

The Vodopia-Hasson Poster Competition

Judging Criteria

The intent of the Vodopia-Hasson Poster Competition is to encourage and support excellence in effective scientific communication. Therefore, the judging will be focused on the excellence of the poster presentation, and not on the significance of the research results being presented.

Students presenting a poster are encouraged to learn how to present highly technical information to a general, yet educated, audience. Posters will be judged on content, visual organization, and verbal presentation.

Content

- Does the poster focus on a well-defined problem?
- Is the quality of writing clear, complete, and concise?
- Is the poster complete, containing introduction, methodology, results, discussion, and conclusion sections?
- Is the content presented in a clear and logical manner?

Visual Organization: Visuals and Text

- Is the overall presentation of the poster aesthetically appealing? (Students are able to present with both professionally printed posters and smaller printouts on a poster board. They should not be judged differently.)
- Are the visuals attractive and of high quality? Properly attributed and labeled? Useful to the understanding of the subject?
- Is the poster easy to read from a reasonable distance?
- Are the methods, results, and conclusions easily understood in a reasonable amount of time?

Verbal Presentation

- Can the presenter clearly explain their work in 3-4 minutes and maintain audience interest?
- Can the presenter describe how data were collected and analyzed?
- Can the presenter clearly summarize the body of work?
- Can the presenter adequately answer questions?

The Gee Family Poster Competition

Judging Criteria

The intent of the Gee Family Poster Competition is to encourage and support excellence in effective scientific communication. Therefore, the judging will be focused on the excellence of the poster presentation, and not on the significance of the research results being presented.

Students presenting a poster are encouraged to learn how to present highly technical information to a general, yet educated, audience. Posters will be judged on content, visual organization, and verbal presentation.

Students are also encouraged to read the SURF Talk Book prior to creating and presenting their poster. The SURF Talk Book can be found online at www.surf.caltech.edu

Content

Does the poster focus on a well-defined problem?

Is the quality of writing clear, complete, and concise?

Is the poster complete, containing introduction, methodology, results, discussion, and conclusion sections?

Is the content presented in a clear and logical manner?

Visual Organization: Visuals and Text

Is the overall presentation of the poster aesthetically appealing? (Students are able to present with both professional printed posters and smaller printouts on a poster board. They should not be judged differently.)

Are the visuals attractive and of high quality? Properly attributed and labeled? Useful to the understanding of the subject?

Is the poster easy to read from a reasonable distance?

Are the methods, results, and conclusions easily understood in a reasonable amount of time?

Verbal Presentation

Can the presenter clearly explain their work in 2-3 minutes and maintain audience interest?

Can the presenter describe how data were collected and analyzed?

Can the presenter clearly summarize the body of work?

Can the presenter adequately answer questions?

Category	1-2 points Poor	3-5 points Fair	6-8 points Good	9-10 points Exceptional	SCORE
Poster Content	Connection not found between poster content and purpose of research. Writing is not clear or concise. The poster is not complete with introduction, methodology, results, and discussion sections. Material is not presented in a clear or logical manner.	Content presented is difficult to understand and does not sufficiently convey a connection to the research. Writing contains many spelling and/or grammatical errors. Inadequate introduction, methodology, results, and discussion sections. Adequate organization of material but needs work to improve effectiveness.	The content is adequately presented but support for the research could be stronger. Content is easily readable with few or no spelling and/or grammatical errors. The introduction, methodology, results, and discussion sections are clearly presented and illustrate a clear understanding of the work. Material is presented in a clear and logical manner.	Content is strong and provides unique insight and exceptional clarity. Writing is well written with no spelling and/or grammatical errors. The introduction, methodology, results, and discussion sections show evidence of a strong understanding of the work and its place in the discipline. Material is clear, logical, and enhances ones understanding of the research.	
Visual Organization	Not visually effective. Visuals are not properly attributed or labeled and detract from the understanding of the research. Font is too small and hard to read. Too much information makes it hard to read and understand in a reasonable amount of time.	Poster was visually adequate but needs work to be more effective. Some, but not all, visuals are labeled and help add to the understanding of the research. Font size is readable but not from a reasonable distance. Some, but not all, of the sections can be easily understood in a reasonable amount of time.	Poster was visually good but could still improve to be more effective. Visuals are properly attributed, labeled correctly, and enhance the understanding of the research. The font size is readable from a reasonable distance. The entire poster could be read and understood in a reasonable amount of time.	Visually appealing in a way that added to the understanding of the research. Layout and visual organization is what would be expected at a professional conference. Visuals were appropriate and chosen to enhance the understanding of the content. Poster utilized creativity in use of fonts, headings, colors, and white space in a way that helped the reader move through and understand the content.	
Verbal Presentation	The student was unable to clearly explain their work and adequately describe the project. The student was not able to maintain your interest. The student was unable to adequately answer questions.	The student was able to explain their work but not within the allotted 3 minute time. The student was able to maintain your interest for some, but not all, of their presentation. The student was able to answer some questions.	The student was able to explain their work within the allotted 3 minute time and was able to maintain your interest. The student was able to answer all questions adequately.	The student gave a strong 3 minute presentation that effectively explained their research, maintained your interest, and left you wanting to learn more. The student answered all questions in a way that showed insight into the research field.	
You may award up to 5 bonus points. Below, please state your reason or criteria for awarding bonus points.					
					TOTAL