

Faculty Research Symposium 2025: Judging Guide

Judge Instructions & Track Overview

Thank you for serving as a judge for Jacksonville State University's Faculty Research Symposium (FRS) 2025. Your participation helps recognize and celebrate the scholarly, creative, and instructional excellence of our faculty. This year's event introduces three distinct tracks—Scholars, Teachers, and Changemakers—each designed to highlight unique forms of faculty contribution.

Tracks Overview

Presenters will be presenting in one of three tracks: Scholars, Teachers, and Changemakers.

- **Scholars Track – Peer-Reviewed Scholarly/Creative Activity**

The Scholars Track highlights faculty work that has undergone formal peer review or will soon be shared through publication, performance, or conference. This includes disciplinary research, SoTL projects, creative works, or interdisciplinary collaborations. Judges should look for depth, rigor, and contribution to the field.

- **Teachers Track – Best Practices in Teaching & Learning**

The Teachers Track recognizes faculty who demonstrate excellence in pedagogy and student engagement. These presentations should showcase innovative or effective instructional approaches, redesigned courses, or collaborative teaching models. Judges should evaluate clarity, innovation, evidence of impact, and reflective practice.

- **Changemakers Track – Ideas for Further Research & Innovation**

The Changemakers Track features early-stage projects or developing ideas that have strong potential for growth and collaboration. Presenters may share pilot data, initial results, or emerging research concepts. Judges should focus on originality, potential for impact, and clarity of rationale.

Presentation Formats

In addition this year's tracks (Scholars, Teachers, Changemakers), faculty presentations may take several forms: ***Long Presentation, Short Presentation, Panel, Poster, or Creative/Other***. Rubrics for each track are designed to apply across all formats, with flexibility for content type and delivery style. **When scoring rubrics, be sure to select the correct format for which the speaker is presenting.**

Judging Overview

Each presentation should be scored using the appropriate rubric for its assigned track. Judges will evaluate presentations across five categories/criteria, each scored on a 1–10 scale (Developing–Proficient–Exemplary). The total possible score per presentation is 50 points.

Scoring Key:

- 1–4 = Developing (limited clarity or rigor)
- 5–7 = Proficient (solid, meets expectations)
- 8–10 = Exemplary (highly effective, professional, and impactful)

How to Complete the Rubric

1. Pick up judging packets at the registration table in the central corridor on the North Lobby side of Merrill Hall. Judging packets will contain a scoring rubric, pens, and a 5-minute time warning for judges to use to keep presenters on track.
2. Write your name on the scoring rubric located in the packet. Record presenter's name.

3. Score each category 1-10.
4. Use the criterion descriptors provided in the rubric as a guide for scoring.
5. Record your total score at the bottom of the rubric.
6. Leave brief comments if needed.
7. Return completed scoring rubrics to the packet, close, and return to an FRS committee representative located at the registration table in the central corridor on the North Lobby side of Merrill Hall (where you picked them up from).

Judging Information

Please write legibly on all rubrics and include your name and signature. If you are judging multiple sessions, complete a separate rubric for each presentation. Your thoughtful evaluation supports both the recognition of excellence and the continued professional development of JSU faculty.

Thank you for your support of the 2025 Faculty Research Symposium!