The first Student Symposium on the Environment was organized by the Slippery Rock Watershed Coalition in April 1996. At that time, this symposium was a day-long event where student and professional presentations were held in the morning, and a field tour was held after a luncheon. The event was held annually until April 2002, when the symposium was made separate from the field tour, and became known as "Investigating Watershed Issues: Support Student Research Through Public/Private Partnerships." The symposium then ranged from a two to three day event. The symposium has been held at various locations, including Jennings Environmental Education Center, Slippery Rock University, Grove City College, and Westminster College. The format of the symposium has changed over the past few years. It is now being held annually on the first Thursday evening in December at Westminster College.

## History of the Symposium

The Slippery Rock Watershed Coalition was officially founded in 1994 after working for several years on issues with acid mine drainage in Slippery Rock Creek. The Slippery Rock Watershed Coalition works in conjunction with Jennings Environmental Education Center, federal, state, and local governmental agencies, academic institutions, private industry, non-profit organizations and local citizens to achieve these goals:

- To restore the land, water, and wildlife resources of the Slippery Rock Watershed
- To provide an opportunity for individuals, community groups, and college students to become involved in restoration efforts
- To develop new technology related to land restoration and discharge abatement
- To develop various information sources for educational purposes

Westminster College and the Slippery Rock Watershed Coalition collaborate on a yearly service learning project that involves student testing of water at sites being treated passively for abandoned mine drainage.

### About the Slippery Rock Watershed Coalition

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For more information:

Westminster College &
Slippery Rock Watershed Coalition

Sponsored by
Westminster College &
Slippery Rock Watershed Coalition

www.westminster.edu/environment

[QR Code]

Remaining 11/7/14

Student Symposium on the Environment
featuring all disciplines
About the Symposium

The Student Symposium on the Environment is held each December to highlight environmental study, research, artistic expression, and service work being done by students in the region. Students from all disciplines, ranging from high school through graduate school, are encouraged to participate. Research posters, art work, oral presentations, and even performances are welcome.

Call for Participants

**Students.**

Students will be able to submit their presentations in early November at www.westminster.edu/environment. The submission deadline and tentative schedule will also be posted on the Environmental Programs website.

**Professionals.**

Environmental professionals and organizations are welcome to set up displays during the poster session. For information please email your request to env@westminster.edu.

Poster Presentations

Students use posters and displays to highlight their recent environmental research, art work, etc. During the poster session, visitors have an opportunity to view student projects and network. While students answer questions and discuss their projects.

Past presentation topics have included:

- Abandoned Mine Drainage
- Air Quality
- Alternative Energy
- Art work
- Dance
- Ecosystem Recovery
- Environmental Education
- Environmental Literature
- Hydraulic Fracturing
- Internship Experiences
- Political Ecology
- Soil Science
- Water Quality

Oral Presentations

During the oral presentation session, students give a 10 minute presentation or performance of their work, followed by a 5 minute question & answer period. Audio visual equipment is available for PowerPoint presentations, music, etc.

Awards & Recognition

Awards are made possible through generous donations by supporters. Awards are presented for several categories, including best oral and best poster presentation.

Participants and submissions are recognized through news releases, educational materials, and social media.

Past presentation topics have included:

- Air Quality
- Alternative Energy
- Art work
- Dance
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Water Quality

Artwork

Alternative Energy

Ecosystem Recovery

Environmental Education

Environmental Literature

Hydraulic Fracturing

Internship Experiences

Political Ecology

Soil Science

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