

STUDENT POSTER SESSION

Nova Southeastern University Graduate School of Computer and Information Sciences

The Poster Session is scheduled during doctoral cluster meetings: fall (August) and winter (January). As these are generic instructions for poster preparation, your poster participation will correspond to one of these events.

The Winter 2015 Poster Session will take place on Saturday, January 17 from 12:30 – 2:00pm. The location of the event will be indicated on the Cluster Schedule.

Poster Board Dimensions

At the Poster Session, your poster will be mounted on a 36 by 48 inch foam board. Please design your poster to fit these dimensions. Create the poster using *PowerPoint* (with the dimensions 36" X 48"), in landscape. Please use the poster template, available at http://www.scis.nova.edu/doctoral/doctoral_poster.html. Posters will be printed for you (at no cost to the student).

Poster Deadlines

You should work with your faculty advisor/sponsor on the content of your poster prior to submitting the final electronic version. To ensure timely production of final posters, submit the final electronic (ready to print) version to Ashley Klein (aklein@nova.edu) by the second Friday in August (if you are participating in the fall poster session event) or by the second Friday in December (if you are participating in the winter poster session event).

Poster Content

Your poster can include text, graphs, pictures, and figures to describe your work. Stay within the border of dimensions using the poster template.

Your poster will have a heading consisting of the poster title and your name. Please provide the title in 72 pt. type and your name and your sponsor's name in 48 pt. type.

Poster Categories: Your faculty advisor/sponsor will work with you on the creative direction of your poster. There are various approaches to structuring the content of posters: dissertation-based poster, dissertation defense poster, topic of interest poster, or collaborative or group poster. Below are brief categories and descriptions that guide the creative direction of your poster.

- *Dissertation-based Poster.* If your poster is based on current research (e.g., dissertation), your poster should include the following sections: (1) objective or purpose of your research, (2) your methodology, (3) your results, (4) your conclusions. If you have not yet achieved results, you should explain the status of your project (i.e., perhaps (3) is next steps and (4) is Reference List.)
- *Dissertation Defense Poster.* (Important: The poster does not substitute for the formal defense.) Are you preparing for your dissertation defense? Or, have you recently completed your dissertation defense? This may be good opportunity to share the "spirit" of presenting a "final report" poster as preparation for the defense or for post-defense. (Mostly likely, you could follow the similar structure for Dissertation-based posters; your dissertation advisor would guide you on this.)
- *Topic of Interest Poster* (non-dissertation based), the basic organization of your poster should include:
 1. *Your topic of interest or interesting practice* – Whether possible topic area for dissertation OR something you are doing in your professional environment in the

- computer and information sciences that you think would be of interest to your peers and faculty;
2. *What's happening?* A brief explanation of what objective, goal, or reason(s) why this topic of interest or practice *is* so interesting at this moment;
 3. *Current trends:* Building on “what’s happening” – A brief discussion on the current trends relating to this topic of interest or practice. (This could include trends from the literature, research studies, industry initiatives, government, and other trends). (This could include things you are doing (practice) and what others are doing.)
 4. *Opportunities for research:* “Very Rough Ideas” as to what opportunities for research exist for this topic of interest.
 5. *Bibliography or Reference List:* If citing work in the poster, provide a Reference List. If not citing, but using sources to generalize the copy, provide a Bibliography. Please limit to a maximum of five sources.
- *Collaborative for Group Posters:* A faculty member may be working with you and other students on a related dissertation topic area, from which one single poster highlighting the collaboration would be developed and presented collaboratively. Or, you collaborated on a group project in a professor’s class and the professor wants to sponsor you and other student(s) to present a single “topic of interest” poster from that group project from the class.

Poster Design Considerations

As you design your poster, keep in mind that your audience will be standing a few feet away to read and understand your poster. You should choose fonts that are easy to read and large enough to be read from 3-4 feet away. Arrange information so that the movement of the eye is natural, i.e. down the columns or along the rows.

You may be creative in your poster design. Keep in mind that there will be several posters in the room, so try to make yours visually appealing. Recommended fonts are Times New Roman, Arial, or Helvetica, and at least 30 point. You may select appropriate colors and layout (as long as you stay within the 36” X 48” dimensions). Avoid fancy fonts and extreme colors. Visual appeal is based on achieving good balance and legibility.

The audience will include GSCIS students, faculty, and other guests who may not be familiar with your topic, so think carefully about the words you are using (especially jargon) and the basic assumptions you are making. Supplies: at the Poster Session you will be provided with an easel with your mounted poster, name tag, and (possibly) poster number.

The Poster Session Event

Prior to the start of the event you should be standing by your poster, ready for the Poster Session to begin. Attendees and guests will start arriving to view the posters. Throughout the event stand by your poster, wearing your name tag, and be ready to explain your poster and answer questions. As attendees visit your poster, be prepared to give a short presentation of your work (no more than a few minutes). Most likely, you will repeat this description several times as attendees pass through.

Assistance

If you have questions about poster construction (dimensions and setup), contact Ashley Klein (aklein@nova.edu), 954-262-2035.

**IMPORTANT: ENJOY YOUR POSTER PRESENTATION!
We appreciate your participation in this event!**