

Criteria for Evaluating UNH Manchester Undergraduate Research Conference Oral Presentations

Criteria/rating	Excellent (5)	Very Good (4) to Good (3)	Fair (2) to Poor (1)
Depth of Content	Research project deals with an important issue in the field of study, includes goals and/or motivating questions that provide the audience with a sense of the project's main idea. Information is accurate and includes a complete explanation of key concepts and theories drawing upon relevant literature, as well as a clear description of the results and the importance of the results. Applications of theory are included to illuminate issues.	Research project includes persuasive information about the issue and includes sufficient results to draw conclusions. For the most part, explanations of concepts and theories are accurate and complete. Some helpful applications are included.	Research project includes some persuasive information but few facts. In places the information may be incomplete or out-of-date. Information insufficient to draw conclusions or conclusions vague and/or unrelated. Explanations of concepts and/or theories are inaccurate or incomplete. Little attempt is made to tie theory to practice.
Organization	Presentation is clear, logical and organized. Listener can follow line of reasoning. Presentation adheres to the allocated time, leaving time for questions.	Presentation is generally clear and well organized. A few minor points may be confusing. Presentation exceeds the allotted time, shortening the time available for questions.	Listener can follow presentation only with effort. Some arguments are not clear. Organization seems haphazard. Presentation exceeds allotted time, leaving no time for questions.
Style	Level of presentation is appropriate for the audience. Presentation is a planned conversation, paced for audience understanding. It is not a reading of a paper. Speaker is clearly comfortable in front of the group and can be heard by all.	Level of presentation is generally appropriate. Pacing is sometimes too fast or too slow. The presenter seems slightly uncomfortable at times, and the audience occasionally has trouble hearing the presenter.	Aspects of the presentation are too elementary or too sophisticated for audience. Presenter seems uncomfortable and can be heard only if listener is very attentive. Much of the information is read.
Grammar and Word Choice	Sentences are complete and grammatical, and they flow together easily. Words are chosen for their precise meaning.	For the most part, sentences are complete and grammatical, and they flow together easily. With a few exceptions, words are chosen for their precise meaning.	Listeners can follow the presentation, but they are distracted by some grammatical errors and use of slang. Some sentences are incomplete and/or vocabulary is somewhat limited or inappropriate.
Use of Communication Aids	Communication aids enhance the presentation. They are prepared in a professional manner. Font on visuals is large enough to be seen by all. Information is organized to maximize audience understanding. Details are minimized so that main points stand out.	Communication aids contribute to the quality of the presentation. Font size is appropriate for reading. Appropriate information is included. Some material is not supported by visual aids.	Communication aids are poorly prepared, used inappropriately, or not included at all. Font is too small to be easily seen. Too much information is included. Unimportant material is highlighted. Listeners may be confused.
Personal Appearance	Personal appearance is completely appropriate for the occasion and the audience.	Personal appearance is generally appropriate for the occasion and the audience. However, some aspects of appearance reflect a lack of sensitivity to nuances of the occasion or expectations of the audience.	Personal appearance is inappropriate for the occasion and the audience.
Verbal Interaction	Consistently clarifies, restates, and responds to questions. Summarizes when needed.	Generally responds to audience comments, questions and needs. Misses some opportunities for interaction.	Responds to questions inadequately.
Introduction and Abstract	The introduction presents the overall topic and draws the audience into the presentation with compelling questions. The abstract completely and succinctly describes the research project including all of the basic components – motivation for the topic, methodology/process employed, findings of study, and implications for the field of study.	The introduction is clear and coherent and relates to the topic. The abstract describes the research project and includes most of the basic components – motivation for the topic, methodology/process employed, findings of study, and implications for the field of study.	The introduction shows some structure but does not create a strong sense of what is to follow or does not orient the audience at all. It may be overly detailed, incomplete or missing completely. The abstract does not adequately describe the research project.

