The Howard R. Hughes College of Engineering Graduate Celebration is an event that recognizes the scholarly work of our engineering and computer science graduate students within the college. The target audience includes undergraduate students, graduate students, college faculty and staff, and the campus community as well as local and regional stakeholders. The objective of the event is to promote and publicize the research activities of the College of Engineering and to inform our stakeholders of our students’ achievements.

All students whose advisors deem that their research is mature enough are invited to communicate their research by participating in the College’s Best Poster Competition. Additionally, interested students who are graduating in a particular semester can enter the college’s Best Thesis / Dissertation Competition. Details of the two competitions are described below.

### Best Poster Competition

**9:30 AM—2:00 PM**

**Eligibility:**
- The participant must be a graduate student at the College of Engineering who has registered in this semester.
- A letter of support from the Student Advisor must be provided. The letter should include a summary of the significance of the research.

**Criteria:**
- Students are to prepare a poster for display on a single 36” tall by 24” wide poster board. The posters should be ready for display on an easel or desk (tri-fold display). There will be space in front of the poster if a student wishes to bring material to display.
- The posters should effectively communicate the goals, objectives, methods, and results of the research.
- Most probably, the audience will not be specialists in the technical area of a student. Many visitors will be students and faculty from other departments. Therefore, the language describing your work should be clear to an audience that is unfamiliar with your area.
- Participants should be prepared to describe what are the contributions of the research, and also show some representative results.
- Your conclusions should be given in language that a knowledgeable individual with a computer science/engineering background can understand. Limit the use of equations. Remember that graphics can help you communicate your ideas. A crowded poster will be difficult to follow.
- You may want to bring copies of your Project abstract and/or paper to hand out to visitors. You may also want to set a laptop with a video of your experiment, if applicable.

**Judging:**
- Judges will be professionals with R&D expertise from local industries.

**Awards:**
- The First Place winner: $1,000
- Second Place winner: $500
- Third Place winner: $250

**Deadlines:**
Please email Dr. Mohamed Trabia (mohamed.trabia@unlv.edu) your intentions to participate by Friday, April 12th.

### Best Thesis / Dissertation Competition

**2:00 PM—3:00 PM**

**Eligibility:**
- Candidates must have completed all M.S. or Ph.D. degree requirements (except for final defense) in the semester of the competition.
- A letter of support from the student advisor must be provided. The letter should include a summary of the significance of the research.

**Criteria:**
- The thesis/dissertation research must be in fulfillment of requirements of a M.S. or Ph.D. degree within the Howard R. Hughes College of Engineering.
- Accomplishments that will be considered include, but are not limited to:
  - Peer-reviewed journal publications
  - Peer-reviewed conference proceedings
  - Patents
  - Outcome of the research in terms of proposals for funded research and citations
- No more than one First Place and one Second Place award will be given each for M.S. and Ph.D. levels at each competition.

**Nomination Process:**
1. Submit a letter summarizing the contribution of your research and your future plans.
2. Submit a letter of recommendation from the dissertation advisor.
3. Submit the journal and conference paper(s) that were based on a thesis/dissertation. The papers may be co-authored by the nominee’s thesis/dissertation advisor.

**Judging:**
- Judges will be professionals with R&D expertise from local industries as well as engineering/computer science professors from other institutions.

**Awards:**
- The First Place winners will receive $1,500 for Ph.D. students and $1,000 for M.S. students. Awardees will be invited to present their research at the Celebration event.
- Second Place winners will receive $750 for Ph.D. students and $500 for M.S. students.

**Deadlines:**
Please submit your material electronically to Dr. Mohamed Trabia (mohamed.trabia@unlv.edu) all materials by Friday, March 15th.