

Logistics for our session:

Please show up a minimum of 5 minutes early, i.e. 8:25am, so that you can put up your poster. I'll be providing tape so these can be mounted on the walls of the classroom. Feel free to bring your own tape as well.

Purpose of a poster session:

Poster sessions serve many purposes. I'll list several here. First, a poster session allows you to get your idea out to a scientific audience in a more interactive fashion than a talk. This provides not only a networking opportunity, but since most folks that come to your poster are interested in similar topics, it will allow you to identify potential collaborators as well as provide you with more informed and helpful feedback. You also will interact with MANY more people than when giving a talk. For posters that are methods focused, this is also a good way to identify potential datasets on which your method could be tested. Lastly, a poster session helps build your presentation skills and your ability to answer questions concerning your work. It is surprising how many times you'll get questions that lead you down a path that you had not considered previously.

The "how-to" for a poster session:

If presenting a poster, you'll spend the time talking to individuals that stop at your poster. Note that you will be standing at your poster for the entire session. If you have a manuscript available, it is a good idea to have copies of these on-hand or at a minimum, list a citation. It is also good to have your contact information on your poster. This is of benefit to you since you won't have to repeat it to everyone who asks, but perhaps more importantly, it will be useful so that individuals that miss your poster can contact you afterwards. If you are NOT presenting your poster, this is a good opportunity to find others working on areas of interest to you. This helps to build a network of potential collaborators. Since the field of statistical genetics is not large, you can expect to be running into these folks at many meetings to come. You may find areas of collaboration that lead to papers or even grant submissions. At a minimum, these individuals make for great sounding boards for your ideas or great reviewers for papers that you have written.