



TDK/ SSC Report

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The SSC is not only a great illustration of our hard work on our theses but a once-in-a-lifetime event. I will forever be grateful for my supervisors' encouragement to join the conference because when I handed in my thesis on the due date, I had no intention of looking at anything research related in a while, at least until it was time for the thesis defense. Yet, the single word of encouragement turned into a deep desire to win the conference, leading to a potential future with scientific research.

The application process was straightforward and outlined all the necessary elements for a successful speech. While preparing for a presentation, one of my biggest concerns was making the speech fit under 10 minutes. After listening to my fellow researcher's talks, I realize that the key element of a successful presentation is discussing the most important points of the research and displaying them concisely and clearly. I had to remake my PowerPoint multiple times until the timing and content were excellent, and it was tiring, especially since, parallel to preparing for the conference, I had to prepare for the state exams. However, I hope the tight scheduling of the conference does not scare away any students from participating because it is manageable and worth it.

Unlike last year's online conference, it was held in person in Szombathely this time. The bus took off at around 4 am; we arrived at 8 am and began presenting at 11 am. The event's organization was exceptional; everything was timed and easy to follow. The venue was beautiful, and some parts of the opening ceremony were translated into English so international students could understand. I was extremely nervous before it was my time to present, but I was confident and prepared. I successfully finished in less than 10 minutes, followed by a few tricky questions from the jury panel. Listening to my classmate's speeches was interesting. Some students raised the bar

with their research and presentation quality. Once everyone finished their speech, we made our way to the accommodation, a lovely and cozy dormitory.

The highlight of the event was the Gala or the afterparty. Prior to that, we were served delicious dinner and cakes. I don't recall dancing and having so much fun in a while. The atmosphere of the event was delightful and stress relieving. After endless studying and hard work, I could finally have fun without worrying about my thesis. While only a few international students participated, I believe we shared a once-in-a-lifetime event. The following day, we were served breakfast, listened to the closing ceremony, ate lunch, and patiently waited for the results to be announced. There were 17 sections in this year's conference, lots of winners, and finally, I felt my hard work paid off. Many students were rewarded with awards, sponsored gifts, and cash prizes. Overall, I left the conference feeling like I truly learned something throughout the four years of university and was prepared for my post-graduate years. I hope my own experience of the event is enough to persuade someone to join the following SSC, yet no words can describe the amount of fun and knowledge you get to experience there.

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