



## **Criteria and Procedures for Student Poster Competition**

**2012**

**March 28-30, 2012, San SPI, TX**

**Student Poster Facilitator: Dr. Kim Jones, P.E.**

### **I. Criteria**

The evaluation of posters will be based on quality of content, clarity of presentation, organization, effective use of figures/illustrations, clarity of answers to questions, and logic. For the poster presentation, a 1-5 scale will be used with 1 = Poor, 2 = Fair, 3 = Good, 4 = Very Good, and 5 = Superior. A summary of some of the key criteria is provided on the judging criteria form. Additional comments from the judge will be used in the case of tie or to rank the award winners. Specifics of these criteria are as follows:

Students should be able to speak clearly - no "um, er, you know". Students should clearly address and explain any section of his/her poster without going into excessive detail (unless asked for). Students should explain the poster logically, starting with problem statement and closing with main results and conclusions. Poster size is 44" L x 34" H. No colored backgrounds or pictures as the backgrounds. Colored borders are fine as well as reasonably size pictures. The title should be readable from 3 meters away, and there should be an abstract or summary if attendees just want to read the overall concept.

Figures/illustrations should be neat and legible. The figures should be designed to be informative in a poster context, not just copies of a publication. The poster should be arranged logically, organized and not just a collection of figures tacked up in any order. Having either too much text or not enough are minuses. Data should be enough to support conclusions. Either verbally or visually, there should be a statement of the problem and of the conclusions. There should be a summary or list of conclusions. Extra credit might be given for a visually catchy set-up and use of color. Student should be able to handle poster alone; points should be deducted if he/she turns to the advisor for help. If the advisor attempts to take over, the judge should continue to address questions to the student. With a poster it is easier to determine whether student understands the work.

### **II. Procedures**

1. Award decisions: Awards will be based on the cumulative scores from the evaluation form from each of the judges. The judges and facilitator will decide who wins the poster awards.
2. Awards Facilitator: The awards facilitator will recruit sufficient judges, prepare and distribute poster judging forms and instructions to judges, and participate in the election of poster winners.
3. Judges: Each judge will complete the poster judging form for each poster, meet with the facilitator and other judges, and decide the winners. The judging forms will be returned to the awards facilitator at the end of the meeting.
4. Evaluation: Each poster will be evaluated by all judges. Judges should score each poster before evaluating the next poster. The judge will probably end up trying to give the most points for what is thought to be the "best" poster. In case of a tie, judges are encouraged to provide suggestions for "extra credit" or "special considerations" and specific comments on the evaluation forms.