@cogs.msu.edu](mailto:office@cogs.msu.edu).

We hope you will consider participating in the 2026 GAC! Thank you!

## The Graduate Academic Conference Committee

Council of Graduate Students

Michigan State University

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**18th Annual GAC: <https://cogs.msu.edu/gac/>**