2019 Penn State Hazleton

**Regional Undergraduate Research Symposium**

**April 18, 2019**

**Poster Judging Categories**

Student exhibits may be entered in only one category, which should be denoted in the abstract.

**Poster Judging Criteria**

The purpose of a poster exhibit is to convey to a wide audience a research project's significance to scholars in the field and its potential significance to the general public. Exhibits will be judged on their quality in four areas:

**1) Content -** The exhibit must include:

 Student name (or names, if more than one student is presenting the exhibit)

 Collaborators, adviser(s), and department(s)

 A short title of the exhibit

 Funding sources (if applicable)

 Objectives

 Significance to the field

 Significance to society in general

 Methods

 Results, interpretation of results and conclusions, and directions for future research if the project is completed. “Other”

creative exhibits must include discussion of meaning and/or reflections on the body of work exhibited.

 Does the project exhibit documentation of sources used for the project through the use of references.

**2) Display -** The core of each exhibit is a poster with text and graphics intended for a general audience. PowerPoint-style presentations are not allowed as a substitute; however, a laptop or tablet may be used as a supplement to the poster or exhibit

 Poster should attract attention and convey important information about the project.

 Language should be simple and descriptions brief. Excessive jargon should be avoided; necessary technical terms should be defined.

 Spelling and grammar must be correct.

 Photographs, drawings, charts, tables, or graphs should be simple, well organized, and carefully chosen when used to explain complicated technical concepts to a wide audience.

 Poster should not exceed 48 inches in width and 36 inches in height

**3) Oral Presentation -** Each student should prepare to describe and discuss his or her exhibit, tailored specifically to make the work understandable to a non-expert audience.

 Description should be clear and concise, and should include the major points presented on the poster.

 Presentation must not exceed 10 minutes; judges will be instructed to observe this time limit. Note: A videotape or demonstration cannot be submitted for the discussion.

 In cases where the student worked with collaborators, including his or her adviser, the presentation should clearly describe the student's role in the overall project.

**4) Thoroughness**

 All in all, does the project show creativity?

 Are there indications of *original, critical thought?*

 Does the project exhibit a thorough investigation of the topic?

**Regional Undergraduate Research Symposium – Judging Rubric**

**Project Title: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ First Author:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Judge’s Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Check under which topic the project falls:**

**Biological Sciences and Health**

**Social Sciences and Business**

1. **Content** - Assign each individual lettered item (a through g below) a score of 0–4, where

**0 = not present 1 = Poor 2 = Average 3 = Very Good 4 = Excellent**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Score** | **Rate the student’s poster content on the following:** |
|  | a. The title is specific and informative and all collaborators are acknowledged. |
|  | b. Scholarly sources were used to develop the project. |
|  | c. All sources are cited in the text and in a Works Cited section. |
|  | d. The objectives/hypotheses are stated clearly and concisely. |
|  | e. The significance to the field and to society is clearly stated. |
|  | f. The data and results have been interpreted and presented persuasively. |
|  | g. The discussion/conclusion section addresses major implications of the findings and suggestions for future research. |
|  | **1. Total Score for Content (add the scores for items a-f) (maximum possible for section = 28)** |

1. **Visuals -** Assign each individual lettered item (a through d below) a score of 0–4, as above.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Score** | **Rate the poster’s visual appeal on the following:** |
|  | a. The exhibit attracts attention and conveys important information about the project in a creative way. |
|  | b. The text is written in a clear and concise manner, with no spelling and few grammatical errors. |
|  | c. Terms are clearly defined. |
|  | d. Photographs, drawings, charts, tables, or graphs are well organized, understandable, and explain relevant concepts  to a wide audience. |
|  | **2. Total Score for Display (add the scores for items a-d) ((maximum possible for section = 16)** |

1. **Oral Presentation -** Assign each individual lettered item (a through d below) a score of 0–4, as above.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Score** | **Rate the presenter (s) on the oral presentation based on:** |
|  | a. The presenter(s) was/were self-confident, professional, and knowledgeable about the research and information being presented. |
|  | b. The presentation is understandable to a general audience. |
|  | c. The major points of the research were discussed in the oral presentation. |
|  | d. The student(s) clearly described his/her/their role in the overall project and gave credit to any collaborators. |
|  | **3. Total Score for Oral Presentation (add the scores for items a-d) (maximum possible for section = 16)** |

1. **Thoroughness -** Assign each individual lettered item (a through c below) a score of 0–4, as above.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Score** | **Rate the thoroughness of the overall project on the following:** |
|  | a. The project shows originality |
|  | b. The project exhibits critical thought. |
|  | c. The project exhibits a thorough investigation of the topic. |
|  | **4. Total Score for Thoroughness (add the scores for items a-c) (maximum possible for section = 12)** |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | **Grand Total - Add items in the shaded area numbered 1 – 4 from above  (Maximum possible for all areas = 72)** |

**Comments**