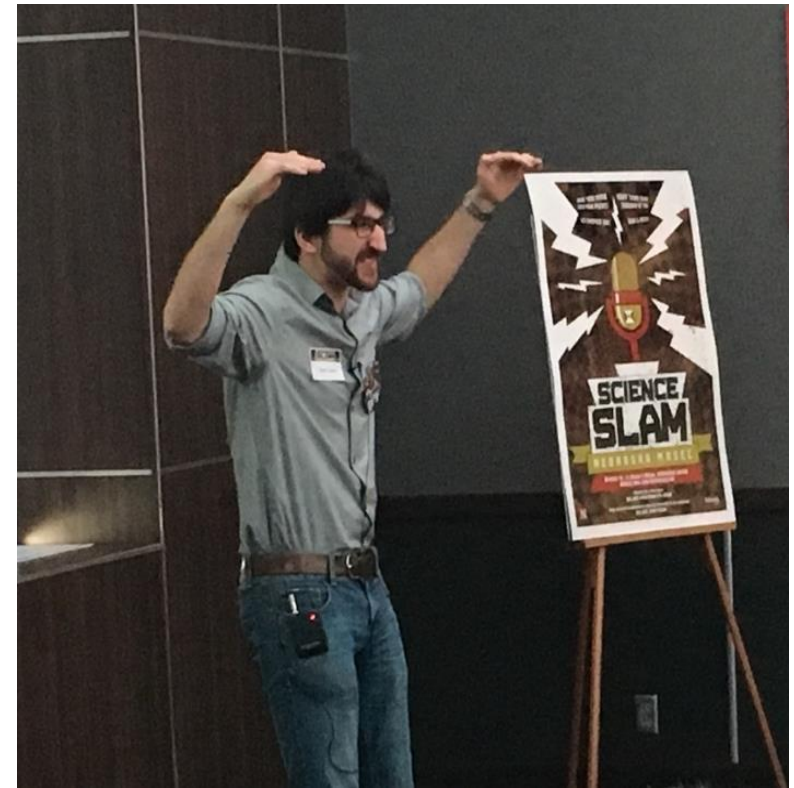
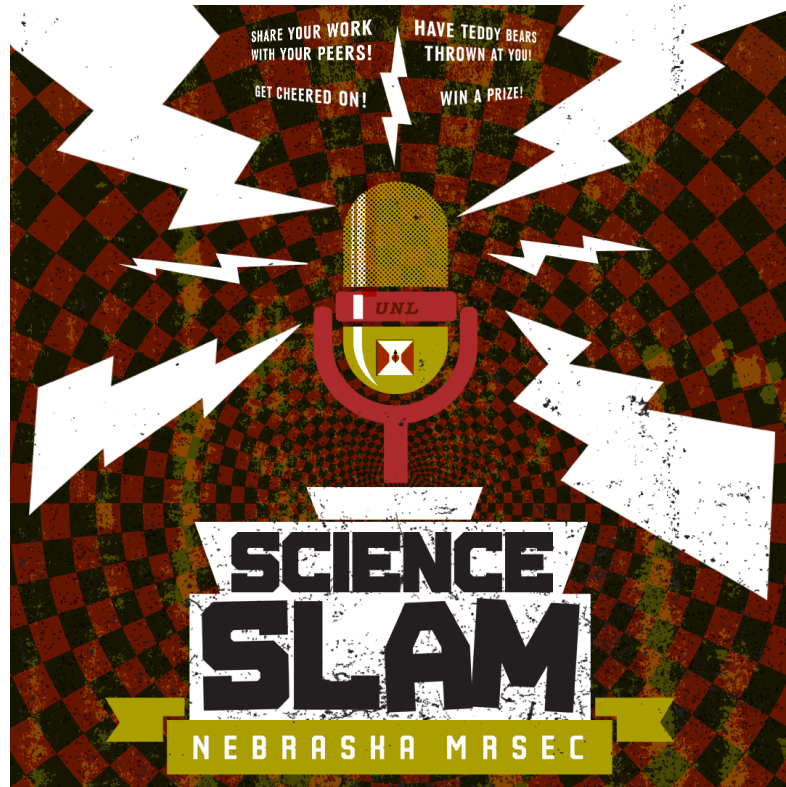




Science Slams:



Shaping the Future of Science Communication



Nebraska MRSEC

Dr. Rebecca Y. Lai

Jocelyn Bosley





What is a



?



- It is science talk, competition, and entertainment, all in one!



WHO: “Slammers” are undergraduate, graduate, or postdoctoral researchers in STEM disciplines

WHAT: Slammers present their research to a general audience in under ten minutes each

HOW: No rules governing presentation style and format

WHY: A winner is chosen by the audience and receives a monetary prize





What is a



?



Standard Presentations

Focus on the PowerPoint

By experts in a particular subfield, for other experts in the same subfield

Use specialized, technical vocabulary

Include methods, results, and conclusions

Long and information dense

At the end, audience claps

Science Slams

Focus on the presenter

By diverse experts, for everyone

Explain key concepts in ordinary language

Include a beginning, middle, and end

Short and dynamic

At the end, audience votes to determine a winner





Secrets of a Successful Slam



Tyler Corey
Behavioral Ecologist



Kelly Willemsens
Environmental Scientist



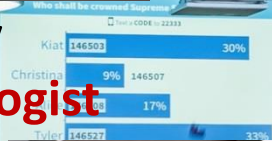
Christina Edholm
Applied Mathematician



Soon Kiat Lau
Food Scientist



Alice MillerMacPhee
Sociologist





Gauging the Immediate Impact



SCIENCE

SCIENCE SLAMS COULD BE THE FUTURE OF COMMUNICATING RESEARCH

TEN MINUTES, NO RULES, WINNER TAKES ALL

By Jason Lederman Posted March 29, 2016

Jason Lederman, social media editor at *Popular Science*

Markus Weisskopf, CEO
"Wissenschaft im Dialog,"
German non-profit organization
for science communication

On Twitter:

 M_Weisskopf  by you
Science Slams made it to the US! We hope for more to come! [po.st/fkHvcq](https://www.popsci.com/po.st/fkHvcq) via @PopSci @DrRubidium @iEnders

 Nathan Meier mentioned you
Science Slams Could Be The Future Of Communicating Research [po.st/prWWhZ](https://www.popsci.com/po.st/prWWhZ) via @PopSci. Awesome work by @iEnders & P-SPINS E/O team

"While my strengths aren't in biology, I still find the mechanisms of life fascinating. I feel like what you did made your research come to life in a [way] that people from many different backgrounds can appreciate and learn from."

- email to Science Slammer Tyler Corey from a student at Union College, Lincoln, NE





The Future of Science Slams



- Science Slams are a “grassroots” science communication movement.
 - ◆ Name intentionally not trademarked
 - ◆ Adaptable to different contexts and audiences

- Science Slams align with and help to further NSF goals and, specifically, MRSEC goals.
 - ◆ Promote cross-disciplinary conversations and collaborations
 - ◆ Communicate research in meaningful ways to a broad audience

- NSF MRSECs are well-positioned to grow Science Slams in the United States by establishing a nationwide network of MRSEC-sponsored Science Slams. **P-SPINS will be happy to share experience and mentor any new effort!**

