

Guidance for Presenting Research Posters

1. Posters are Presentations!!
2. They are a great way to discuss your research and network with people with similar interests
 - Ideas to improve what you have done or next steps
 - Possible future collaborations
3. Engage with Attendees:
 - Be Approachable: Smile and make eye contact. Stand near your poster and be ready to engage with anyone who shows interest.
 - When someone walks up to your poster
 1. Start a conversation
 - Introduce yourself
 - “Do you want me to give you a brief explanation (1-2 minutes) about my poster?”
 - If they say no don’t be offended. It may not be in their area of interest, but they couldn’t tell from the title. Tell them, “Let me know if you have any questions.”
 - If they say yes after the presentation ask if they have any questions.
 2. Answering Questions:
 - Be Clear and Concise: Answer questions directly and clearly. If you don’t know the answer, it’s okay to say so and offer to follow up later.
 - Use Your Poster: Refer to specific sections of your poster when answering questions. This helps attendees follow along and understand better.

What to do before the Conference

1. Practice Your Presentation:
 - Elevator Pitch: Prepare a 1-2 minute summary of your research. This is useful for quick interactions.
 - Detailed Explanation: Be ready to explain each section of your poster in detail. Practice with friends or mentors to get feedback.
 - Anticipate Questions: Think about potential questions and prepare answers. This shows you understand your research deeply.

After the Conference

1. Follow Up:
 - For attendees that had questions you couldn’t answer get contact information
 1. Send follow-up emails thanking them for their interest and providing any additional information they requested.
 - For attendees that might be future collaborators
 2. Send follow-up emails thanking them for their interest and reminding them of your discussion at the conference
 3. Schedule time to talk again if appropriate