University of Guyana School of Graduate and Research
Graduate Research Symposium 2026
Wednesday, September 30th to Friday, October 2, 2026
Website: sgsr.uog.edu.gy/Graduate-Symposium-2026

Email: symposium.sgsr@uog.edu.gy

GUIDELINES FOR PREPARING ABSTRACTS

Abstracts must be typed to fit on a single sheet of A4/letter size paper using Calibri or Times New Roman in Microsoft Word 2007 as a minimum. The title should be in 12-point font and everything else in 11-point font. Typing should be fully justified, with 3.5 cm (one-inch) margins at the top and at each side; a minimum of 2.5 cm (one inch) must be left at the bottom of the page. The entire abstract, including title, name of author (s), affiliation(s), text and acknowledgements should be typed within these limits.

The abstract title should be centered and typed in bold, 'title style' in Calibri or Times New Roman (12-point font). On the next line, the author(s) name(s), (lower case 11-point font, in BOLD) should be written as first name, middle initial(s) followed by family name(s). Author(s) name(s) must be centered and separated by semicolons, underlining the name of the person who will present the paper. On the next line (i.e., no extra line spaces) the institution(s) of the author(s) must be typed in italics (NOT in BOLD) and centered. When authors originate from different institutions, the authors and the institutions should be numbered using superscripts to the top right of the names and the top left of the institutions. Following this, the email address of at least one presenter should be included.

The body of the abstract (without any subheadings) should start with two-line spaces below the institutional identification and **should not exceed 300 words**. The text should be typed using one and a half line spacing, with an extra space separating the paragraph. Paragraphs should not be indented. Abstracts should include:

1. Introduction/Purpose/Aim
Include a brief statement about the rationale for the study, as well as the overall aim/research question/primary objective.

2. Methods
Briefly describe the design of the study and how it was conducted, indicating study population, sampling, procedures, measurements.

3. Results

Present the main findings, with an indication of variability (e.g., SD) and precision of comparisons (e.g., 95% confidence intervals) where appropriate.

4. Conclusion

State the "take-home" messages as clearly and as specifically as possible.

5. Keywords (3-6)

List 3 - 6 keywords/phrases that represent the main subject(s)/theme(s) of the research.

SAMPLE ABSTRACT

Vermicomposting of different organic materials using the epigeic earthworm *Eisenia foetida*

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Abstract

Purpose: The present research was conducted to explore the vermicomposting process, which involves different stages such as building a vermicompost station; importing a compost earthworm (Eisenia foetida); and producing vermicompost using dry grass clippings, rice straw, and cow manure. The vermicompost produced can be of significant value to the end users like farmers for replacement of chemical fertilizers and procuring better prices for the organic produce using such composting material locally available at much lower cost.

Methods: Vermicomposting was done using *Eisenia foetida* with three treatments [T1 (Rice straw), T2 (Rice straw + grass) and T3 (Grass)]. Temperature, humidity and pH were measured during the process. The population of earthworms, the production of vermicompost, and the

chemical and microbial characteristics of the vermicompost were recorded after sixty (60) days and hundred twenty (120) days. The data were analyzed statistically using Sigma Plot 12.0.

Results: Results indicated that for all the three treatments the temperature was in the range of 0–35 °C, the humidity was between 80 and 100% and the pH fluctuated in the range of 5.5–7.0 and stabilized to near neutral on the 60th day. The combination of rice straw and grass had the highest rate of vermicompost production of 105 kg/m2 followed by grass and rice straw with 102.5 kg/m2 and 87 kg/m2, respectively, at the end of 120 days.

Conclusion: The harvested vermicompost had an excellent nutrient status, confirmed by the chemical analyses, and contained all the essential macro- and micronutrients.

Keywords: *Eisenia foetida* · Dry grass clippings · Rice straw · Cow manure · Vermicompost