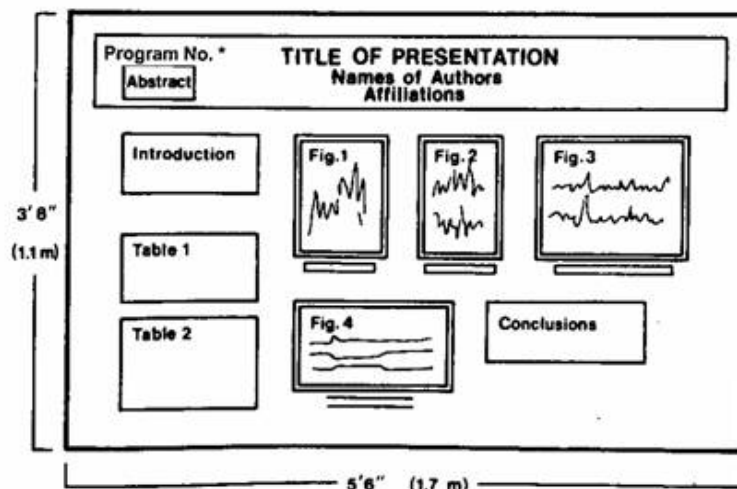


Poster & Presentation Guidelines

Poster

Posters should be readable by viewers five feet away. The message should be clear and understandable without oral explanation. The following guidelines have been prepared to help improve the effectiveness of poster communication.

- **Initial Sketch** - Plan your poster early. Focus your attention on a few key points. Try various styles of data presentation to achieve clarity and simplicity. Does the use of color help? What needs to be expressed in words? Suggest headlines and text topics.
- **Rough Layout** - Enlarge your best initial sketch, keeping the dimensions in proportion to the final poster (see diagram). Ideally, the rough layout should be full size. A blackboard is a convenient place to work. Print the title and headlines. Indicate text by horizontal lines. Draw rough graphs and tables. This will give you a good idea of proportions and balance. If you are working with an artist, show him the poster layout. Ask associates for comments. This is still an experimental stage.
- **Final Layout** - The artwork is complete. The text and tables are typed, but not necessarily enlarged to full size. Now ask, is the message clear? Do the important points stand out? Is there a balance between words and illustrations? Is there spatial balance? Is the pathway through the poster clear?
- **Balance** - The figures and tables should cover slightly more than 50% of the poster area. If you have only a few illustrations, make them large. Do not omit the text, but keep it brief. The poster should be understandable without oral explanation.
- **Topography** - Avoid abbreviations, acronyms, and jargon. Use a consistent font throughout. An 8-1/2" x 11" sheet of paper enlarged 50% makes the text readable from five feet.
- **Eye Movement** - The movement (pathway) of the eye over the poster should be natural, down the columns from left to right. Size attracts attention. Arrows, pointing hands, numbers, and letters can help clarify the sequence.
- **Simplicity** - Resist the temptation to overload the poster. More material may mean less communication.
- **AAA logo** - An AAA logo (electronic file or sticker) should be included in or affixed to your poster. You may upload it [here](#) or pick up a stick at the AAA Office in the Convention Center.



The poster-board surface area is 3'8" high and 5'6" wide. Prepare a 6" high headline strip that runs the full width of the poster. Include the title, authors, and affiliations on the strip in letters not less than 1" high. Post a large-typed copy of your abstract in the upper left-hand corner, including the program number (this is found in the Program and may be entered at the meeting). **Bring your own pushpins.**

Presentation

1. **Time:** Posters must be put up by 8:30 a.m. on the day they are scheduled and remain up until 5:00 p.m. You are expected to be physically present at your posterboard from 12:30-2:00 p.m. on the assigned date. The ACYA judging team will stop by your poster during this period. AAA will contact you in advance to provide you with your specific judging time. If you are not there, it is unlikely that the judges will return.
 2. **Length:** You should be prepared to speak for a maximum of 5 minutes to explain your poster, then respond to questions. You will be asked to stop speaking after 5 minutes and points will be deducted from your score (see Judging Criteria) if you have not completed your comments on time.
 3. **Practicing:** We strongly encourage you to try out your presentation on colleagues and friends before presenting to the ACYA judges.
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Judging Criteria

ACYA members will use the following criteria in judging posters and related presentations.

TEACHING/EDUCATION POSTERS (40 TOTAL PTS)

Organization (10 pts): Does the poster present education research following the structure of the scientific method? This structure includes: Introduction (background and context for the project), Methods (research design and explanation of methods), Results (including clear figures and/or tables), Summary (synthesis of results), and Conclusion (including broader significance and implications of the study). Posters providing solely descriptive information about education techniques or practices are of interest to AAA members, but will not score well for this portion of the AAA Student/Postdoctoral Fellow Education Research Award.

Display (10 pts): Is the material on the poster presented clearly? The poster should be uncluttered and easily read in a crowded hall, with major headings legible from a distance of two meters, and text, figures, and graphs legible from a distance of one meter. Important points should be clearly visible (e.g., effective use of colors, boxes, arrows, etc.)

Presentation (5 pts): Is the researcher able to give a clear, concise summary of the research within a five-minute period of time? Well-planned introductory statements will ensure that the judges understand the context of your research. Judges will look for clarity, enthusiasm, and an ability to make difficult concepts clear for a general audience. Points will be deducted for time over the five-minute limit.

Rationale/Scientific Thought (5 pts): Is there a clear statement of hypothesis or objective? Are the methods used appropriate and sufficient to address the question? Are the conclusions appropriate?

Ability to Answer Questions (5 pts): Can the researcher answer questions about research design, the relevance of the study, and the broader implications of the research?

Overall Quality of the Project (5 pts): Does the project make substantive contributions *to this area of study*?

ALL OTHER POSTER TOPICS (40 TOTAL PTS)

Organization (10 pts): Does the poster clearly present each element of a scientific presentation appropriately for a general scientific audience? These include: Introduction (background and context for the project), Methods (research design and explanation of methods), Results (including clear figures and/or tables), Summary (synthesis of results), and Conclusion (including broader significance and implications of the study).

Display (10 pts): Is the material on the poster presented clearly? The poster should be uncluttered and easily read in a crowded hall, with major headings legible from a distance of

two meters, and text, figures, and graphs legible from a distance of one meter. Important points should be clearly visible (e.g., effective use of colors, boxes, arrows, etc.)

Presentation (5 pts): Is the researcher able to give a clear, concise summary of the research within a five-minute period of time? Well-planned introductory statements will ensure that the judges understand the context of your research. Judges will look for clarity, enthusiasm, and an ability to make difficult concepts clear for a general audience. Points will be deducted for time over the five-minute limit.

Rationale/Scientific Thought (5 pts): Is there a clear statement of hypothesis or objective? Are the methods used appropriate and sufficient to address the question? Are the conclusions appropriate?

Ability to Answer Questions (5 pts): Can the researcher answer questions about research design, the relevance of the study, and the broader implications of the research?

Overall Quality of the Project (5 pts): Does the project make substantive contributions *to this area of study*?

Other Important Information

- A. Winners will be announced at the AAA Annual Awards Banquet (Tuesday, April 27, 2010, 7:00-10:00 p.m., Anaheim Marriott). If you RSVP for the banquet, your complimentary ticket will be distributed to you by either an AAA staff member or an ACYA committee member on the day of your presentation. Guests may purchase a ticket in advance of the meeting by going to http://www.anatomy.org/forms/banq_reg_new.asp.
- B. It's always a good idea in life to thank those who have helped you along the way. We hope you'll keep this in mind throughout the award process.
- C. AAA would also appreciate your feedback on the experience and ways in which it could be improved for the future.

GOOD LUCK!!