

Criteria for Judging the Spring Research Festival Outstanding Research Poster

The quality of research posters should be judged in the following areas:

A. Research Concept: Selection of the problem and originality of the idea should be given due credit.

- Is the hypothesis or the problem clearly stated and easily understood?
- Is project innovative or does it look at a question in a new way?
- Does it represent new/novel technology or a novel application of existing technology to the hypothesis?

B. Experimental Design Quality

- Are the experimental design and methods appropriate to the objective?
- Are the results meaningful and relevant?
- Do the conclusions adequately but concisely interpret the results?

C. Display Attributes

- Lettering size and quality: Can the information/data flow be easily followed? Is there too much text?
- Tables/figures/photographs: Should be simple in design for clear and quick understanding. What is represented should be readily identified.
- Use of color: Color in the poster should be credited where the color adds to the value of the poster.

D. Overall Poster Quality and Presentation

- Is the research project adaptable to poster style?
- Is the poster neat, attractive and informative?
- Are the main conclusions obvious after a short summary of the poster?

- Is the poster self-explanatory? It should not contain any unfamiliar terms that need interpretation.
- Organization: The poster display should be well organized and clearly show the flow of presentation either by using appropriate headings (methods, results, and conclusions) or by the use of arrows or connecting lines.

The Rating System

The poster is judge for excellence in four areas as discussed above. The rating system is as follows:

	<u>Category</u>	<u>Point Value</u>
A.	Research concept	5
B.	Experimental quality	5
C.	Display attributes	5
D.	Overall poster quality	5
	Total possible points	20.0

A scale of 1 to 5 (poor = 1, fair = 2, average=3, good = 4, and excellent = 5) may be used by the judges. A total of possible 20.0 points can be scored by any single poster.

PLEASE DO NOT RATE EVERY POSTER HIGH AS AWARDS SHOULD ONLY BE GIVEN TO POSTERS THAT YOU BELIEVE ARE TRULY OUTSTANDING

The Judging

Depending upon the number of volunteer judges, each member of the Committee will judge 10 posters or less. Each poster will be judged by two people. IF YOU HAVE AN OBVIOUS CONFLICT WITH ONE OF YOUR ASSIGNMENTS, PLEASE CONTACT Jo Anne Barb (barbjo@mail.nih.gov) IMMEDIATELY. Due to the number of posters, we cannot always match a judges' expertise with specific poster topics. In fact, we believe that a judges' overall impression of the poster is more important than specific knowledge of the poster topic. It is not expected or anticipated that judges will actually speak to all the poster presenters (again for logistical reasons) but judges are free to do so if they wish.

NOTE: All scores should be electronically entered by COB May 17, 2012.