

MS Thesis Summary Form

Instructions:

- 1) Student: After confirming a thesis defense date, answer the questions listed in the 'Student' section.
- 2) Committee chair: Answer the questions listed in the 'Committee Chair' section.
- 3) Student: Email the completed form to all MS committee members and copy bioms@ucsd.edu. This form must be submitted to BS/MS advising before the official thesis defense. Students should aim to submit this form 4-6 weeks before their defense.

FAQs

- 1) **Can I send the report less than 6 weeks before my defense?**
 - a. BS/MS advising recommends students submit this form 4-6 weeks before their defense. At a minimum, this form must be submitted to all MS thesis committee members and BS/MS advising before a student defends their thesis. BS/MS advising will not prepare final defense paperwork for students who do not submit this form.
- 2) **Does my committee need a copy of my thesis in addition to this summary?**
 - a. Yes. Students cannot complete the MS degree until their MS thesis is approved by all committee members. Students are strongly advised to send the final draft of their thesis to all committee members 1-2 weeks before their defense. Faculty may request edits to the thesis before agreeing to approve the thesis. Faculty are not required to approve a student's thesis.
- 3) **Do I still need to submit the File for Degree Form in addition to this form?**
 - a. Yes. The MS Summary Form confirms a student's defense date with BS/MS advising. The File for Degree Form confirms the student's intent to graduate with GEPA. Both are required for degree completion.

**Additional questions? Submit a VAC message or attend
BS/MS advising hours.**

**School of Biological Sciences
MS Thesis Summary Form**

To be completed by the *Student*. This report should be emailed to all committee members and bioms@ucsd.edu (in one email) after a date is confirmed for the Master's thesis defense.

Student name:

Committee members
and their role
(chair/co-chair/member):

Thesis Title:

Defense date:

Attach a summary of the most significant findings of your research. Include 1-2 key figures (no more than two pages, including the figures).

Student Signature: _____

Date:

To be completed by the *Committee Chair*.

Successfully defending a thesis requires that the student has obtained sufficient data to make a **significant contribution to a research paper** that will be published in a peer-reviewed journal. Such contribution could consist of one or more of the following:

- The student produces at least one figure or a table that could be included in a peer-reviewed research paper.
- The student's work lays a significant foundation for further research (for example, the student conducted a genetic screen).
- The student develops a new technique or improves an existing method, producing a significant, applicable technical advance.

Please answer the following questions related to your student's thesis.

1. Please provide a very brief summary of the experimental findings by the student that will contribute or has contributed to a publication.

2. Please verify that sufficient amount of data has been obtained by the student to defend a Master's thesis.

Committee Chair Signature: _____ Date: