POSTER PRESENTATION GUIDELINES

General aim and format

- A poster is a graphically based approach to presenting research. In presenting your research with a poster, you should aim to use the poster as a means for generating active discussion of the research.
- Limit the text to about one-fourth of the poster space, and use "visuals" (graphs, photographs, schematics, maps, etc.) to tell your "story."

Design and layout specifications

- The entire poster must be mounted on a A0 size (841 x 1189 millimeter) or A1 size (594 x 841 millimeter) board. The poster does not necessarily have to fill the entire working area.
- The board must be oriented in the "portrait" position (short dimension is horizontal).
- A banner displaying your poster title, name, and department should be positioned at top-center of the board.
- Make it obvious to the viewer how to progressively view the poster. The poster generally should read from left to right, and top to bottom.

Lettering

- Word-process all text (including captions). Print on plain white paper with a laser printer or inkjet printer.
- Text should be readable from three meter away. Use a minimum font size of 18 points.
- Lettering for the title should be large (at least 70-point font). Use all capital letters for the title.

Visuals

- Present numerical data in the form of graphs, rather than tables (graphs make trends in the data much more evident). If data must be presented in table-form, KEEP IT SIMPLE.
- Visuals should be simple and bold. Leave out or remove any unnecessary details.
- Make sure that any visual can "stand alone" (i.e., graph axes are properly labeled, maps have north arrows and distance scales, symbols are explained, etc.).
- Use color to enhance comprehension, not to decorate the poster. Neatly coloring black-line illustrations with color pencils is entirely acceptable.
- Make sure that the text and the visuals are integrated. Figures should be numbered consecutively according to the order in which they are first mentioned in the text.
- Each visual should have a brief title (for example: Figure 1 - Location of study area).
Text

- Keep the text brief. Blocks of text should not exceed three paragraphs (viewers won't bother to read more than that). Use text to:
  a) Introduce the study (what hypothesis was tested or what problem was investigated? why was the study worth doing?)
  b) Explain visuals and direct viewers attention to significant data trends and relationships portrayed in the visuals
  c) State and explain the interpretations that follow from the data. In many cases, conclusions can be summarized in a bullet-point list.
- Depending upon the stage or nature of your project, the text could also include sections on future research plans or questions for discussion with viewers.
- Cite and reference any sources of information other than your own, just as you would do with a research paper (use the Numbered Style). The "References Cited" is placed at the end of the poster.