



Poster Formatting Guidelines-

Again this year TACSM will require posters to be in **portrait format**. Adherence to this requirement is especially important this year because the new poster standards will not be able to accommodate posters that are not in this format (see picture to left). **Posters should be formatted to a size of 48" high (top-to-bottom) x 36" wide (right-to-left)**. The poster should be printed on a single sheet of paper. Many universities offer this service and if your university does not, then you can contact a local FedEx Kinko's or other print shop. **NOTE: Failure to comply with these preparation guidelines will result your poster not being able to be displayed.**

Every poster presented at the TACSM should include at least the following elements:

1. Descriptive Title
2. Author Block (all authors should be listed, including professors)
3. Institution
4. Abstract
5. Short Introduction (limited to one paragraph)
6. Methods
7. Results (should include figures and/or tables)
8. Summary Statements

Poster Judging Guidelines-

A panel of 3 judges will meet with each poster presenter for approximately five minutes. The judges will ask each presenter to briefly highlight the background, purpose, key pieces of data, and significance of their findings. The quality of the student's informal, verbal presentation of their research will be the primary basis for the judges ranking of the work. Specifically, the judges will be attempting to determine:

- 1) Does the presenter have a solid grasp of the general topic area of their work?
- 2) Does it appear that the presenter made a major contribution to the work?
- 3) Is the presenter able to clearly articulate the significance of their findings?
- 4) Are the findings unique and do they contribute to a body of knowledge?
- 5) Is the poster presentation itself clear and of good quality?

This information is provided to give you a better idea of what to expect during the judging process. Judging is not meant to be a highly critical process and should be viewed as an opportunity for the students to present their work to an interested and non-threatening group.

The expectations related to the above criteria will be different for the undergraduate, Master's, PhD, and PIT researchers.