You are invited to submit abstracts for the 3-Minute Rapid Fire Oral Abstract Competition at the EPI/Lifestyle Scientific Sessions 2020 (Phoenix, AZ). We will select 4-5 abstracts to participate in an oral competition. Each selected finalist will receive complimentary registration to the entire conference (March 3-6, 2020), an early career AHA membership or membership renewal for 1 year, and a complementary ticket to the Joint Council Dinner on Thursday, March 5th at 7 pm, when finalists and winners will be announced. First and second place winners of the competition will additionally receive $500 and $250, respectively. All finalists will have a chance to interact with experienced research faculty in the field. Eligibility is open to all trainees who have research interests consistent with the goals of the AHA and the conference (e.g. public health, epidemiology, exercise science, nutrition, obesity, medicine) and did not submit their abstract for presentation during AHA EPI/Lifestyle Scientific Sessions.

The 3-Minute Rapid Fire Oral Abstract Competition is a research communication competition. The exercise develops academic, presentation, and research communication skills and supports the development of trainees’ capacities to effectively explain their research in language appropriate to an intelligent but non-specialist audience. Finalists should not trivialize or ‘dumb-down’ their research but instead should aim to consolidate their ideas and crystalize their research discoveries.

Each presentation will be allotted 3 minutes followed by 5 minutes of Q&A, and will be judged by a panel of experienced AHA faculty.

Where?
AHA EPI/Lifestyle Scientific Sessions, Hyatt Regency, Phoenix, AZ.

When?
Thursday, March 5, 2020 at 7:00-8:30 am

Who?
Doctoral degree students, Master’s degree students, post-doctoral fellows, medical fellows, and medical residents with an interest in epidemiology, prevention, and cardiometabolic health research.

Prizes:
$500 (1st place); $250 (2nd place)

Benefits:
Finalists will be invited to compete in the 3-Minute Rapid Fire Oral Abstract Competition and will receive complimentary conference registration (March 3-6, 2020), an early career AHA membership or membership renewal for 1 year, and a complementary ticket to the Joint Council Dinner on Thursday, March 5th at 7 pm, when finalists and winners will be announced.
membership or membership renewal for 1 year, and a complimentary ticket to the Joint Council Dinner on Thursday, March 5th at 7 pm. Attending AHA EPI/Lifestyle Scientific Sessions is a great opportunity to hear the latest science in the field before it is published, network and collaborate with peers from around the world, and honor the outstanding contributions of our members through our awards and lectures program.

Eligibility and Application Requirements:
To be considered for the 3-Minute Rapid Fire Oral Abstract Competition, applicants are requested to submit a research abstract of 250 words or less as a pdf file by email to Susan Kunish (susan.kunish@heart.org) by January 6, 2020. Finalists will be notified via email by February 3, 2020.

Individuals are eligible to apply if they would like to present research required for their current degree/training program (research does not necessarily need to be for a dissertation/thesis). Individuals are not eligible to apply if they are presenting their research at another session of AHA EPI/Lifestyle Scientific Sessions 2020 or are receiving another AHA award.

Presentation Rules:
• A single static PowerPoint slide is permitted (no slide transitions, animations, or ‘movement’ of any description)
• No additional electronic media (e.g. sound and video files) are permitted
• No additional props (e.g. costumes, musical instruments, laboratory equipment) are permitted
• Presentations are limited to 3 minutes maximum, and competitors exceeding 3 minutes are disqualified
• The decision of the judging panel is final

Judging Criteria:
Comprehension & Content
• Did the presentation provide an understanding of the background to the research question being addressed and its significance?
• Did the presentation clearly describe the key results of the research including conclusions and outcomes?
• Did the presentation follow a clear and logical sequence?
• Was the research topic, key results, research significance, and outcomes communicated in language appropriate to a non-specialist audience?
• Did the speaker avoid scientific jargon, explain terminology, and provide adequate background information to illustrate points?
• Did the presenter spend adequate time on each element of their presentation?

Engagement & Communication
• Did the oration make the audience want to know more?
• Was the presenter careful not to trivialize or generalize their research?
• Did the presenter convey enthusiasm for their research?
• Did the presenter capture and maintain their audience’s attention?
• Did the speaker have sufficient stage presence, eye contact and vocal range; maintain a steady pace; and have a confident stance?
• Did the PowerPoint slide enhance the presentation – was it clear, legible, and concise?