

Criteria for Evaluating UNH Manchester Undergraduate Research Conference Poster 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 In places the information may be incomplete or out-of-date.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.
Content knowledge and organization	The content is clearly and concisely written with a logical progression of ideas and supporting information. Poster has a logical, intuitive sequence of information. Cues to all information are clear and direct.	Content is written with a logical progression of ideas and supporting information. Poster has a logical sequence of information. Cues to most information are clear and direct.	Content is vague or lacking a clear point of view and does not create a strong sense of purpose. Poster has some logical sequence but cues are flawed and confusing or there is no logical sequence of information and cues are not evident.
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.
Poster Design	Poster is exceptionally attractive in terms of design, layout and neatness. Graphics are easily viewed and related to the topic, making the material easy to understand. Fonts are easy-to-read and vary appropriately for headings and text. Use of italics, bold and indentions enhance readability. Text is appropriate in length for audience and to the point of the project. Background and color choice enhance readability. There are no grammatical/spelling mistakes.	Poster is acceptably attractive. Most graphics are easily viewed and relate to the topic. Sometimes the fonts are easy-to-read but in a few places the use of fonts, italics, bold, long paragraphs, color or busy background detracts and does not enhance readability. There are few grammatical/spelling mistakes.	Poster is messy or poorly designed. Graphics are not clear, too small or do not relate to the topic. Overall readability is difficult with long paragraphs, too many different fonts, dark or busy backgrounds, overuse of bold or lack of appropriate indentations of text. There are several grammatical/spelling mistakes.
Verbal Interaction	Presenter(s) demonstrate full knowledge of the material and can explain and elaborate on expected questions.	Presenter (s) has sufficient knowledge of the material to answer expected questions.	Presenter (s) has difficulty answering expected questions beyond a rudimentary level and/or is unable to answer expected questions.

