The International Committee on Food Microbiology and Hygiene (ICFMH) of the International Union of Microbiological Societies (IUMS) will sponsor a Student Poster Paper Competition at the XXI Congreso Internacional de Inocuidad de Alimentos and the XXXVI Reunión Nacional de Microbiología, Higiene y Toxicología de Alimentos scheduled in Puerto Vallarta, Nayarit, Mexico during October 31 to November 2, 2019.

**Purpose**

1. To encourage students and recent graduates to present their original research.

2. To foster professionalism in students and recent graduates through contact with peers who attend the Congreso Internacional de Inocuidad de Alimentos and the Reunión Nacional de Microbiología, Higiene y Toxicología de Alimentos.

**General Information**

1. This competition is open to undergraduate or postgraduate students, including those who have graduated not more than one year prior to the deadline for submitting abstracts.

2. The entrant must be the senior author of the poster and be present to answer questions for a specified time during the assigned session.

3. The work must represent original research completed and presented by the entrant.

4. Students may enter only one poster in the competition.

5. If an abstract is selected to be presented in an oral paper session, it will be disqualified from the poster award competition.

6. Acceptance of an abstract for presentation is independent of acceptance as a competition finalist.

7. In addition to following the instructions in the “Call for Abstracts,” competition entrants must indicate if the paper is to be entered in this competition.

8. Competition entrants who are chosen as finalists will be notified of their status by the chairperson of the Student Poster Award Committee.

9. Entrants must be registered for the Congreso Internacional de Inocuidad de Alimentos and the Reunión Nacional de Microbiología, Higiene y Toxicología de Alimentos.
Judging Process

All abstracts accepted for presentation and entered in the Student Poster Award competition at Congreso Internacional de Inocuidad de Alimentos and the Reunión Nacional de Microbiología, Higiene y Toxicología de Alimentos will be reviewed by the Award Committee. Only eligible abstracts accepted for presentation as posters and entered in the competition will be judged.

A panel of judges will evaluate the abstracts for the poster competition. The finalists will be notified in advance of the Congreso Internacional de Inocuidad de Alimentos and the Reunión Nacional de Microbiología, Higiene y Toxicología de Alimentos.

Judging Criteria

1. Abstract - Clarity, comprehensiveness, and conciseness

2. Scientific Quality - Adequacy of experimental design (methodology, controls, replication), extent to which objectives were met, difficulty and thoroughness of research, validity of conclusions based upon data, technical merit, and contribution to science

3. Poster - Organization (clarity of introduction, objectives, methods, results, conclusions), quality of illustrations, ability to answer questions, and knowledge of subject

Announcement of Awards

The names of finalists will be announced and an award will be presented at the closing session of the Congreso Internacional de Inocuidad de Alimentos and the Reunión Nacional de Microbiología, Higiene y Toxicología de Alimentos. The winners will be presented with a prize of:

- First prize: 250 Euros (or equivalent in US dollars) and a framed certificate
- Second prize: 150 Euros (or equivalent in US dollars) and a framed certificate
- Third prize: 100 Euros (or equivalent in US dollars) and a framed certificate

Note: All finalists are expected to be present at the closing session.