

Introducing the Senior Legacy Symposium

to Promote Reflection & Professional Preparation for Seniors

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Program Overview

Each academic department may send three student projects to the Symposium that best represent graduating students work in their major as well as aspects of the Five Dimensions of the Saint Louis University experience. Students then provide a summary of their project at the symposium. To determine the top three projects, academic departments may consider holding their own competition of all senior capstone projects, an application process, peer selection process, or faculty nominations. Once determined, students complete a submission form outlining their project.

Five Dimensions of the Saint Louis University Experience:

- Scholarship & Knowledge
- Intellectual Inquiry & Communication
- Community Building
- Leadership & Service
- Spirituality & Values

Types of Symposium Projects

Poster/Artwork Presentations

- The research project is summarized on a poster or video presentation/slideshow, or a display of artwork. Students are encouraged to stand next to their posters so that attendees can ask questions about the project

Oral Presentations

- Students have 12 minutes to present their work, with a brief 5 minute question & answer period (17 minutes total). This could include a multimedia format.

Creative Performance

- 20 minute theatre and music performances will be showcased in a presentation format.

Purpose

- Provide seniors with an opportunity to reflect on a specific experience/project in relation to the 5 dimensions of the Saint Louis University experience
- Provide a venue for professional presentation preparation and communication for seniors
- Provide a showcase opportunity for student academic achievements to celebrate accomplishments
- Provide an opportunity for seniors to 'leave behind' a major contribution to their field of study or to the University
- Provide an awareness of academic possibilities and contributions for the University community, including freshmen through junior students
- Provide a community-building opportunity for students, faculty and staff on campus

Student Outcomes

Students reported the following outcomes associated with participation in the Senior Legacy Symposium:

- Ability to examine values
- Opportunity to serve
- Use of critical thinking skills
- Respect viewpoints of group members
- Opportunity to connect with others
- Secured confidence in career choice
- Feel responsibility to educate
- Confidence in research skills

Considerations

- Campus-wide buy-in
- Faculty support and manner for project selection
- Space on campus
- Event timeframe
- Invitations to alumni, employers, and/or parents
- Materials needed
 - Audio-Visual
 - Easels or tables for project display
 - Instruments for performances
- Desire to give awards
- Recognition of students
- On campus event publicity



Coordination Timeline:

Fall

- Information to academic departments
- Departments determine a mechanism of selecting student projects

Early Spring

- Deadline for academic departments to RSVP regarding number of spaces needed (of 3 available) for the Symposium
- Solicitation of Symposium volunteers
- Verify availability of Vice President, Academic Affairs to speak at reception

Late Spring

- Deadline for student submission forms
- Detailed communication to students regarding timeline, set-up, and provisions

Program Contact

Saint Louis University
 Student Involvement Center
 319 Busch Student Center
 Phone (314) 977-2805

website: www.slu.edu/senior