

POSTER PRESENTATION INSTRUCTIONS*

Poster presentations are an alternative to the traditional presentation method. Less formal than a paper presentation, poster sessions highlight the authors' work in a brief visual and interactive format. The success of a poster presentation relies on the quality of the content and the effectiveness of the presentation style.

Poster Presentation Recommendations:

- All poster content must be typed.
- Use PowerPoint to create your research poster.
- Create the entire poster with only 1 PowerPoint slide.
- Before entering information, change the dimensions of the slide to a width of 42" x 42".
- A colorful, appealing background for the poster is desirable.
- The use of bullet points, highlighting, headings, charts, etc. is encouraged.
- Avoid acronyms, abbreviations and jargon that are not widely understood.

Please include the following information for display:

- Title, author(s), position (e.g. MSW student, LCSW, etc.), faculty mentor (if applicable), university/agency affiliation
- School Logo: Download official university logo. This image should appear in the corner of your poster.
- Abstract – 50 words that summarize that summarize the study/project
- Background/Introduction – include a statement of the problem/policy/practice issue
- Methods – Describe practice-based interventions/research methodology
- Results/Findings – Describe and explain the results of your study and/or description of learning/knowledge gained
- Discussion/Conclusion – Share learning/knowledge gained; implications for future group work practice
- References (Can be abbreviated or even eliminated from the poster if necessary, but should be incorporated in the handout.)
- Images/Charts

A few reminders and suggestions:

When creating your poster, you are highly encouraged to use:

- A standard, easily readable font, such as: Arial, Times New Roman, Helvetica, etc.
- Ensure that you use a font size that will be easy to read. Suggested font sizes are ~ 60 pt for the title, researcher names, and institution. Subheadings should be at 30-48 pt. All body text, including figures and tables, should be around 30 and no

smaller than 16-18 pt. Everything should be large enough to read from several feet away.

- Text boxes to delineate your information and sections.
- White space - You want to have adequate text to describe your project but enough white space to keep it readable. Remember that the poster is meant to be supplemented by you, answering questions and filling in the details.
- For the IASWG Symposium, it is required that you use a Tri-Fold Presentation Board to back your poster. You can purchase these boards at any office supply store.

HANDOUTS:

Each poster presentation should have a handout that attendees can take with them. These handouts should have a cover sheet with the following: title, author(s), position (e.g. MSW student, LCSW, etc.), faculty mentor (if applicable), university/agency affiliation, the title and place of the Conference/Symposium, and the date of the presentation. The handout itself should incorporate the information in the poster. The handout can expand upon this information and incorporate additional references. Copies of the handout should be brought to the symposium/conference to be disseminated to the participants. For the IASWG Symposium, it is requested that you bring 20 copies of your handout.

* Adapted from

Simon, S. R. & Webster, J. (2009) Instructions for Poster Presentations at the 31st International Symposium of the Association for the Advancement of social Work with Groups.

Loyola's Undergraduate Research Opportunities Program (2011). Undergraduate Research Symposium 2011: Poster Presentation & Printing Guidelines. Retrieved from: http://www.luc.edu/luop/undergrad_symposium.shtml.